



Partners for
Conservation

FONDATION SEGRÉ

Annual Report

— 2023 —





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From the Founder



While last year's concerns for the constraints imposed by the COVID pandemic slowly waned under the powerful application of scientific knowledge and vaccination campaigns, the worries for the tragic return of war at the core of Europe have grown deeper. More recently, another tragic war at the door of Europe is taking an awful toll of human lives while shaking peace in one of the most ancient cradles of human civilization. Time has brought no significant improvement in generating a sense of common destiny on our planet.

We rely on science to find technological solutions to our environmental problems and indeed science has achieved brilliant results in saving lives, for instance by producing a vaccine for COVID in less than one year. It is not enough. On the other hand, climate change has shown its tremendous impact through floods and droughts. However, a glance at the press and other media both daily and specialized clearly shows that the environment is increasingly a top concern of public opinion.

In this upsetting scenario, biodiversity conservation appears as a fragile endeavor carried out by a minority of concerned, stubborn and somewhat dreamy people. I can't help but think that, if conservation could use just a tiny fraction of the resources currently spent worldwide on weaponry, the goal of harmonizing nature conservation with human welfare could be easily attained. However, I am a firm believer that we are making a difference for future generations.

Working for conservation, as we do at Fondation Segré, is at the same time exciting and frustrating: we have daily evidence of many great successes achieved by countless small local organizations dedicated to saving biodiversity counterbalanced by as many failures in ensuring a stable and lasting equilibrium between people and the environment. Binding global agreements are necessary to channel our efforts in a commonly shared direction.

The year 2023 saw the conclusion of a major international agreement for the conservation of one of the largest portions of our Earth and yet one of the most neglected by conservation, the High Seas. This is a truly innovative step and it provides a framework for a completely new set of targets, actions and outcomes to save what (together with the air we breathe) is the largest “global common” we have, the oceans. The new treaty is extremely timely and critical and we shall soon see if it will be effective in mobilizing adequate resources and focusing action on the real priorities. The new agreement will offer precious opportunities we should not miss for a dramatic expansion of the conservation agenda. Fondation Segré intends to contribute to many activities that will be necessary to realize the goals of this treaty. Our focus on marine species and marine protected areas will be reinforced with new projects to complement our current commitments in the Mediterranean and in other seas.

As shown in this Annual Report, in 2023 our resources were spent in almost equal shares on projects aimed at saving threatened species and at securing large protected areas, mostly tropical forests. In this last group of projects, I would like to flag the large programs we approved for each of the three major regions: Southeast Asia, the Amazon and the Congo Basin. In this last area, we are supporting one of the largest, neglected, difficult and yet biodiversity richest national parks of the world, Salonga National Park in the Democratic Republic of Congo. We hope that our contribution will help WWF and the Institut Congolais pour la Conservation de la Nature to secure the protection of that magnificent area and its unique biodiversity. We are aware that, if our support is to have a positive impact at all, this will certainly be due to the everyday battles that organizations, big and small, private and public, local and international, fight to guard every single tree and each individual animal that compose those forests: to all of those women and men in the field we owe our deepest respect and gratitude.

Claudio Segré



“

We are committed to help protect the biodiversity of our planet through the active conservation of threatened species and their habitat and the restoration of degraded ecosystems.

”

OUR
MISSION

Our priorities are to

- Favour the long-term viability of wild populations of threatened vertebrates and control factors affecting their decline.
- Support all efforts to maintain, restore and protect critical habitats and functional ecosystems.
- Prevent the illegal hunting and trading of wildlife.
- Foster the sustainable use of renewable natural resources.

Our funding criteria and selection process

- Projects will be assessed on the basis of well-identified and measurable objectives. Improvement of population size and trend, habitat conditions, probability of survival are among the many criteria that can be used to clearly state the outcome of the project.
- Projects addressing the causes and drivers of conservation issues will be preferred over projects dealing with the symptoms.
- Projects must address conservation activities rather than research and other knowledge-oriented activities.
- The Foundation's support can cover the major part of a project's activities. However, co-funding is most welcome.
- The Foundation is keen to consider long-term projects and provide continuity of conservation action over extended periods of time.

Details of the full application process can be found on our website under the section "How to apply".



Looking back, looking ahead

PROF. LUIGI BOITANI, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Alliances, coalitions, partnerships are just some of the terms used for a variety of formats used to structure and manage the increasing cooperation among organizations and institutions working in nature conservation. It would seem obvious and natural that, given the daunting challenges of biodiversity conservation in our times, individual organizations would join their forces to achieve better impacts. However in the past, with a few notable exceptions, this has not been the case and collaboration has remained a marginal experiment throughout the conservation world. There are at least two different groups of actors in the battle for conservation: the first is the large group of local, national and global organizations that implement conservation programmes and projects on the ground to save species, habitat and ecosystems through a variety of approaches, methods, tools and perspectives. They often compete with each other for funding, political visibility and recognition with the result that often the larger organizations push the smaller ones to marginal roles. Even the large ones, made strong by their solid status, compete and fiercely defend their geographic or thematic areas of intervention. It is almost natural that the competition occurs because the resources (e.g. financial, social consensus, political support) are limited and each organization struggles to survive and gain status. Expecting them to naturally cooperate is bound to remain largely a wish. But there are ways to promote and achieve better

collaboration among the NGOs and much depends on the second group of actors in the conservation arena, that of the funders.

Foundations, private philanthropists and funding agencies have traditionally acted independently as a consequence of their individual choices on where, how and when to donate or invest their resources. They do not compete for resources, financial means or geographic and thematic areas; most of them just carry on their operations under the dictate of the preferences set by their boards and founders. However, in the last years, the conservation arena has seen a slow but steady increase in the number of attempts by different funders to get together and pool plans, objectives and resources to achieve a wider impact on the conservation of selected species, habitats and ecosystems. It is not only a matter of increasing the potential impact on the ground, it is also a matter of optimum use of the limited available resources and, most important, of guiding the conservation agenda of the NGOs on the ground toward coordinated goals and collective objectives. The potential for optimizing the conservation impact is very large especially when tackling conservation challenges over vast areas and in complex political and socioeconomic conditions. More frequently now, foundations of various size, experience and capacity are engaged in types of formal or informal partnership with well-defined goals, from single species to global terrestrial and marine themes.

Fondation Segré is involved in several such collaborative initiatives and is keen to consider joining others in the future. We firmly believe that the combined resources of the funders have a role to play in conservation that goes beyond the sum of the mere financial means; it is a basis for more ambitious targets that are urgently needed for biodiversity conservation.

In the past year, 2023, in the aftermath of the constraints caused by the Covid pandemic and the slow recovery of many conservation plans in reaching again their full strength, Fondation Segré managed to approve 20 new projects on biodiversity conservation and commit about 4.3 million Euros. Furthermore, a few small donations in Europe were granted in support to medical projects, one-off conservation activities and the publication of a book on the Monk Seal. The total amount of the 2023 commitments is slightly lower than that of the previous year as we continued to adopt a cautious spending approach in response to the uncertainties of the global economic markets and their impact on the foundation's endowment.

Including the projects initiated in the past years and still running in various phases of implementation, at the end of 2023 we were managing and monitoring 60 projects, a significant load to our limited staff.

The new activities will extend to more than 20 countries for the next 2-5 years. The projects are distributed in the geographic areas that have been our focus for the past several years, Africa and Asia with six projects each, Central and South America with four and Europe with only three.

Threatened species and protected areas remain the main focus of our action. Several projects have a flagship species acting as key target of the field activities but also are concerned with the protection of the whole ecosystem or an existing protected area. We supported nine projects targeting one particular species or group of species. Building on the amazing results of the first reintroduction of the Zebra Shark to Indonesia in Raja Ampat, we granted Conservation International a three-year extension of the project to reinforce the initial release and expand the programme to another reintroduction site in nearby Misool. This reintroduction has had a wider than expected impact on the conservation of sharks as a new movement "ReShark" has been created and reintroductions of several other species are being studied and planned with the active participation of aquaria, zoos, NGOs and scientists all over the world.

We also supported a project in the Argentinian Patagonia for the restoration of the population of Hooded Grebe; an innovative approach to develop and implement a strategy to save Snow Leopards and Persian Leopards and their habitat in Central Asia; the first ever project to foster the coexistence of large carnivores and humans in Bosnia and Herzegovina; the third phase (after we supported the first two) of the successful programme in Brazil on Anteaters and highways; the continuing restoration of the habitat of the Hyacinth Macaw at Perigara Reserve in the Pantanal of Brazil; the extension and expansion of the activities on lions and other key species in Niokolo-Koba National Park, Senegal; the continuation of the project on the Abruzzo bear conservation in Italy; an ambitious project for the long-term recovery and reconnection of the Tamaraw metapopulation on Mindoro in the Philippines. Finally, we renewed our support to the Amphibian Conservation Fund, a joint venture with several



other funders and managed by Synchronicity Earth to support conservation of threatened amphibian species and the promising young NGOs working on them: this fund was created to distribute urgent and small/medium financial means to field projects and it has proven highly successful.

Throughout the past year, Fondation Segré continued to be involved in the activities of the Monk Seal Alliance, a consortium we share with the Prince Albert II Foundation, Thalassa and Hans Wilsdorf Foundation: the Alliance has a leadership role in fostering the collaboration of more than 20 NGOs working on monk seal conservation and has supported several projects throughout the entire range of the species in the Mediterranean, Madeira and Mauritania.

The second major group of projects aimed at establishing, managing and defending protected areas. We granted eight of these projects. In Africa, we confirmed our long-standing support to African Parks by granting two projects in the Ennedi Natural and Cultural Reserve in Chad and the Boma-Badingilo Landscape in South Sudan: during the past year we received the spectacular results of the first ever radiotracking and aerial monitoring of this area and the stunning pictures of what is likely to be the largest wildlife migratory herd on earth. In Cambodia, we supported BirdLife in enabling the long-term protection of Lomphat

Wildlife Sanctuary, a critically important wetland for a large number of species. We also granted the Chem Chem Association, in Tanzania, with support in their work towards the gazetting of the Kwakuchinja Corridor, a vital wildlife corridor between the Tarangire and Manyara national parks. In Niger, we supported Parcs de Noé with an emergency support for the Termit and Tin Toumma Reserve, the last stronghold of a small Addax population in the wild. The political events that led to the closing of the relationships between the new Niger government and France caused the end of the financial resources donated for conservation programmes, leaving the nature reserve without vital support.

Our long-standing collaboration with Frankfurt Zoological Society on several protected areas was extended to cover an important and innovative new project on human-elephant conflict mitigation in the Bukit Tiga Puluh landscape in Sumatra. In Africa, we approved a project in one of the most iconic conservation areas, the Maasai Mara National Reserve: with a new governance and a new mandate by the national and county authorities, this famous conservation area is establishing a modern technological system to monitor its wildlife populations and the tourist activities. Finally, we supported the Wildlife Conservation Society in their effort to establish an Intact Forest Conservation Mosaic in the heart of the Brazilian Amazon: this new project is the second phase of their programme aimed at establishing a mosaic of reserves in an area of critical importance for biodiversity and threatened by the planned upgrading of a highway crossing the region.

The list of the 2023 commitments ends with two other projects, a small one and one of the largest we have ever funded. The small one is the renewal of

our support to the Wildlife Trust of India for their programme of “Rapid Action Projects” addressing wildlife emergencies in India through the swift delivery of small financial support to local conservation issues where small amounts can make a significant difference for conservation. The large project is aimed at one of the most urgent yet neglected issue of coastal conservation in the Mediterranean and elsewhere, the tragedy of what is called “Ghost Gear”, the fishing gear that is discarded and abandoned in the sea and that poses huge threats to the survival of many marine species and habitats, especially along the coasts. With WWF International, the five-year project is aimed at tackling the issue in key Mediterranean biodiversity areas through prevention, recovery and recycling. The challenge is to locate, remove, dispose and recycle the abandoned fishing nets and long lines while conducting intensive information and education initiatives among fishermen, tourists and local communities. The initial six areas for the activities are in Italy and Croatia.

Our partnership with the IUCN Save Our Species programme continued in 2023 with a call for projects on endangered and critically endangered freshwater species. Fifteen Conservation Action Grants (up to EUR 50,000) and 12 Research Support Grants (up to EUR 7,000) were selected and funded.

In 2024, we plan to commit as much as we did last year. We are working on new collaborations with other funders through both formal partnership agreement and ad-hoc joint ventures and we will continue expanding our portfolio of projects with a special eye on neglected species and protected areas.

OUR
ORGANISATION



The Board

Dr Claudio Segré, Chairman of the Board

Mr Jeff Blumberg

Prof. Luigi Boitani

Me Luc Hafner

Mr Ralph Kanza

Dr Claude Martin, Vice-Chairman of the Board

Dr Simon Stuart

Secretary of the Board

Mr Anton Müller

Special Scientific Adviser

Prof. Tim Flannery

The Team

Dr Claudio Segré, Founder

Prof. Luigi Boitani, Chief Executive Officer

Mr Alessandro Badalotti, General Manager

Ms Sabina Hasanovic, Executive Assistant

Resources and commitments

When first established in 1996 the Foundation received an endowment, which grew over time. The Foundation spends income as well as capital in the pursuit of its goals.

Over the course of the past five years the Foundation moved from committing between EUR 5 to 6 million per year to a record total commitment of more than EUR 10 million in 2021. However our commitments have returned to about EUR 5 million since 2022. The number of projects supported per year remained stable in recent years averaging between 25 and 30 projects. The portfolio now averages about 70 ongoing projects at any given time.

The sum total of commitments the Foundation entered into from 1996 to the end of 2023 exceeds EUR 70 million, corresponding to over 300 projects. Additional resources have also been contributed by friends who wished to support the work of the Foundation.

Our present endowment and the new resources that we secured for the future guarantee a long timeframe for the Foundation’s activities. We should like to stress however, that possible additional funding from like-minded individuals and institutions could allow us to expand the scope and size of initiatives. The needs of Nature are without limit and we feel we can deal with many more projects if new means are forthcoming. Thank you for considering this invitation.

Commitments in the last five years

2019	EUR	6'710'122
2020	EUR	7'456'381
2021	EUR	10'704'763
2022	EUR	4'777'665
2023	EUR	4'352'958

Geographic distribution of our projects in the last five years

Americas &
The Caribbean



17 %

Europe &
Middle East



17 %

Africa



30 %

Asia &
Australasia



31 %

Global



5 %

134

Projects

74

Partners

150⁺

Animal species

New commitments in 2023

PARTNER	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	DURATION	REGION
African Parks	Ennedi Natural and Cultural Reserve: Restoring a functioning Sahelo-Saharan ecosystem – Phase III	1 year	Africa
African Parks	Basic Field Ranger Training & Equipment in Boma and Badingilo National Parks	1 year	Africa
BirdLife	Conserving the Critically Endangered Symbol of Patagonia – restoring the population of Hooded Grebe	3 years	Americas & Caribbean
BirdLife	Enabling the Long Term Protection of Lomphat Wildlife Sanctuary in Cambodia	Less than 1 year	Asia & Australasia
Chem Chem Association	Working towards the gazettement of the Kwakuchinja Corridor: demonstrating the rehabilitation of a vital wildlife corridor in Tanzania	3 years	Africa
Conservation International	Scaling up and consolidating the Raja Ampat ReShark program for recovering of zebra sharks, Indonesia	3 years	Asia & Australasia
Conservation X labs	Snow Leopards and Persian Leopards: A Shared Strategy to Save Them and their Habitat	1.5 years	Asia & Australasia
Ecology and Research Association	Coexistence of large carnivores and humans: conflict reduction in Bosnia and Herzegovina	2 years	Europe & Middle East
Frankfurt Zoological Society	Human-Elephant conflict mitigation field camp in the Bukit Tigapuluh landscape, Sumatra	Less than 1 year	Asia & Australasia
Instituto de Conservação de Animais Silvestres	Anteaters & Highways Phase III - Making roads safe for all	3 years	Americas & Caribbean
Noé	Emergency Support for the Termit and Tin Toumma Reserve, Niger	Less than 1 year	Africa

PARTNER	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	DURATION	REGION
Onçafari	Conserving Hyacinth Macaw at Perigara Reserve in the Pantanal of Brazil	1 year	Americas & Caribbean
Panthera	Furthering the Recovery of Lions and Other Key Species in Niokolo-Koba National Park, Senegal	3 years	Africa
Salviamo L'Orso	Marsican bear conservation in Italy	2 years	Europe & Middle East
Synchronicity Earth	Support for the Amphibian Conservation Fund	2 years	Global
The Safari Collection Footprint Registered Trustees	Professionalising the Maasai Mara National Reserve management through the implementation of technology solutions	3 years	Africa
Wildlife Conservation Society	Establishing an Intact Forest Conservation Mosaic in the Heart of the Brazilian Amazon : Phase II	2 years	Americas & Caribbean
Wildlife Trust of India	Addressing Wildlife Emergencies In India Through Rapid Action Projects – Phase III	1 year	Asia & Australasia
WWF International	Tackling ghost gear in key Mediterranean biodiversity areas through prevention, recovery and recycling	5 years	Europe & Middle East
Zoological Society of London	Foundations for the long-term recovery and reconnection of the Tamaraw metapopulation on Mindoro in the Philippines	2 years	Asia & Australasia

Note: This list does not include minor contributions to one-off conservation activities.

PROJECTS'
DESCRIPTION



African Parks and Fondation Segré : additional support for ongoing projects

Our partnership with African Parks continued in 2023 with what is now an established model of supporting two or three parks in their portfolio : we committed additional resources to Ennedi Natural and Cultural Reserve (ENCR) in Chad and to the Boma and Badingilo National Parks in South Sudan.

The Ennedi Natural and Cultural Reserve is a sandstone masterpiece in the Sahara Desert, covering 50'000 km2 of rocky plateaus, herbaceous steppes, savannahs, ephemeral rivers and sand dunes and providing clean water, food and shelter to more than 30'000 semi-nomadic people and numerous threatened species. Despite its beauty, the reserve is under severe threat primarily from poaching and unsustainable farming practices. Our funding is helping to mitigate some of the main threats by increasing capacity for law enforcement, improving logistics and operations control and by supporting the reintroduction and monitoring of some key species to the reserve.

Our support was also renewed for the Boma and Badingilo National Parks in South Sudan where African Parks signed a 10-year co-management agreement in August 2022. This landscape is one of the largest intact areas of conservation interest left in Africa. It is comprised of diverse habitats, and hosts some of the most iconic wildlife in the world including one of the largest mammal migrations in Africa with hundreds of thousands of antelopes moving through the landscape yearly. African Parks aims to secure this ecosystem to allow wildlife populations to thrive. Our support to date has focused on the development of the management infrastructure for both parks as well as the establishment of well-trained and well-organized ranger teams to guarantee law enforcement activities in these two parks.



Anteaters and Highways: making roads safe for all in the south of Brazil

The giant anteater is one of South America's most iconic species. This project is the continuation of the successful earlier phases of Anteaters & Highways funded by Fondation Segré since 2017. This renewed contribution in 2023 is supporting the final phase of this ambitious 10-year project carried out by the Wild Animal Conservation Institute (ICAS) in the State of Mato Grosso do Sul in Brazil. By using giant anteaters as a flagship species, the organization demonstrated the impact of wildlife-vehicle collisions on both people and animals, raised awareness of this threat, and proposed, tested, and discussed effective solutions to change policies in the state to make roads safer. The ICAS team and their partners are now focussed on strengthening the programme long-lasting legacy by securing the adoption of the effective tools and measures tested until now. A network of environmental entities from Brazilian civil society and the local authorities is monitoring the application and adoption of the mitigation measures developed and will lobby for them where necessary.





Tackling Ghost Gear in Key Mediterranean Biodiversity Areas Through Prevention, Recovery and Recycling

Fishing nets and gear contribute to the rising amount of plastic polluting land and sea. Most discarded fishing gear is composed of plastic, which can take 600 years to degrade into smaller toxic microparticles if not properly managed or recycled.

Through this project WWF aims to tackle the problem of ghost gear and end-of-life gear in six marine protected areas across Italy and Croatia to prevent further harm to marine life at these sites.

In the Mediterranean and globally, the abandonment or loss of gear in the water is contributing to marine plastic pollution and threatening several endangered marine species including birds, marine mammals, sea turtles and fish.

The project uses a wide-angle strategy towards the establishment of efficient prevention and recycling schemes for fishing gear. The WWF teams and their partners will actively identify and remove ghost gear from the sea floor, focus on the prevention of gear abandonment with gear marking tests and by setting up local systems for the reporting of lost gear.

The project also aims to establish a system of storage, transport, and recycling of retrieved and most importantly end-of-life gear, to establish sustainable waste management. Throughout the project implementation, WWF will work with local stakeholders, communities, marine protected areas managers and authorities to build sustainable solutions while boosting business opportunities.



Improving coexistence with large carnivores in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Human-wildlife conflict mitigation measures are required to promote safe coexistence between rural populations in Bosnia and Herzegovina and gray wolves and brown bears, two large carnivores still present in the region but whose populations are declining. With this project, the Ecology and Research Association (EID), a local NGO based in Banja Luka, will provide 100 rural households with electric fences and livestock guardian dogs. By associating the rollout of these measures with a long-term awareness raising campaign, the organization counts on sensitizing over 100,000 citizens in rural communities on the measures needed to reduce and prevent carnivore damage to their livestock. The effectiveness of these interventions is expected to stimulate their continued adoption beyond the initial reach of the project and to further reduce the pressure on large carnivores in the region.





Conservation of the Tamaraw on Mindoro, Philippines, for the species long-term recovery

The Tamaraw, an Asian wild cattle species, endemic to Mindoro Island, in the Philippines, is listed as Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List, with a total population of only about 500 individuals. The Tamaraw is a national symbol of the Philippines and features prominently in its culture. Four small subpopulations of the species remain in fragmented secondary forest and grassland habitats on Mindoro. Hunting and habitat loss pose serious threats to the survival of all tamaraw subpopulations that need to increase in size and be reconnected across the island in order to guarantee the survival of the species.

Implemented by a coalition of national and international organizations and led by the Zoological Society of London, this project aims to foster the recovery and the reconnection of the tamaraw through its remaining habitat by increasing the coordination of protection and wildlife crime prevention efforts on the island. Local partners effectiveness will be bolstered by the development of infrastructure and the establishment of standardized protocols for monitoring teams. The project partners will also assess the feasibility of expanding and reconnecting isolated tamaraw populations into a connected metapopulation through conservation translocations and ex situ breeding.



Rehabilitation of a Vital Wildlife Corridor in Tanzania

Over the last 15 years, Chem Chem Association has worked towards the restoration of the wildlife corridor connecting Lake Manyara to Tarangire National Park. Although many of the Kwakuchinja corridor's wildlife – including lions, leopards, giraffes, zebras, dik-diks, kudus and impalas – were declared locally extinct in 2009, Chem Chem's tireless work, led to the comeback of many of these mammals.

However, the free roaming of animals along this corridor's migratory route has generated human wildlife conflicts that continue to threaten the long-term sustainability of the Kwakuchinja corridor. This is further exacerbated by the density of human settlements in the area and the associated deforestation and cropland expansion.

A recent nation-wide program launched by the Tanzanian government to assess, prioritize and develop action plans for wildlife corridors offers the opportunity for Kwakuchinja to be used as a model for other corridors in the country. This three-year grant will allow Chem Chem to intensify protection, to engage key stakeholders and to work towards the gazetting of the Kwakuchinja corridor in order to increase its legal protection status.

Snow Leopards and Persian Leopards: A Shared Strategy to Save them and their Habitats

Persian leopards and snow leopards are threatened by multiple factors in Central Asia but predominantly by human encroachment. Fondation Segré is supporting the efforts of Conservation X Labs to foster recovery of snow leopards and Persian leopards and their prey populations in three countries of Central Asia: Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan and Kazakhstan.

The project activities are focussed on antipoaching and conflict prevention and mitigation at three specific sites: the Big Balkan Range and Garabogazgol depression on the Ustyurt Plateau in Turkmenistan - an important Persian leopard source population from where animals migrate north into Kazakhstan; the Ustyurt Reserve and Kyzylsai Regional Natural Park in Kazakhstan – where Persian leopards keep being recorded but where their preys are being poached; and the Khan Tenghri-Naryn corridor in Kyrgyzstan – one of the most important snow leopard sites where community-based nature conservancies are under development.



Supporting a global amphibian partnership

Amphibians are intuitively familiar to most people and include frogs and toads, but also salamanders, newts, and the lesser-known caecilians. There are over 8'000 species of amphibians globally, occurring in virtually all terrestrial and freshwater habitats apart from the coldest and driest regions and the most remote oceanic islands.

The diversity of amphibian species is highest in the tropics, particularly in Central and South America, but also has important concentrations in equatorial Africa, Madagascar, parts of Asia, and New Guinea.

Despite their large distribution, more than 2800 amphibian species are currently threatened with extinction and are in urgent need of conservation action according to the second Global Amphibian Assessment published in 2023. The main threats are habitat loss, disease and climate change.

To respond to this urgent challenge, Synchronicity Earth, a UK-registered charity focusing on global environmental conservation, launched a new initiative in 2021 to catalyse urgently needed philanthropic support for amphibians globally: the Amphibian Conservation Fund. This pooled fund has since been joined by Fondation Segré, the Oak Foundation, another Geneva-based foundation and the BAND Foundation. Fondation Segré renewed its contribution to the fund for another two years in 2023.





Conserving the critically endangered symbol of Patagonia

Only discovered in 1974, the Hooded Grebe is a Critically Endangered species found within a restricted range in remote Patagonia. The species has a current estimated population not exceeding 800 mature individuals and suffered an extreme population decline of 80% since the 1980s. This project builds on the success of previous Hooded Grebe work carried out by Aves Argentinas, the national partner of BirdLife International, and will expand it on a larger scale. Interventions will focus on restoring the very specific crystal-clear lake conditions needed for the species to breed on the highland basaltic plateaus of western Santa Cruz province. The project will also remove the threats posed by three invasive species found in this habitat (American Mink, Rainbow Trout and Kelp Gull) and protect nest sites from more extreme climate events using climate adaptive devices. Through additional efforts to raise local awareness of the importance of conserving this species the project also hopes to secure the conservation of the whole ecosystem in Patagonia.



Scaling up and consolidating zebra shark recovery at Raja Ampat, Indonesia

The zebra shark is found on shallow coastal reefs throughout the Indo-West Pacific. Populations around the world are decreasing due to habitat degradation, overfishing, bycatch, and the shark fin trade. This project follows up from a previous grant the foundation provided and that was successfully completed in 2023. The overarching goal of this project is to re-establish a healthy, breeding population of zebra sharks (*Stegostoma tigrinum*) in Raja Ampat, Indonesia through the world's first conservation translocation program for captive-bred endangered elasmobranchs. Working closely with an alliance of large aquariums, researchers, conservationists and Indonesian government agencies, Conservation International and partners aim to recover Raja Ampat's zebra shark population by releasing genetically appropriate, captive-bred offspring sourced from accredited partner aquariums, in strict accordance with IUCN guidelines for conservation translocations. Over a three-year period, at least 250 eggs will be shipped to 2 hatcheries in Raja Ampat, with resulting juveniles grown out and eventually released into 2 strictly enforced no-take zones, where they will be monitored closely for post-release survivorship. The project will also facilitate a ministerial decree granting full protection of the species in Indonesian waters.



OUR
2023
PARTNERS





FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS
FOR THE
YEAR ENDED
31 DECEMBER
2023

Balance sheet for the year ended 31 December 2023

	31.12.2023 EUR	31.12.2023 CHF	31.12.2022 EUR	31.12.2022 CHF
ASSETS				
Current assets				
Cash at banks	2'030'027.73	1'913'037.23	1'645'950.60	1'625'293.92
Portfolio at market value	30'127'896.85	28'391'626.15	32'365'247.21	31'959'063.36
Prepaid expenses and others	14'579.21	13'739.01	12'474.90	12'318.34
Total current assets	32'172'503.79	30'318'402.40	34'023'672.71	33'596'675.62
TOTAL ASSETS	32'172'503.79	30'318'402.40	34'023'672.71	33'596'675.62
LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS				
Liabilities				
Payables	3'627.20	3'418.16	0.00	0.00
Accrued expenses	9'381.80	8'841.13	12'105.29	11'953.37
Total liabilities	13'009.00	12'259.29	12'105.29	11'953.37
Net assets				
Capital	24'038.46	30'000.00	24'038.46	30'000.00
Founder's capital contributions	48'215'322.08	52'410'055.10	48'215'322.08	52'410'055.10
Retained earnings	(14'227'793.12)	(14'507'507.57)	(2'322'142.78)	(2'461'370.55)
Net result for the period after disbursements	(1'852'072.63)	(1'818'161.18)	(11'905'650.34)	(12'046'137.01)
Difference of conversion from functional currency	0.00	(5'808'243.24)	0.00	(4'347'825.29)
Total net assets	32'159'494.79	30'306'143.11	34'011'567.42	33'584'722.25
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	32'172'503.79	30'318'402.40	34'023'672.71	33'596'675.62

Exchange rate EUR/CHF as at 31 December 2023: 0.94237 (0.987450 as at 31 December 2022), exception made for the capital.

Profit and Loss account from 1 January to 31 December 2023

	2023 EUR	2023 CHF	2022 EUR	2022 CHF
INCOME				
Unrealised gain/(loss) on portfolio	2'057'181.00	2'019'514.02	(7'842'811.00)	(7'935'356.17)
Unrealised exchange (loss)/gain	(271.76)	(266.78)	1'932.19	1'954.99
Realised (loss)/gain on portfolio	1'705'468.63	1'674'241.50	2'345'038.41	2'372'709.86
Donations	0.00	0.00	13'397.00	13'555.08
Other financial income/(expenses)	37'802.11	37'109.95	0.00	0.00
Various income/(expenses)	4'116.03	4'040.67	0.00	0.00
TOTAL INCOME	3'804'296.01	3'734'639.35	(5'482'443.40)	(5'547'136.23)
EXPENSES				
Salaries - Switzerland	248'580.89	244'029.37	245'428.99	248'325.05
Social contributions - Switzerland	56'819.98	55'779.61	56'433.07	57'098.98
Salary & social contributions - Abroad	150'000.00	147'253.50	150'000.00	151'770.00
Employee expenses	455'400.87	447'062.48	451'862.06	457'194.03
Rent	49'972.03	49'057.04	48'393.91	48'964.96
Office expenses	8'271.05	8'119.61	10'288.33	10'409.73
Other administrative expenses	3'795.13	3'725.64	2'757.64	2'790.18
Travel and representation expenses	12'216.09	11'992.41	11'520.29	11'656.23
Administrative expenses	74'254.30	72'894.70	72'960.17	73'821.10
Fees and consulting fees	23'850.24	23'413.54	26'881.71	27'198.91
Bank charges and fees	6'265.90	6'151.17	9'977.66	10'095.40
Other expenses	30'116.14	29'564.71	36'859.37	37'294.31
TOTAL EXPENSES	559'771.31	549'521.90	561'681.60	568'309.44
OPERATIONAL RESULT FOR THE PERIOD	3'244'524.70	3'185'117.45	(6'044'125.00)	(6'115'445.68)
Disbursements during the period	(5'096'597.33)	(5'003'278.63)	(5'861'525.34)	(5'930'691.34)
NET RESULT FOR THE PERIOD AFTER DISBURSEMENTS	(1'852'072.63)	(1'818'161.18)	(11'905'650.34)	(12'046'137.01)

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

1. Activity

On 22 November 2012, the seat of Fondation Segré was transferred from Vaduz (Liechtenstein) to Zug (Switzerland). According to Article 2 of its statutes, Fondation Segré supports, through its donations, public or private institutions and individuals, taking into account their merit and their programs of actions in humanitarian, ecological, scientific and artistic spheres.

A major concern for the Foundation is the conservation and protection of animal life and biodiversity in the world.

2. Founder's capital contributions

2006 contribution	EUR	20'479'522
2019 contribution	EUR	27'735'800
TOTAL	EUR	48'215'322

3. Commitments for grants to be disbursed in the following years

The commitments of Fondation Segré for grants to be disbursed in the following years amounted to EUR 8'188'800 for the year-ended 31 December 2023 (EUR 9'451'165 for the year-ended 31 December 2022).

4. Tax exemption

A tax exemption status was granted to Fondation Segré by the Zug Cantonal Tax Administration on July 29, 2016.

5. Employees

In 2023, Fondation Segré employed less than 10 people.

6. Debt to pension fund

There is no debt to the pension fund for the year-ended 31 December 2023.

7. Audit fees

The estimated audit fees for the year 2023 represent an amount of EUR 2'698 (EUR 2'422 in 2022).

Audit

Report of the Auditors on the limited audit to the Foundation Board of

Fondation Segré, Zug

As statutory auditors, we have examined the financial statements (balance sheet, operating statement and notes) of the Fondation Segré for the year ended December 31st, 2023.

These financial statements are the responsibility of the Foundation Board. Our responsibility is to perform a limited statutory examination on these financial statements. We confirm that we meet the licensing and independence requirements as stipulated by Swiss law.

We conducted our examination in accordance with the Swiss Standard on the Limited Statutory Examination. This standard requires that we plan and perform a limited statutory examination to identify material misstatements in the financial statements. A limited statutory examination consists primarily of inquiries of company personnel and analytical procedures as well as detailed tests of company documents as considered necessary in the circumstances. However, the testing of operation of processes and the internal control system, as well as inquiries and further testing procedures to detect fraud or other legal violations, are not within the scope of this examination.

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Report of the auditors
on the limited statutory examination
to the General Meeting of
the Foundation Board of

Fondation Segré
Zug

Based on our limited statutory examination, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial statements do not comply with Swiss law and the company's articles of incorporation.

Geneva, April 16th, 2024

UNIFID SA

A. PASQUIER
Licensed auditor (FAOA)

C. BADI
Licensed audit expert (FAOA)
Auditor in charge

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AND
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Page 26-27: A sunset in the NamibRand Nature Reserve in Namibia, creates fiery red and yellow colours on the desert floor © Jeff Blumberg

Page 32: A Nile monitor lizard peers over rock in South Africa's Sabi Sand Game Reserve © Jeff Blumberg

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www.fondationsegre.org

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applications@fondationsegre.org

Foundation head office

Alpenstrasse 15 – CH-6302 Zug
Phone: +41 41 729 42 79 – Fax: +41 41 729 42 29

Geneva office

Quai du Mont-Blanc 3 – CH-1201 Genève
Phone: +41 22 716 09 30 – Fax: +41 22 716 09 39