

ICZ Keeper Conservation Grant

Recipients

The International Congress of Zookeepers (ICZ) is proud to offer an annual grant of US\$ 1.000,- for projects aiming to protect wildlife and their habitats. This grant has previously been received by the following projects:



Keeper salary during the Ebola crisis

The first grant in 2015 was awarded to the Tacugama Chimpanzee Sanctuary in Sierra Leone and covered the salary of two keepers from the sanctuary for two months during the Ebola epidemic. This grant did not only help the sanctuary to keep all their keepers employed, but also ensured the same standard of care for the animals during this crisis.

Monitoring of drill for future release

Save the Drill applied for and received the second grant in 2016 for the monitoring of drills at Limbe Wildlife Center in Cameroon. A behavioral study on a group of 92 drills living in the center was conducted in view of future release. The grant paid for the equipment used during this study.

Bornean hornbill reproduction

The winning project in 2017 was submitted by keepers from Phoenix Zoo, in the United States of America. The project worked together with other NGO's, as well as the local community to create artificial nests for endangered Bornean hornbill species and monitor both the artificial and natural nest cavities.

Sun bear protection

The Sumatran Sun Bear Team (SSBT) was 2018's grant recipient and was submitted by keepers from Taronga Conservation Society Australia. The project works to improve the survival rate of wild sun bears by working with local farmers and villagers.

Monitoring of released spider monkeys

In 2019 the grant was received by Wildtracks in Belize after it was submitted by a keeper from Twycross Zoo in England. The grant helped to purchase radio-collars needed to adequately monitor Central American spider monkeys after the country's first release of this endangered species.

Improvement of the quarantine at Liberia's wildlife rescue center

After submission by a keeper from [Antwerp ZOO](#) in Belgium, the grant was received by the [Libassa Wildlife Sanctuary](#); the first and only wildlife rescue center in Liberia. The grant went towards the improvement of the center's quarantine room to make it suitable for antelopes and other larger animals that could not be housed in the previous building.

Heated shelter for rescued langurs

The [Angkor Centre for Conservation of Biodiversity \(ACCB\)](#) located in Cambodia was the recipient of the grant in 2021. The grant was used for the construction of a much needed heated shelter for juvenile Indochinese silvered langur and Annamese silvered langur rescued from the illegal pet trade.

Equipment for education about the Andean condor

The grant in 2022 supported the work done by the [Fundación Parque Jaime Duque](#) to protect the Andean condor in Columbia. The grant went to equipment such as binoculars and camera-traps used for environmental education of children who live in the Almorzadero paramo and coexist with the condor in its natural habitat.

Community-based Bali starling breeding and release program

In 2023 the grant was received by [Begawan](#) for their community-based program in Melinggih Kelod Village in Indonesia, to give villagers the opportunity to breed Bali Starlings for release, and to be accountable for their safety once in their natural habitat. The grant provided funding for their ongoing breeding and release of these Bali starlings.