



PRESS RELEASE

The Kukang Rescue Program participated in a Netflix documentary series on the world's national parks. It has just been released!

14 April 2022 - **The streaming platform Netflix is launching a new documentary series called Our Great National Parks, which will take viewers to the world's most remarkable national parks. One of them is Leuser National Park in the north of the Indonesian island of Sumatra, where the Kukang Rescue Program successfully protects slow lorises and other wild animals from illegal trade. That is why the Kukang program was invited by the filmmakers to collaborate on one of the episodes. The series, narrated by Barack Obama, has been available on Netflix since 13 April. At the same time, a separate short documentary about the activities of the Kukang program was created.**

Last year, the Kukang Rescue Program worked closely on the creation of one of the episodes of the five-part documentary series Our Great National Parks for the Netflix streaming platform. One of the national parks in this document is the Leuser National Park in the north of the island of Sumatra, Indonesia – the last place on Earth where four Sumatran species of large mammals live together - elephant, rhino, tiger and orangutan. In an area on the edge of this vast rainforest, the Kukang Rescue Program has been active for several years. *“We monitor the local populations of slow lorises and other animal species and effectively protect these wild animals by employing former poachers, educating the community and supporting the sustainable livelihood of farmers as part of the Kukang Coffee project. As a result, this locality is very rich in the occurrence of rare animals, such as slow lorises, orangutans, pangolins and others,”* describes Lucie Čižmářová, field zoologist at the Olomouc Zoo, which carries out annual monitoring of wild animals in the area.

Therefore, the Kukang Rescue Program was approached by the British production company Wild Space Productions to see if the program would be interested in actively participating in the creation of the documentary about the Leuser NP for Netflix. *“The cooperation consisted mainly of our assistance to the staff from the Indonesian filming company ASA Film both in searching for and filming wild animals in the field, as well as in communicating with the people from the village in the immediate vicinity of the filming locality. Thanks to the experience of our field team made up of former poachers, as well as our long-standing friendly relations with this community, unique shots of wild slow lorises were taken,”* explains František Příbrský, director of The Kukang Rescue Program.

Based on the successful collaboration, the filmmakers also made a separate short documentary about the threats to slow lorises and their protection, especially within the Kukang Coffee project. The Kukang Rescue Program at the locality supports coffee growers and buys their coffee beans in exchange for their

binding promise to protect wildlife. *“It’s great that the filmmakers also focused on the unique Kukang Coffee project, which was able to create benefits for local people in the area while effectively protecting wildlife. Thanks to that, we can film the wildlife here now,”* says Jhon Kartasima Gurusinga, Indonesian field coordinator of the Kukang Coffee project. The video can be viewed [here](#).

The entire five-part documentary series Our Great National Parks, narrated by former US President Barack Obama, has been available on Netflix since 13 April. The official trailer can be found on [YouTube](#) or on the website of the accompanying campaign for the series called [Wild For All](#), which aims to promote coexistence with nature and its protection.

The attached photographs may be freely used for press, internet and television news purposes. Photo credits: Jhon Kartasima Gurusinga and Vít Kanyza.

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