



2023 Annual and Final Narrative Report

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Executive Summary

Wildlife populations have declined significantly over the past 50 years, with one million species facing extinction. Loss of wildlife and biodiversity is a serious warning sign for people as nature provides essential services such as air, water, food, medicine, and shelter. Additionally, the interconnected issues of wildlife loss and climate change underscore the importance of restoring healthy ecosystems to mitigate climate effects.

The Lion's Share fund, initiated by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in 2018, originated from the pressing need to respond to the nature crisis and involve the private sector as part of the solution. The Lion's Share invited advertisers to contribute a portion of their advertising spend to support conservation and animal welfare projects globally. This innovative approach aimed to compensate animals and habitats used in advertising campaigns, mirroring individual compensation practices.

The Lion's Share's flagship programme supported a consortium of partners conserving and restoring the Leuser Ecosystem, Indonesia. The Leuser Ecosystem covers more than 2 million hectares of rainforest and is home to the critically endangered Sumatran rhino, elephant, orangutan and tiger. In addition to its outstanding biodiversity, the Leuser provides millions of people with critical ecosystem services, such as clean water, and helps regulate global climate through its storage. Over four years, The Lion's Share's has supported interventions within Eastern Leuser's lowland forests focused on (1) accelerating forest restoration efforts, (2) developing sustainable alternative livelihoods, (3) supporting a feasibility study on potential sustainable finance mechanisms, (4) combatting poaching, and (5) enhancing behavioural change.

In 2023, activities in the Leuser specifically focused on: capacity development and support for two community ranger teams, support to the women-led management of a Village Forest covering 2,500 ha, management of 242 ha of regenerating primary lowland rainforest, support to wildlife crime investigations and anti-poaching efforts, support to a Human-Orangutan Conflict Response Unit, and capacity development of young journalist to report on nature and conservation topics.

In addition to its flagship programme, The Lion's Share continued to support small grants. In 2020, The Lion's Share collaborated with the GEF-Small Grants Programme to issue grants to non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to implement innovative local-level actions that enhance community resilience and well-being, particularly against external shocks in wildlife-rich areas. In 2023, a second targeted call for proposals sought to expand and support the alternative livelihoods introduced in the initial round of grants. Five proposals were selected based on their potential to address long-term sustainability challenges, impact on wildlife and ecosystems, support to marginalized groups, and replicability to other regions and communities:

1. Bhutan – Bhutan Ecological Society:
 - Focus: Sustainable ecotourism and innovative strategies to combat poaching while uplifting local communities.

- Approach: Introducing educational seminars alongside ecotourism initiatives to create a harmonious balance between conservation efforts and socio-economic growth.
 - Impact: Foster greater community engagement, reduce poaching activities, and promote sustainable livelihoods while preserving Bhutan's rich natural heritage.
2. Ecuador – Fundación Pachamama:
 - Focus: Further promote women participation and leadership in managing small community enterprises in the 6 Achuar indigenous communities of the Lower Pastaza River Basin.
 - Approach: Create of community-based vanilla enterprises to diversify income sources.
 - Impact: Empower indigenous communities economically while promoting sustainable practices that reduce pressures on forest resources and preserve biodiversity in the region.
 3. Mongolia – Snow Leopard Conservation Foundation (SLCF):
 - Focus: Support alternative livelihood creation for 28 local and indigenous semi-nomadic herder communities in critical snow leopard habitat.
 - Approach: Providing equipment for improved dairy production, training community members on standardized dairy quality control and building capacity for wildlife-friendly eco-tourism.
 - Impact: Increase income from alternative livelihoods and enhance women's leadership within the community (as women are the primary stakeholders of the project). Additionally, communities dedicate 10% of sales revenue of local dairy products to conservation efforts.
 4. South Africa – Elephants Alive:
 - Objective: Upscaling the successful solutions to lessen human-wildlife conflict and improve food security in the Phalaubeni community near Kruger National Park.
 - Approach: Implementation of a dual soft barriers to protect agricultural crops from elephants, deploying an elephant guardian mobilization team for increased human safety, and installation of a water irrigation system.
 - Impact: Empowerment of women through beekeeping, propagation of elephant unpalatable barriers, and monitoring efficacy of the model through GPS collared elephant tracking.
 5. Uganda – Enjojo Wildlife Foundation (EWF):
 - Objective: Expansion of beekeeping capacity and infrastructure to increase honey production and support local livelihoods.
 - Approach: Improvement of beehouses, installation of supporting infrastructure including fences and firebreaks, and construction of sanitary facilities.
 - Impact: Increase community self-reliance through increased income and an awareness of the economic benefits of living in harmony with nature. EWF also intends to replicate this model to other communities, with the trained community members teaching the next community.

These projects collectively represent innovative approaches to conservation, community empowerment, and sustainable development, contributing to the preservation of biodiversity and the well-being of local people.

In addition to the second phase of the community resilience grants, results were achieved in a previously selected small grant to BirdLife Australia. This grant was intended to demonstrate a solution that responds to conserving spaces in Australia that will be refugia for threatened species into the future and/or protecting and restoring habitat corridors to help threatened species migrate to new locations. The grant supported monitoring efforts and data collection for Western Ground Parrots, the fourth most endangered bird in Australia, at a translocation site intended to establish an insurance population for the species. Equipment purchased through the grant also helps facilitates ongoing monitoring efforts, contributing to improved understanding and conservation of the Western Ground Parrot population.

Since its launch, The Lion's Share has many notable achievements across its programmes and through its global advocacy for nature. UNDP was proud to be part of this initiative and is grateful to all partners that contributed. To take this initiative to its maximum potential, The Lion's Share would now benefit from being driven by the private sector. This approach will tap into an engine for sustainable solutions and resource mobilization, while also ensuring scalability.

Moving forward, The Lion's Share Fund in its current configuration and composition of partnerships including UNDP concluded at the end of 2023. However, the concept behind The Lion's Share will endure as FINCH, a founding member of the Fund, is committed to re-launch the initiative under their direct leadership, with renewed focus and partnerships. UNDP extends its best wishes to FINCH for the ongoing success of this important endeavor and will continue to watch its progress with great interest.

The Lion's Share Background

The Earth is teetering on the brink of its sixth mass extinction event, and the stakes have never been higher. With up to 1 million species at risk of becoming extinct in the coming decade, the delicate balance of biodiversity that sustains life on our planet is under severe threat. This is a global crisis that demands urgent attention and concerted efforts.

To help address and reverse this imminent threat, it is crucial for the world's largest corporations to actively engage in conservation efforts —given their dependencies and impacts on nature, their influence over global economies and their resources and potential to make a substantial impact.

In 2018, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) embarked on an initiative – The Lion's Share fund – with several partners, with the goal of transforming the lives of animals worldwide. The Lion's Share fund invited advertisers to contribute a percentage of their advertising spend to support conservation and animal welfare projects, by compensating animals and habitats used in advertising campaigns – in the same way that individuals are compensated.

Overarching Impact

Since The Lion's Share's launch, conservation projects have been initiated in 15 countries across four continents. Additionally, The Lion's Share has worked with over 40 public and private partners, with a shared mission to raise global awareness of the value of nature and catalyse collaborative action for conservation.

In terms of increasing global advocacy around nature, some highlights of The Lion's Share work include:

- Winning the Cannes Lions Sustainable Develop Goals Grand Prix for the Lion's Share's use of creativity to help address one of the world's greatest environmental challenges. More information can be [read here](#).
- Being featured as an innovative conservation initiative by global news outlets such as the Economist, [Vogue](#), [The Guardian](#), [CNBC](#), [Marie Claire](#), [GQ](#), [CBS New York](#) and others.
- Garnering nearly 2 millions of impressions on social media through online educational campaigns and collaborations with artists such as Ugur Gallenkus.
- Hosting global events at international forums such as the UN General Assembly, Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) COP, IUCN World Conservation Congress, Paris Peace Forum, etc.
- Co-sponsoring the Jaguar Parade in New York where jaguar sculptures were featured at the UN General Assembly and iconic locations within New York City, reaching an estimated audience of over 7 million people¹ in the US

¹ Based on average monthly visitors to exhibition venues.

In terms of direct impact on global conservation efforts and sustainable community development, some highlights of The Lion's Share's conservation work include:

- Over 17,000 hectares (ha) of land, an area 3x the size of Manhattan, was secured for sustainable forest management and restoration, increasing the connectivity of 2.6 million ha of rainforest in Sumatra, Indonesia, an area the size of Rwanda.
- New, sustainable livelihoods were developed for communities across 6 countries. In Mongolia, 7 communities are now investing a portion of new income streams to conserve 119,487 ha of snow leopard habitat, an area the size of Rome, Italy.
- Over 1,000 farmers have been trained in sustainable agriculture across Indonesia, South Africa, Uganda and Zambia.
- Continued support to wildlife ranger teams who have cumulatively patrolled and protected nearly 19,000 km of rainforest since 2020.
- Establishing the first women's forest ranger team in Sumatra, Indonesia challenging gender stereotypes and elevating women as leaders in their communities.

Long-Term Programming

Leuser Ecosystem

Since 2020, The Lion's Share has supported a consortium of NGOs to protect and restore the Leuser Ecosystem, Sumatra, Indonesia. The Leuser Ecosystem covers more than 2 million hectares of rainforest and is home to the critically endangered Sumatran rhino, elephant, orangutan and tiger. The Leuser specifically is an important source site for tigers, with an area home to breeding females. In addition to its outstanding biodiversity, the Leuser provides millions of people with critical ecosystem services, such as clean water, and helps regulate global climate through its storage of carbon within the forest.

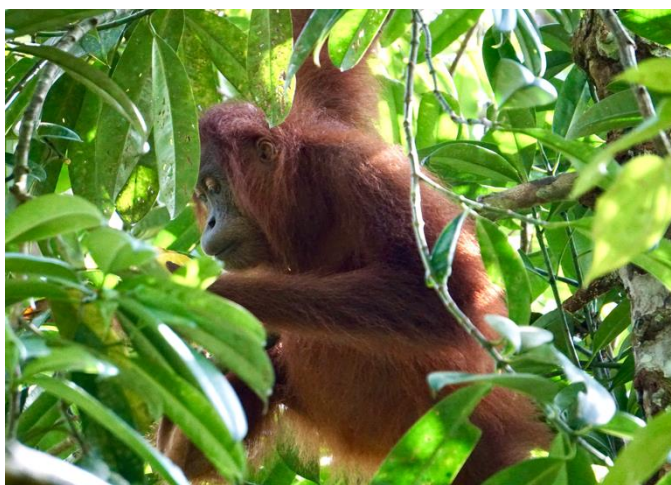


Figure 1 Critically endangered Sumatran orangutan.

Despite its incredible value, the Leuser Ecosystem faces many challenges due to unsustainable development activities such as palm oil plantations, logging, mining, new roads, and poaching. Habitat degradation coupled with human-wildlife conflict and poaching has led to immense pressure on the Leuser's endangered species. Given the complex and multifaceted challenges facing the Leuser Ecosystem, urgent, collaborative conservation was needed.

The Lion's Share's has specifically supported interventions within Eastern Leuser's lowland forests. Core activities included (1) accelerating forest restoration efforts including in key wildlife corridors, (2) developing sustainable alternative livelihoods for local communities, (3) supporting a feasibility study on potential sustainable finance mechanisms, (4) helping combat poaching through new ranger teams and local capacity development to investigate wildlife crime, and (5) enhancing behavioural change through targeted communications related nature.



Figure 2 Women's forest restoration group planting and caring for seedlings.

In 2023, activities specifically focused on: capacity development and support for two community ranger teams in Gayo Lues, support to the women-led management of Hutan Desa (Village Forest) covering 2,500 ha in two villages, management of 242 ha of regenerating primary lowland rainforest at Aras Napal, support to wildlife crime investigations and anti-poaching efforts, support to a Human-Orangutan Conflict Response Unit, and increased advocacy and communications related to conservation.

In some high-risk poaching areas, SMART patrol teams conducted 61 patrol trips, covering 2,744km of forest. These teams removed 70 snares and bird traps, and recorded 56 illegal encroachment points and 11 illegal logging points.

In addition to the monthly patrols, a camera trap survey of tigers was conducted across 3,384km² of the Leuser Ecosystem to help enhance conservation efforts especially in Gunung Leuser National Park (GLNP) and its buffer zone. In addition to date on tigers, a survey on Helmeted Hornbills was also conducted. Data from the surveys are expected in mid-2024.



Figure 3 Journalists visit a Tiger Proof Enclosure in Lhok Bengkuang Timur Village, South Aceh, photo courtesy of WCS.

To increase public awareness of conservation efforts, Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) along with partners in the Leuser Ecosystem collaborated with local news agencies to promote species and habitat protection in Aceh. A training was held for 30 journalists, including 9 women, with an aim of improving the skills of young journalists in producing reports on environment conservation, habitation preservation and wildlife issues in Aceh. Additionally, a field visit was organized for 10 select participants to witness conservation efforts firsthand and meet local stakeholders.

Global Animal Welfare

Since 2020, The Lion's Share has supported Humane Society International (HSI) to deliver a Global Animal Welfare Programme in Bhutan and Bolivia. Due to various implementing challenges such as changes in government priorities and restrictions due to COVID-19 in 2020 – 2022, project activities were unable to begin in two originally proposed programme countries South Korea and Mauritius. In 2023, these countries programmes were replaced by activities in South Africa and India.

Animals living within urban settings often face starvations, injury, abuse or even death. Additionally, stray dogs are a major threat to wildlife as they can transmit a series of diseases, kill wild animals, disturb ecosystems, compete with them for prey, and interbreed with closely related species. Free-roaming dogs also freely mate, leading to unwanted litters of puppies that find their way into the cycle of ongoing street animals.

The Global Animal Welfare programme focused on addressing dog and cat welfare through community engagement and veterinary training, with activities tailored for reach programme country.

In India, HSI supported capacity building of local organizations that conduct Animal Birth Control projects. In India, there are hundreds of local organizations which bid for municipal tenders to perform surgery for the management of stray animal populations, but very few have the training and skills to do it humanely. HSI has submitted a proposal to use an existing clinic site in the city of Lucknow as a training ground for organizations interested in increasing their surgical expertise, dog handling skills, and overall knowledge in spay/neuter work. Two animal welfare organizations that carry out spay/neuter programs have been registered for trainings in 2024. In 2023 through HSI's dog management work, 30,189 street dogs were sterilized and vaccinated. Additionally, through HSI India's community engagement work:

- 316 dog behaviour, conflict resolution and First Aid workshops were conducted with 5,773 participants
- 851 meetings with over 5,493 people were held to discuss peaceful solutions for people and dogs
- 98 volunteers were trained on First Aid to help over 5,793 urban animals
- Through a local helpline, over 9,000 complaints and queries were responded to related to dog-human conflict

In South Africa, HSI in partnership with local NGOs conducted 7 outreach events in underserved communities to provide free spay/neuter and preventive care services for owned, abandoned, and stray dogs and cats. Additionally, 1,328 dogs and cats were sterilized, while also providing primary veterinary care to hundreds more. In an effort to improve and promote responsible pet ownership, partners engaged current pet owners through animal health days which are pop up clinics in local communities, and also children in local schools. A total of 1,400 school children were educated on companion animal welfare. The program also works to engage teachers to incorporate humane animal welfare education into the curriculum.

In Bolivia, HSI's spay/neuter program model in La Paz, which provides accessible, affordable, high-quality spay/neuter services to the community has continued honing a platform to train veterinarians on the skills and knowledge it takes to perform safe surgeries in under-resourced environments, centering the wellbeing of the patient. 22 veterinarian teams, including 44 participants, were successfully trained in high-quality spay/neuter processes. Most participants were from Bolivia however, some travelled from Chile and Costa Rica. By the end of 2023, the first successful field-based training experience was held outside of the training center. This was sparked by an initial request from a team trained in 2023 that expressed eagerness to receive post-training support during a government-led initiative. This provided an opportunity for trainees to learn/strengthen strategies and techniques in high-stress environments that often lack proper facilities and equipment, which can be a common barrier for veterinarians who are still in training.



Figure 4 Veterinarians in Bolivia, photo: HSI Bolivia

Small Grants

In 2020, The Lion's Share, jointly with the GEF-Small Grants Programme, issued a global call for proposal, titled "Resilience in Wildlife-Based Communities Small Grants", to support initiatives in communities dependent on wildlife-based tourism. The small grants supported non-profit organizations in developing countries to carry out innovative local-

level action to increase resilience and well-being of communities against external shocks such as pandemic crises in wildlife rich areas.

In 2023, there was a targeted call for proposals to scale and support the alternative livelihoods introduced in the first round of the small grants. More broadly, the small grants also provide the opportunity to showcase replicable nature-based solutions that increase community resilience to external shocks while jointly protecting wildlife and nature.

Nine proposals were received and assessed based on the project's ability to address long-term sustainability challenges, impact on wildlife and ecosystems, support to marginalized groups (e.g. women, indigenous peoples, and youth), and replicability to other regions and communities. Five proposals were selected for funding ranging from US\$21,000 to US\$50,000.

Bhutan

The purpose of the second grant to Bhutan Ecological Society (BES) is to address the critical issue of tiger poaching in Bhutan and its neighboring Indian regions, while simultaneously improving the livelihoods of local communities. This initiative extends the foundation laid by the initial Lion's Share grant, which focused on environmentally responsible ecotourism.

Building on this foundation, the Bhutan Tiger Centre (BTC) and BES are partnering with the Royal Manas National Park (RMNP) to combat poaching. This effort involves training monks and community members to elevate conservation efforts by fostering a profound and meaningful connection with wildlife.



Figure 6: Rufous-necked hornbill in Royal Manas National Park, photo courtesy of Joshua F. Goldberg/BES



Figure 5: A BES training on the fish that live in the rivers of Panbang, photo courtesy of Joshua F. Goldberg/BES

The project encompasses a range of activities strategically designed to enhance community resilience by providing alternative streams of economic while amplifying conservation awareness within the local community. These activities include introducing electrical fencing to safeguard crops and distributing native high-value crops, namely

arecanut, avocado and orange, to enhance food security. Moreover, the project supports the establishment of eco trails and camping grounds, along with capacity development in nature guiding.

A unique element of this second grant is to launch innovative awareness programs, such as the "*Hunter to Hermit*," which serves to guide former poachers towards transitioning into alternative livelihoods like livestock rearing, community-based eco-tourism, and nature guiding. Additionally, active participation in the annual "*Youth for Tigers Camp*" by BES enhances conservation outreach to youth. By directly involving marginalized groups like women and youth, the project ensures inclusivity and strengthens local community dynamics.

For more information about the first grant, please see the blog "[Like Water for Tigers](#)".

Ecuador

The purpose of the second grant to Fundación Pachamama is to build on the work achieved during the first phase, further promoting women participation and leadership in managing small community enterprises in the 6 Achuar indigenous communities of the Lower Pastaza River Basin, Ecuador.



Figure 7: Pachamama is offering trainings in sustainable home-gardening methods to bolster food security, photo courtesy of Jake Matthews, Fundación Pachamama

In the first phase, 59 women were trained in traditional techniques for processing chili pepper powder, 38 families trained to cultivate native vanilla and 89 local family fish farms built (equipped with 40,000 juvenile fish).

The second phase of the project further strengthens the local capacity for vanilla production in selected sites, including the vanilla nurseries located at the Kapawi School and at Kapawi Ecolodge, and with families in the communities of Kapawi, Suwa, and Kusutkau. The focus is to support

women led management of the plants, including farming, processing of vanilla beans, and production of added value products (vanilla extract, powder, and other potential applications such as cosmetics). This will be integrated with the ongoing efforts made by Fundación Pachamama to support the commercialization of Amazonian vanilla to national and international markets and to build a local Bioeconomy geographic information system.

The project activities yield conservation benefits by reducing human pressure on forest resources, and community benefits by increasing local incomes and empowering women to led a local enterprise of native organic vanilla.

For more information about the first grant, please see the blog “[A New Vision](#)”.

Mongolia

The purpose of the second grant to the Snow Leopard Conservation Foundation (SLCF) is to support conservation-linked livelihoods for 28 herder communities in Mongolia's snow leopard landscapes. In 2021, The Lion's Share enabled women from 7 communities to start cottage industries selling dairy products, which are traditionally produced only for household consumption. Women earned approximately \$200 per household in the first year by selling to local markets. There is great opportunity to expand sales to larger markets by training communities in standardized quality control. There are also growing opportunities for herder communities to earn income through eco- tourism; however, education and training are critical to ensure that it is indeed wildlife friendly and does not create adverse environmental impacts.



Figure 8: Herder community members taking part in targeted trainings, photo courtesy of SLCF and SLT

This project dually increases community resilience to external shocks and generates sustainable income for community conservation projects. This project provides 14 communities with equipment for improved dairy production, trains 12 communities in standardized dairy quality control, and builds capacities of 28 communities in wildlife-friendly eco-tourism. Communities dedicate 10% of sales revenue to local conservation efforts such as per diems for wildlife rangers or organizing community events. The alternative livelihood opportunities help indirectly offset economic losses made by predators to the community members which increases their tolerance to co-exist with predators like snow leopards. It also increases their financial capacity to dedicate some of the sales income to their community funds which help with their CRA management to become more efficient. CRA management plans are created with participation of local communities based on ecosystem and human well-being threats/challenges. Therefore, objectives of the plan are decreasing the threats/challenges of the surrounding ecosystem and communities well-being.



For more information regarding the first grant, please see the blog [“Got Cheese?”](#).

Figure 9: A variety of cheese products created during training in Uvs Province, photo courtesy of SLCF and SLT

South Africa

The purpose of the second grant to Elephants Alive is to upscale the knowledge and benefits derived from the [first grant](#) to improve the livelihoods of the Phalaubeni Community on the border of the Kruger National Park in South Africa, and by so doing foster coexistence values between people and wildlife.

The initial proof of concept took place in collaboration with the Black Mambas Anti-Poaching Unit (APU). The Black Mambas APU underwent training in apiculture for honey production, permaculture principles in the cultivation of elephant unpalatable crops and the creation of market value products, growing medicinal plants, and the production of food crops to supplement rations. They were also trained and mentored to enable them

to get their products to market, thereby generating additional income. This work is ongoing as the coexistence gardens are well established.



Figure 10 Big tusked elephant in Balule Private Nature Reserve, and Hive Maintenance, photos courtesy of Michelle Henley, Elephants Alive

Building upon the success of this first phase, Elephants Alive is upscaling the model to the Phalaubeni community, strategically located on the border of the Kruger National Park and comprising 384 households situated to the north of Phalaborwa. The second phase of the project tests the efficacy of the dual soft barriers approach to protect people's assets and the use of an elephant guardian mobilization team to ensure human safety. The project also involves installing a water irrigation system to increase productivity and empowering women to diversify their income by means of beekeeping and propagating elephant unpalatable barriers with a high market value and monitoring the efficacy of the deterrent methods by analyzing the tracks of GPS collared elephants.

The Phalaubeni community have been farming land for 38 years, representing a critical part of their livelihood, history and sense of place. However, elephants are now frequently crop-raiding and causing significant livelihood losses, with a resulting threat to both human and elephant lives. Elephants Alive creates a first line of defence consisting of soft barriers, already tested in an elephant corridor in Mozambique, of which income generating beehives represents one such barrier. A second elephant unpalatable inner barrier will be established based on plants that have a market value either for essential oil production, bee fodder, medicinal use, or high food value (chili-related products or cold pressed oil value). Together with the outer beehive fences and other soft barriers, this second layer of protection protects the inner core of the standard food crops planted by subsistence farmers and helps the community diversify their income and increase their resilience over time. Once the beehive fences and elephant unpalatable crops are established, the production of market products, including essential oils, cold pressed oil from both sunflowers and indigenous marulas (*Sclerocarya birrea*) which are plentiful in the area, can commence. Chili sauces will be produced for sale and for use as established mitigation ingredients in the chili oil rag fence and smelly elephant repellent and medicinal

plants). The women-led cultivators of Phalaubeni will receive training to enable them to start small to midsize business enterprises (SME) over time.

For more information about the first grant, please see the blog [“A Sweet Solution to a Mammoth Problem”](#).

Uganda

The purpose of the second grant to Enjojo Wildlife Foundation (EWF) is to scale honey production for communities around Queen Elizabeth National Park.

EWF, through The Lion's Share's first grant, supported 20 men and 20 women to develop a commercially viable bee-keeping business through the construction of a beehouse and honey processing center. Training was also provided to the 40 beneficiaries in beekeeping, honey production, and organic farming practices. The group was also officially established as a community-based organization named the “Ishasha Beekeeping Community”.

The second grant builds on the achievements of the first grant by improving the existing beehouse, building an additional beehouse, and installing supporting infrastructure. The infrastructure includes a fence and firebreak around the existing beehouse while also constructing sanitary facilities at the honey processing resource center. A second beehouse will be constructed to house 80 beehives and beekeeping equipment and gear purchased.



Figure 11: Member of the Ishasha Beekeeping Community, photo courtesy of EWF

The collaborative model of shared commerce for honey production is innovative and creates sustainable, self-reliant communities. Through supporting and scaling the honey production, community members will have increased income and an awareness of the economic benefits of living in harmony with nature. EWF intends to replicate this model to other communities, with the trained community members teaching the next community.

For more information about the first grant, please see the blog [“The Queen, the Crown and Conservation”](#).

Australia

In addition to the second phase of the Community Resilience Grants, results were achieved in a previously selected small grant to BirdLife Australia under the Climate Crisis theme. This grant was intended to demonstrate a solution that responds to conserving spaces in Australia that will be refugia for threatened species into the future and/or protecting and restoring habitat corridors to help threatened species migrate to new locations.



Figure 12: Western Ground Parrot, photo courtesy of Alan Danks

With only 150 birds remaining, all confined to a single location in Western Australia (WA), the Western Ground Parrot is the most endangered bird in WA and the fourth most endangered bird in Australia. Due to the vulnerability and inaccessibility of their current habitat, there is an immediate need to establish an insurance population in a second location, before it's too late.

In 2019, planning for a wild-to-wild translocation began, including the development of a clear and comprehensive strategy for a pilot translocation beginning in 2021. The pilot translocation has been undertaken, and from 2021 to 2023, nearly 20 Western Ground Parrots have been captured and successfully released at the translocation site.

Monitoring Western Ground Parrot is difficult due to the cryptic nature of the species, the low number of birds and the remote location of populations. One of the methods for monitoring populations include call detection from strategically placed Autonomous Recording Units (ARUs) to determine the relative abundance of populations. Monitoring of Western Ground Parrots was achieved in this project through the support of data collection from 84 ARUs at the source site and 47 ARUs at the release site. Initial analysis of this data indicated the presence of Western Ground Parrots at both the source and release sites and further analysis is being undertaken by the Department of Biodiversity,

Conservation and Attractions, South Coast Region (DBCA) using calling rates to determine longer-term occupancy trends over time at the source site and release site.

Radiotracking of Western Ground Parrots released in the March 2023 translocations was also supported as part of this project to assess survivorship, movement, and habitat use of the released birds. Radiotracking data will be evaluated as part of the Western Ground Parrot recovery program. Information from both the ARU monitoring and radiotracking supported by this project will be vital in adaptive management of the species' recovery, including informing future translocations, predator control and fire management.

Closing Operations in UNDP

UNDP is proud of all the notable achievements The Lion's Share has accomplished since its launch and is grateful to all partners that contributed. After careful assessment and consultations with partners throughout 2022 and 2023, it has become evident that taking this initiative to its maximum potential would now benefit from being driven by the private sector. This approach will tap into an engine for sustainable solutions and resource mobilization, while also ensuring scalability. Moving forward, The Lion's Share Fund in its current configuration and composition of partnerships including UNDP has ended. Nevertheless, FINCH, a founding member of the Fund, is dedicated to carrying forward the core principles of the Fund and aims to relaunching the initiative under their direct leadership.

UNDP, through its newly launched [Nature Pledge](#), will continue to put nature at the heart of development across its more than 350 projects in 140 countries. Leveraging UNDP's convening power, thought leadership, and the UN's largest portfolio of on-the-ground sustainable development programming and policy solutions, UNDP remains committed to supporting solutions that secure a better, more sustainable, more equitable future for all.