



The Kukang Rescue Program

ANNUAL REPORT 2024



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The Kukang Rescue Program in 2024

Since 2014, The Kukang Conservation Program in Sumatra, Indonesia, has been protecting particularly the greater slow loris (*Nycticebus coucang*) and the Sumatran slow loris (*Nycticebus hilleri*), the venomous primates that fall victim to their cuteness. The Kukang Program is constantly developing, primarily through cooperation with local communities on several levels. At the "Kukang School", it educates local children and develops a positive relationship with nature in them. It employs former poachers who are now field assistants. Through the sustainable coffee growing project named "Kukang Coffee", it turns local farmers into conservationists. In addition, the program also actively fights wildlife smugglers.

In its activities, the Kukang Program combines direct conservation field work in valuable locations, cooperation with local communities, education of children and the general public, and active solutions to crime against endangered species. They are trying to reduce the illegal trade (not only) in slow loris and thus protect the populations (not only) of these endangered animals in the wild from extinction.

As we celebrated the 10th anniversary of the founding of the Kukang Rescue Program in 2024, we are pleased to share with you a comprehensive look at the journey we have managed to take during that time. The following text includes a significant part of the activities and achievements of 2024, which clearly show how our organization has been shaped over the past decade. The results of the work of the Kukang Rescue Program underline our commitment to the protection of endangered wildlife. We would like to sincerely thank all our partners, supporters, volunteers and collaborators who have contributed to the success of our program!



Collaborating with and Supporting Local Communities

In 2024, the Kukang Conservation Program continued its efforts to collaborate with local communities living and farming on the edge of the valuable Leuser Ecosystem. It is in these communities that we see a unique opportunity to create a functional buffer zone – an area where people actively protect populations of endangered animals in their surroundings while helping to prevent poachers from entering the heart of the Gunung Leuser National Park, the last place in the world where tigers, orangutans, rhinoceroses and Sumatran elephants can be seen in the wild. Through various initiatives, the program focused on promoting harmonious coexistence between people and wildlife and addressing the problems associated with the illegal wildlife trade.

Highlights:

- ✦ **Expansion of the “Kukang Coffee” project:** The program expanded its successful Kukang Coffee project, which encourages farmers to protect endangered species. The idea is that farmers receive a better price for their coffee crop than the market price, and in exchange, they commit to protecting slow lorises, pangolins and other endangered species living in their vicinity. Last year, for the first time, we enabled local farmers to sell their coffee almost all year round. This was possible thanks to the expansion of the capacity of the racks with shelves for drying coffee in the greenhouse of the coffee house in the village of Kuta Male. This innovation was received very positively by the farmers, as it allows them to have a slightly more stable income from the sale of coffee for a large part of the year. In 2024, new conservation farmers joined the project, from whom we purchased a record amount of coffee (3,602.8 kg). Last year, we brought Kukang Coffee to the Czech Republic by ship for the first time, thanks to which we, among other things, reduced the ecological footprint of this transport.



Production of new stands with shelves for drying coffee



Coffee drying in the coffee house greenhouse



Peeling the parchment layer of green coffee beans



Hand sorting of Kukang Coffee by local farmers

Monitoring of nocturnal animals: In 2024, regular monitoring of nocturnal animals using the transect method continued in the field area around the village of Kuta Male and also near the village of Bandar Baru, where the Kukang Centre is located. In this way, the Kukang team determines the population size of slow lorises and other nocturnal animals, their behaviour and habitat requirements. The results so far from these two areas indicate that the population of slow loris in Kuta Male is stable and sufficiently numerous (the result of our many years of conservation activities), while the population of slow loris in Bandar Baru is very low (ongoing hunting in a very large and populated area). In addition to wild animals and habitats, the team also surveyed the area for any possible poaching activity around the village of Kuta Male, which is located on the border of the Leuser Ecosystem. As for direct data collection on the number and behaviour of nocturnal animal species, the Basukum area has been newly added to the two areas mentioned above, where the Kukang team has been monitoring for the fifth year. In this village, we have previously supported the construction of a school called "School at the End of the World". We will continue to monitor this area in the coming years thanks to a grant from the Dutch Van Tienhoven Foundation. We plan to publish the results of the monitoring in a joint scientific article.



Monitoring team in Basukum



Greater slow loris on Piper angustifolium pepper tree



Data recording during monitoring in Kuta Male



Leopard cat near Kuta Male village

Camera trap project: Monitoring of wild nocturnal animals is used to estimate their abundance, and as a complementary method, we have been using camera traps since 2023. Our field team installs these in the rainforest area where our program has been operating for a long time. In addition to the fact that these records allow us to see what animals move in the area and monitor their behaviour, we can also find out from them which species share the same environment with slow lorises. Camera traps also help us record otherwise very shy animals that are active mainly at night. In 2024, all camera traps were moved to the village of Amburidi, where the Kukang team is newly operating and which is located directly in the protected ecosystem

of the Gunung Leuser National Park in northern Sumatra. Based on the work with camera traps in the demanding environment of the Sumatran rainforest, it became clear which brands of camera traps are suitable and which, on the contrary, are faulty. Next year, thanks to the support of the Zlín Zoo, additional camera traps will be purchased, thus expanding the observation area. In 2024, we took turns working with more than 10 camera traps, which brought us many amazing shots from deep within the Sumatran wilderness.



Placing camera traps near the Kuta Male village



Sun bears captured on camera traps near Amburidi



Red muntjac near Kuta Male village



Field team during camera trap placement

Development of community involvement in conservation: Kuta Male is one of our main examples of successful community involvement in conservation. We started our activities in the Kuta Male area in 2016. At that time, slow lorises were still hunted in the village mainly for the pet trade and the local wild animal population had been decimated. Other species of animals such as pangolins, hornbills and porcupines were also hunted there. Slow lorises and other animals were therefore almost impossible to come across in the landscape. However, at that time we managed to eliminate hunting in this area by employing local poachers, thanks to which we gradually started to record more frequent occurrences of slow lorises. In 2018, we also established the “Kukang Coffee” project and in 2019 we started regular monitoring using the transect method. Based on personal observations and partial data collection, we are sure that the slow loris population in Kuta Male has increased significantly since 2016. The results of monitoring the number of slow lorises are slightly fluctuating, but stable. During the monitoring, we also focus on mapping other animals, such as pangolins, which are the focus of our sister program, the Trenggiling Conservation Program.

As mentioned above, we are trying to implement a similar model in the village of Amburidi, led by field assistant and former poacher Rio. In 2024, we began expanding a similar methodology to the village of Basukum, where the “School at the End of the World” is located.

Education and Raising Awareness about the Environment and Wildlife Conservation

Education plays a key role in the mission of the Kukang Rescue Program to protect wildlife and nature in Sumatra. Through various educational initiatives, the program aims to increase the knowledge of mainly local children and foster a sense of responsibility for environmental protection.

Highlights:

Expansion of the “Kukang School”: Our flagship Kukang School provides free English lessons and environmental education to local children, raising a new generation of nature enthusiasts and conservationists. With a dedicated team of our Indonesian teachers and the support of volunteers, we offer children engaging lessons and outdoor activities that help students better understand nature conservation. In June 2024, the school year at Kukang School ended as usual. With the new semester, we had to strengthen the teaching team, which was joined by two new teachers, Dinda and Tasya. At the end of 2024, we also started the construction of a multifunctional auditorium for children, which will serve not only as a classroom, but also as a place for social events and book reading. Natural materials are used for the construction - wood from fallen trees from storms and bamboo, which gives it not only an ecological but also an aesthetic character. Both buildings are located on the Kukang Centre property, the lease of which we extended this year until 2030.



Signing the contract with the new teacher Tasya



Dinda during classes at Kukang School



Construction of a multifunctional auditorium for children



Multifunctional auditorium before completion





End of the school year at Kukang School



Award-winning students with their parents and teachers


Children from Kukang School save money in a piggy bank all year round, with which they will go on an educational trip with our teachers at the end of the semester. The rest of the costs will be paid by our organization. In 2024, they visited the Central Park Zoo in Medan and the Medan Istana Jambu agrotourism park, where they also tried out vegetable planting.



Children's trip to Central Park Zoo Medan



Children from Kukang School on a school trip

 **Our involvement in the Education4Conservation (E4C) program**, which aims to enrich the learning of preschool and school children through outdoor activities, continued in 2024. This education takes place at the “Kukang School” as well as at two other schools – in the village of Amburidi and the village of Perbesi near the Kuta Male area.



Outdoor teaching within E4C at the Kukang Centre



Bird watching within the E4C program

✦ **Operation of the “School at the End of the World”:** In 2024, classes were also held regularly at this school, the construction of which we supported thanks to a grant from the Embassy of the Czech Republic in Indonesia in 2020. Thanks to the support of our program and, more recently, our teacher Novi, who has been part of the Kukang team for more than 10 years, a group of local children learn English and environmental education here every week. They often lack the opportunity to acquire this knowledge in public education, so they are happy to learn at the Tampuk Doni school (translated as “School at the End of the World”) in the remote village of Basukum, home to many active children.



Teaching English at the School at the End of the World Outdoor teaching at the School at the End of the World

✦ **Public awareness in Sumatra:** To celebrate Indonesia’s Independence Day on August 17, 2024, our Kukang team organized an awareness campaign called PATRON FEST 2024, which was attended by hundreds of people from the local community, as well as top government officials. The goal was to get local people excited about protecting endangered wild animals. Another Indonesian campaign, this time online, aimed to reduce the amount of waste generated. The goal was to make the best shopping video possible, minimizing waste such as packaging, plastic bags, etc. From a total of 19 videos sent, we selected 6 winners from two categories - the best video and the most creative video. Another, also online, campaign focused on drawings of slow lorises and pangolins. Dozens of children from not only Sumatra participated in this campaign.



Government officials at PATRON Fest 2024

Kukang team after the end of PATRON Fest 2024



One of the winning drawings with its author



Award-winning children from the online awareness campaign

We also continued to raise awareness among farmers in the field. Our team visited the Cagar Alam area near the Kukang Centre, which we monitor for slow lorises and where, following previous collaboration with farmers, we now distribute brochures. These are intended to help farmers identify protected animals and protect their farms without having to kill the animals.



Farmers receive gifts in the form of water bottles



Czech-Indonesian team distributing brochures to farmers

Monitoring of the use of slow lorises as tourist attractions in Thailand: From 7 to 16 March 2024, our team went to Thailand, where we documented the extent of the use of slow lorises and other wild animal species as tourist attractions. During 14 days of intensive research on the island of Phuket, in the capital Bangkok and their surroundings, we uncovered various cases of keeping wild animals and offering them to tourists for entertainment for money, including slow lorises. An example is the Thai tourist island of Phuket, where it is perhaps impossible to avoid two famous beaches, namely Kata and Karon Beach. These neighbouring beaches in the west of the island are a popular tourist paradise all year round, so it is not surprising that locals use these places to earn money. In addition to adrenaline attractions such as paragliding over the sea or riding jet skis, there are also animals offered for taking photos for money, namely slow lorises. Our team tried to spend a few hours on Kata Beach and around five in the afternoon, a Thai man suddenly appeared next to them with a slow loris on his arm. The team tried to observe how this "business" works. The local walks among people and offers them a photo, while attracting them with the "cuteness" of the slow loris. If you show interest, he often simply puts the slow loris on your arm and lets you pet it. Most tourists then "arrange" themselves in a nice place with the sea in the background and take

a few photos and selfies. All this for 100 baht (about USD3), which most tourists only find out about later, but given the low price, they don't argue about it. We dare say that almost every tenth tourist had shown interest, regardless of nationality. When observing tourists, you could also notice that many of them immediately shared their photos on social networks after taking a photo. Some of the tourists our team spoke to afterwards had no idea what the animal was and were shocked that something like this would happen to a wild animal taken from the wild. This just goes to show how important it is to raise awareness.



A slow loris and its owner on Kata Beach



Tourists with a slow loris on the famous tourist beach



Photoshoot with slow loris at Bangkok floating market



Monkey show in Thailand

Awareness and promotion of the program in the Czech Republic: The Czech part of the Kukang team has traditionally lectured and organized or participated in many events throughout the Czech Republic and abroad. The number of these events was high in 2024, therefore only their list and location are given below without further description.



Presentation at EAZA Conservation Forum in Ostrava



Kukang stand at the Around the World festival



Lucie's lecture at the EAZA Annual Conference



Kukang stand at Hodonín Zoo

Kukang Tour events

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- 11-12/5 – Kukang Tour Ostrava Zoo
- 18/5 – Kukang Tour Ústí nad Labem Zoo
- 13-14/7 – Kukang Tour Olomouc Zoo
- 22/8 – Kukang Tour Hodonín Zoo
- 23/11 – Travel festival Around the World in Prague

The Kukang Movie screenings

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- 6/1 – screening for students of the SVOPAP animal breeder course
- 29/4 – screening for students of CULS in Prague
- 11-12/5 – screening as part of the Kukang Tour at Ostrava Zoo
- 6/6 – screening for participants of the EAZA Conservation Forum in Ostrava
- 13-14/7 – screening as part of the Kukang Tour at the Olomouc Zoo
- 22/7 – summer camp at Hodonín Zoo
- 10/8 – COIFF film festival
- 19/8 – open-air cinema in Provodov
- 21-22/8 – screening as part of the Kukang Tour at Hodonín Zoo
- 27/8 – summer camp at Jihlava Zoo
- 10/9 – screening for participants of the Commission for *In Situ* Projects and the Commission for Fauna Protection of the Czech Republic and Slovakia
- 1/10 – screening for employees and fans of Ústí nad Labem Zoo
- 3/10 – Polish premiere at Kino Nowe Horyzonty in Wroclaw
- 22/11 – screening for participants of the seminar "Forensic Methods and Sampling in Wildlife Crime Cases" in Červená Lhota
- 23/11 – Around the World travel festival in Prague
- 20/12 – screening for students at the Luhačovice Secondary School

Program days

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- 8-9/6 – Weekend of support for conservation projects at Dvorec Zoo
- 7/9 – Olomouc Zoo Day
- 5/10 – Day for Liberec Zoo sponsors

Kukang Coffee stands

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- 4/5 – Majáles Ústí nad Labem
- 25/5 – Family Festival 2024 in Ústí nad Labem
- 14-15/6 – Útulek fest in Ústí nad Labem
- 24/8 – Miladatlon
- 7/9 – Ciderfest Zubrnice 2024
- 6/10 – Charity sports event at Milada in support of the Mobile Hospice of Masaryk Hospital
- 1-23/12 – Ústí nad Labem Christmas 2024

Thematic lectures

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- 6/3 – Science Film Festival for Elementary Schools “Let’s Be Surprised” in Pardubice - Excursion to a rescue station for slow lorises in Indonesia
- 18/6 – SOŠ Luhačovice – Kukang Rescue Program
- 31/7 – Kukang Coffee café – Sumatra with your own eyes
- 9/9 – UCSZOO *In Situ* Projects Commission – Illegal Wildlife Trade in Southeast Asia
- 10/9 – UCSZOO *In Situ* Projects Commission – Will slow lorises survive in agricultural landscapes?
- 8/10 – At the Well of Knowledge – Nature Conservation in Indonesia – Discussion with Lucie Čížmářová
- 9/10 – EAZA Annual Conference 2024 (Leipzig) - Education Activities in The Kukang Rescue Program
- 10/10 – EAZA Annual Conference 2024 (Leipzig) – The Kukang Rescue Program in 2023



Kukang team in Olomouc Zoo



Lecture for children from a primary school in Luhačovice

✦ **Our online campaigns:** Wild animals are not attractions! Are you or someone close to you going to Southeast Asia or other tropical countries? Then be careful. Trips to exotic destinations can bring, among many other experiences, encounters with wild animals, which are offered as paid attractions for the entertainment of travellers. By taking pictures with them and paying for it, tourists often become unwitting supporters of the illegal trade in often endangered animal species. Monitoring in Thailand showed us more, where taking pictures with animals often poses significant ethical problems. Many tourists do not realize that behind attractive photos with various species of wild animals, the suffering of these creatures may be hidden. Slow lorises are caught from the wild and forced to be active during the day on hot beaches. However, we should also be careful of attractions with other species, such as elephants, tigers, monkeys or shows with boxing orangutans in bras and many others. These animals are often kept in poor conditions, subjected to inappropriate training methods, forced to be constantly active, and exposed to stress and exhaustion. Campaigns like our "I Am Not Your Toy!" highlight the need to end these practices and urge tourists to reject such attractions.



Orangutan boxing show in Bangkok



The famous Tiger Temple in Thailand



Cuddling and taking photos with tiger kittens in Thailand




Elephant show at a Bangkok zoo

Cooperation with Indonesian Government Agencies to Protect Wildlife and Combat Poaching

Cooperation with local government agencies played a key role in the Kukang Rescue Program's fight against illegal wildlife trade and the protection of endangered species in 2024. Last year was a particularly successful year for our team of investigators, who managed to catch 4 smugglers and seize a total of 1,405 endangered animals from them!

Highlights:

 **Seizure and rehabilitation:** The Kukang Rescue Program investigators, in collaboration with the Indonesian Nature Conservation Agency (BKSDA), the police, and other non-profit organizations such as Lestari, successfully seized several endangered species. A total of 1,405 endangered animals were seized, including 1,354 pig-nosed turtles (*Carettochelys insculpta*), 5 siamangs (*Symphalangus syndactylus*), an agile gibbon (*Hylobates agilis*), a greater slow loris (*Nycticebus coucang*), a Sumatran slow loris (*Nycticebus hilleri*), 6 green sea turtles (*Chelonia mydas*) and other animals (see the table below). After capture, the confiscated animals were moved to the quarantine of the Indonesian Nature Conservation Agency. By seizing these animals, we have protected these endangered species from illegal trade. Here is the full list (in descending order of number of individuals seized):

English name	Latin name	Number of individuals
Pig-nosed turtle	<i>Carettochelys insculpta</i>	1,354
Asian forest tortoise	<i>Manouria emys</i>	29
Green sea turtle	<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	6
Siamang	<i>Symphalangus syndactylus</i>	5
Yellow-crested cockatoo	<i>Cacatua sulphurea</i>	2
Common hill myna	<i>Gracula religiosa</i>	2
Agile gibbon	<i>Hylobates agilis</i>	1
Sunda pangolin	<i>Manis javanica</i>	1
Greater slow loris	<i>Nycticebus coucang</i>	1
Sumatran slow loris	<i>Nycticebus hilleri</i>	1
Sulawesi bear cuscus	<i>Ailurops ursinus</i>	1
Saltwater crocodile	<i>Crocodylus porosus</i>	1
Binturong	<i>Arctictis binturong</i>	1
Total		1,405



A team of investigators and forest police during a raid



Seizure of illegally held siamang



A seized siamang before being transferred to a rescue centre



Seizure of 6 green turtles

In a few cases, we have even managed to release these animals back into the wild. As part of our sister program, the Trenggiling Conservation Program, which focuses on pangolins, we received a Sunda pangolin (*Manis javanica*) from our new assistant Rio. It was captured in the village of Amburidi. The person who captured it was afraid that the pangolin would be found by others and killed. Knowing about our program, he handed the pangolin over to Rio. We fed and observed the pangolin, and the next day we found a suitable location to release it in an area protected by our ranger team.



Checking a rescued pangolin before release



Field team during the release of a rescued pangolin

Transfer of confiscated animals to a rescue centre: The same team is doing everything possible to ensure that as many of these animals as possible receive adequate rehabilitation in rescue centres. In 2024, we transferred 4 siamangs from the West Sumatra Wildlife Conservation Agency (BSKDA SUMBAR) quarantine to a rescue centre. We performed laboratory tests for tuberculosis,

hepatitis and herpes virus on them before the trip. After preparation and coordination with the management of the Aspinnall Foundation Siamang Rehabilitation Center, our team, together with BKSDA SUMBAR officials, made the long journey from West Sumatra (from the BSKDA SUMBAR quarantine) to South Sumatra. Our team of investigators had two tasks during the translocation. The first was to coordinate and prepare the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for the translocation itself. The second task was to provide veterinary care to the relocated siamangs in cooperation with the veterinarian. The translocation itself lasted 3 days and 2 nights. During the journey, it was necessary to provide several places to rest (at the offices of the Nature Conservation Agency) and of course constant hydration and food for the exhausted animals. After successful arrival at the Siamang Rehabilitation Center, all animals were examined and treated by a veterinarian. All siamangs are now undergoing a rehabilitation process that will ideally end with the animals being released back into the wild.



A sedated siamang before being transferred to a rescue centre Preparing to transport siamangs to the rescue centre

✦ **Arrests of animal smugglers:** In 2024, we managed two significant successes in the fight against wildlife smugglers. After months of intensive surveillance, we managed to arrest two high-profile smugglers – repeat offender Muhammad Iqbal Hasandi and his business partner Mega Katon Prayog, who were smuggling rare turtles from Papua. The raids seized 1,354 pig-nosed turtles (*Carettochelys insculpta*) and other protected animals. Iqbal was sentenced to 2.5 years in prison, Katon to 8 months. The second case involved a pair of smugglers from Nias Island who were hunting green sea turtles (*Chelonia mydas*) around Palambak Island. In cooperation with local police and Lestari, they were apprehended and the main perpetrator, Etiyus Telaumbanlia, was sentenced to 2.5 years in prison and a fine of 70 million rupiah (approx. USD4,250). Both cases demonstrate the power of collaboration between the non-profit sector, police, and other institutions in combating organized wildlife crime.



Press conference with smugglers Iqbal and Katon



Green turtle smugglers arrested on Palambak Island

Building an Indonesian Team of Wildlife and Nature Conservationists

The Kukang Rescue Program emphasizes building a capable team of collaborators and developing the expertise of local people in conservation. By assembling a skilled and enthusiastic team, the program seeks to create sustainable solutions to conservation problems.

Highlights:

- ✦ **Expansion of the Indonesian team:** The program continued to expand its Indonesian team of wildlife conservationists, made up of individuals from partner villages and local communities. In 2024, the team at Kukang School was strengthened by the two aforementioned teachers, Tasya and Dinda, and the Kukang Coffee team was expanded by assistant Rio. Several new members also joined the team of wildlife trafficking investigators and informants. With training and professional guidance, these team members have played a key role in implementing conservation projects in the field. The Indonesian Kukang Rescue Program team now has more than 20 members.



New assistant Rio during the pangolin release



Indonesian Kukang team at the Kukang Centre

Publicity

Our conservation efforts are also supported by public communication and media engagement. In 2024, The Kukang Rescue Program received a lot of attention in this regard. Through various media platforms and events, the program raised awareness of the importance of conservation and thereby secured support for its activities.

Highlights:

- ✦ **Distribution of the documentary "The Kukang Movie: A Story of Slow Lorises and People":** The time-lapse documentary about wildlife protection, determination, setbacks and friendship underwent intensive festival distribution in 2024 and won

the hearts of juries and audiences around the world. At international film festivals focused on the environment and wildlife, the Kukang Movie scored 11 wins in its categories and was also shortlisted or nominated 12 times. The documentary was also screened as part of the EAZA Conservation Forum, which took place for the first time in the Czech Republic from 4 to 7 June 2024 in Ostrava. The screening was followed by a debate and a tasting of Kukang Coffee with 130 representatives of zoos from 30 countries. The film is now available to the general public on digital television Oneplay. Its TV premiere on Czech Television is expected in 2025. We have created a new website for the documentary at the link www.kukang-movie.org.



Screening of Kukang Movie at Kino Nowe Horyzonty in Wroclaw / Kukang Movie poster with festival awards



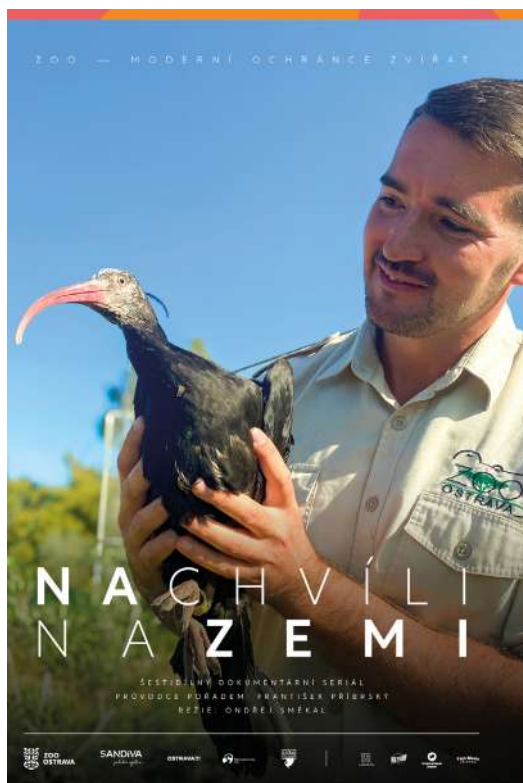
Kukang Movie screening for children at Hodonín Zoo / Screening of Kukang Movie in the open-air cinema in Provodov

Documentary series „A Moment on Earth“: In 2024, the six-part popular educational documentary series „A Moment on Earth: Zoo - Modern Wildlife Conservationist“ was completed, showing modern zoos as key players in the conservation of nature and endangered species. Each episode focuses on one of the key topics in contemporary nature conservation, such as the return of animals to the wild, ex-situ rescue breeding of endangered species, *in-situ* conservation

projects in the field, the fight against illegal wildlife trade, or the protection of biodiversity. The series presents how zoos protect endangered species not only in their areas, but also directly in the species' native habitats around the world. In the six episodes, it introduces viewers to the connection between the work of zoos and conservation projects ranging from the Philippines through Indonesia, Vietnam, to Spain, Austria, and the Czech Republic.

The main producer of the series is the Ostrava Zoo and Botanical Park, the co-producer is Sandiva production agency, s.r.o., and the Kukang Rescue Program is also among the partners. Our program is presented in the series as one of the main *in situ* conservation projects in the pilot episode, which was filmed in Indonesia. During this episode, viewers will have the opportunity to look behind the scenes of saving the slow loris, educating local children, working with former poachers, and efforts for sustainable development in cooperation with the local community. The guide of the entire series is František Příbrský, co-founder and director of the Kukang Rescue Program, who guides viewers not only in Sumatra but also around the zoo and other countries and projects.

The series will have its festival premiere in 2025 at the prestigious international festival Academia Film Olomouc. Subsequently, it will be screened on Czech Television and available on Czech VOD platforms such as Oneplay.



Poster for the documentary series *A Moment on Earth* / Filming of the documentary series *A Moment on Earth*

✎ **Kukang Coffee in the Czech Republic:** Our “Story of the Coffee that Protects Nature” has become a powerful educational tool in Europe as well. We import this conservation coffee from partner farmers in Sumatra to the Czech Republic, where people can taste it not only in our café in Ústí nad Labem, but also in some modern zoos, such as Ústí nad Labem Zoo, Na Hrádečku Zoo, Ostrava Zoo (U Lucy and U Hrocha Restaurants) and, recently, also in Olomouc Zoo.



Kukang Coffee cafe in Ústí nad Labem



Kukang Coffee pastry shop at the Ústí nad Labem Zoo

Media and interviews: The program received wide media coverage on popular Czech news sites, in magazines, and through podcasts and interviews, such as Czech Television, Czech Radio, Interview Magazine, etc. This media engagement helped to spread the idea of the program and gain support for wildlife protection from a wider audience.

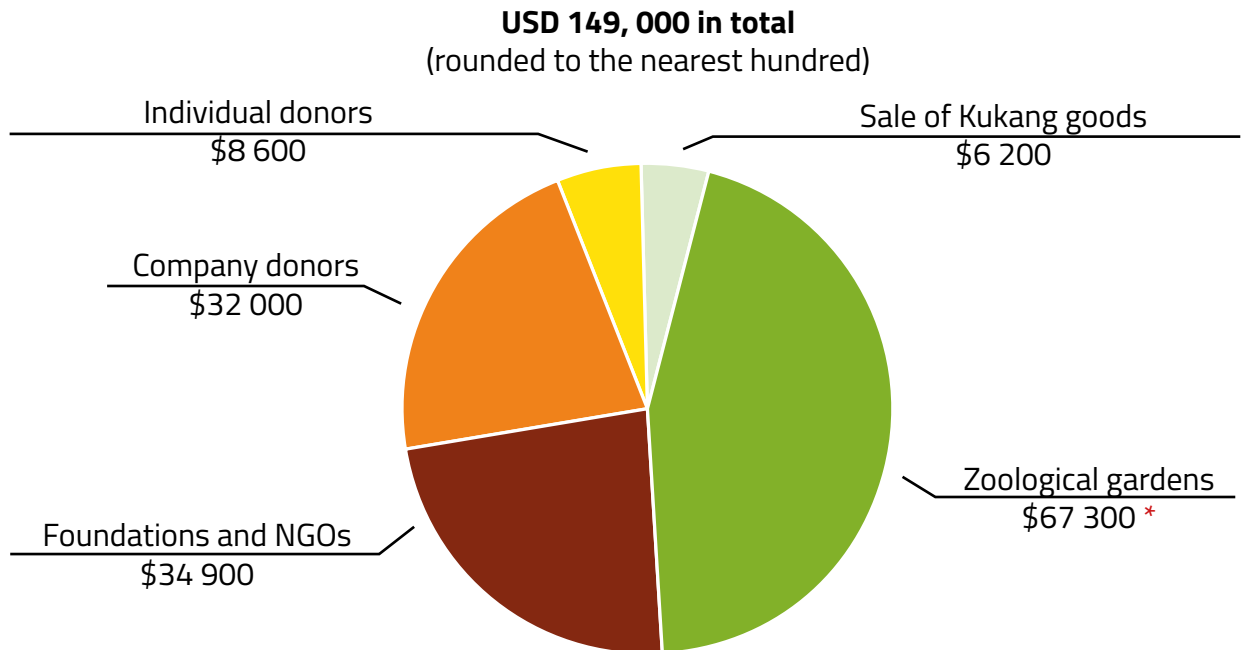


Articles and interviews in 2024:

Date	Title of the article or reportage	Medium
10/03/2024	<i>Kukang has been protecting slow lorises in Indonesia for 10 years. The support of zoos is important for the Czech organization</i>	ČRo
11/03/2024	<i>Interview with František Přeborský about our program</i>	ČRo Vysočina
15/03/2024	<i>Slow loris is not a plush toy: Sonya's tragic fate reveals the dark side of the pet trade</i>	Koktejl
24/03/2024	<i>Kukang Movie is a proof of the successes and failures of Czech efforts to protect slow lorises in Indonesia</i>	ČRo
09/05/2024	<i>Come and take a look - Kukang weekend at Ostrava Zoo is here</i>	Moravskoslezský deník
03/06/2024	<i>The Pygmy Slow Loris</i>	Conservationists Assemble
13/07/2024	<i>Taking a photo with slow lorises on beaches due to social networks is a big nuisance in recent years, explains an animal rights activist</i>	ČRo Sever
30/07/2024	<i>Kukang celebrates 10 years from its foundation. In that time it has accomplished incredible things</i>	Givt blog
13/08/2024	<i>A photo with a slow loris, a tiger, or a show with orangutans? People often unknowingly support the illegal trade in endangered species</i>	ekolist.cz
12/08/2024	<i>A poacher is often very close to the animals, says a zoologist and conservationist Lucie Čižmářová</i>	Olomoucký report
01/11/2024	<i>Orangutans in bras or a photo shoot with a slow loris. Tourists pay for the suffering of animals</i>	Ústecký deník
07/11/2024	<i>Despite obstacles: The Kukang Rescue Program</i>	ČT - Dobré ráno
07/12/2024	<i>František Přeborský: It bothers me how many people think they are more important than animals</i>	Magazín Interview
07/12/2024	<i>The Kukang Rescue Program celebrates a significant milestone – 10 years of its existence</i>	ČRo Sever

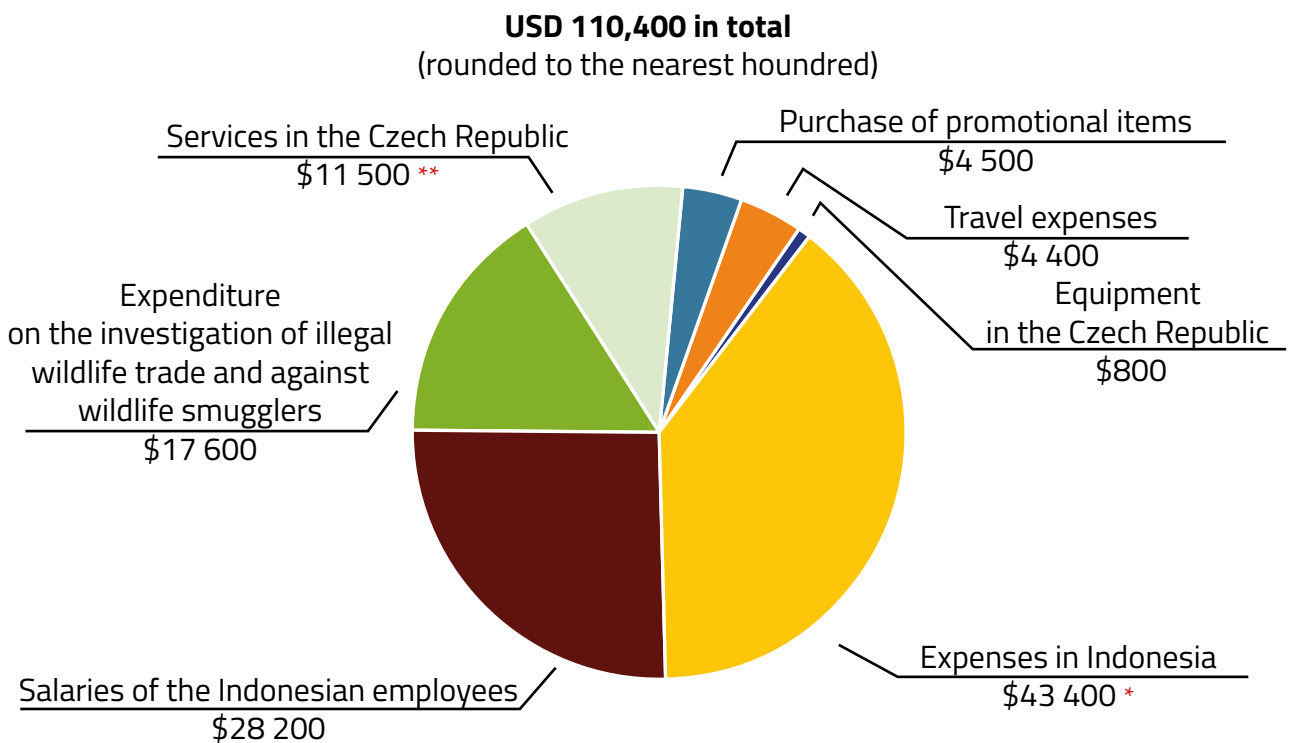
Revenues and Expenses in 2024

Revenues of the Kukang Program in 2024



* Excludes salaries of two field zoologists employed by Ostrava and Olomouc Zoos

Expeses of the Kukang Program in 2024



* Includes taxes and other fees, land and office lease, purchase of Kukang Coffee beans, construction works (labour and material), operation of the Kukang Centre, Kukang school and other schools, diets, purchase of field equipment, etc.

** Includes post-production and promotion of The Kukang Movie, graphic works, webhosting, bank fees, etc.

In Conclusion

The Kukang Rescue Program continued in 2024 with a holistic approach that connects conservation with the people who inhabit and use it every day. Community engagement, education, collaboration with authorities, combating wildlife smugglers, capacity building, and media outreach remain the backbone of our efforts to conserve Sumatra's biodiversity. Together with local and international partners, we are working towards a future where wildlife can thrive in harmony with the communities that share their habitat.



The system, where activities in Indonesia are carried out by the Indonesian foundations PATRON and PASAL, actively supported by the Czech non-profit organization The Kukang Rescue Program, z. s., continues to bring positive results. In addition to conservation activities, the PATRON and PASAL foundations also ensure legal integrity in Indonesia, while The Kukang Rescue Program, z. s. provides financial support and educational and awareness-raising activities in Europe. As every year, the general meeting of our Czech non-profit organization was held, this time at the headquarters in Hradec Králové. We discussed the past year and plans for the coming months.

The year 2024 was also exceptional in that we commemorated ten years since the founding of our program. It has been a decade of tireless field work, thousands of hours of education, hundreds of rescued animals, but above all, ten years of joint efforts of people who are not indifferent to the fate of nature. This anniversary is a symbol of our commitment - not only to our mission, but also to every person who has decided to stand by our side on this journey.

Every year, colleagues and volunteers from all over the world visit us in Sumatra. We are very happy that in 2024, we were visited in Sumatra by, for example, puppet actors Karolína Vyhřídál Hýsková and Ondra Vyhřídál, who organized a playful lesson with puppets with children, or Markéta Soukupová, director of the Moment Second-Hand Foundation, which is a network of stores mainly (but not only) with second-hand clothing. The proceeds from their sales are distributed among various Czech non-profit organizations, including those for nature conservation. Sustainability and helping others are therefore very close to Markéta's heart. Here are her observations and impressions that she took away from us:

"For a few years now, I've been toying with the idea of going to one of "our" conservation non-profits. But stepping out of your comfort zone... you don't usually rush into that... But Lucka enticed me, so I went to the Kukang Rescue Centre in Sumatra to experience first-hand what the demanding work of a wildlife conservationist looks like. I started at the local Kukang School, where I also tried out teaching. "Educating the locals" is the key to improving everything, but it took me (as a white European) quite a while to get used to the fact that it must be based primarily on respect for the local culture. Together with the Kukang team, I also went on a farm trip, where we gave local farmers useful advice on how they can protect their crops from wild animals without having to hunt and kill them. Other activities awaited me in the field area of the Kukang Program. The trip to Kuta Male brought a great adventure. You have to travel along a road that a European would consider impassable, but the rainforest is preparing the most important thing for you. And you never know exactly what it will be. "Placing a camera trap" is easy to say, but much harder to do. Nevertheless, despite the weather and the peculiarities of the rainforest, we managed to place 7 camera traps during two trips. Thank you very much for this incredible experience, thanks to which I know a lot more about what life on our planet is really like."



Over the past year, we have not only advanced our long-term activities, but also launched new initiatives. Behind all these results is a wide network of people and institutions, to whom we owe our sincere thanks. Without your support, trust and enthusiasm, much of what has been achieved would not have been possible.

Special thanks go to our partners – especially the growing network of cooperating zoos, newly including the Polish Łódź Zoo, whose financial and moral support means a fundamental benefit to us. Our partners also include several companies that care about the protection of endangered species. Newly, they include, for example, the company TRHOŇ ZooFoods, or groups of people, such as the one associated with the Facebook group Hand in Hand, which organizes charity auctions for us and other organizations, or the auctioneers of beautiful photo paintings of the Na Hrádečku Zoo. We also feel enormous gratitude towards the volunteers who participate with us in nature protection – whether directly in Indonesia, or at events, lectures and stands in the Czech Republic. Your energy, ideas and willingness to help are invaluable to us.

We also value our colleagues and partners from other conservation organizations, zoos, government institutions, universities and schools. We believe that it is through collaboration and shared values that we can together strengthen the impact of our work and inspire others to protect nature.

Thank you all. Your support motivates us, your trust binds us. No matter how you are part of our story, thanks to you we can believe that the future of endangered animals and natural ecosystems has hope.

Thank you for being with us!





