

ZOO ZÜRICH – CONSERVATION

Zoo Zurich regards itself as a conservation centre. Its priorities are the protection of ecosystems and the preservation of species.

«People who know animals will protect them»: This is the guiding principle that shapes the development and activities of Zoo Zurich. The zoo represents an ambassador between people, animals and nature. By catering for broad segments of the population in an appealing, eventful manner and acting as a role model, it contributes to the long-term conservation of biological diversity.

Financing of conservation

Zoo Zurich invests over 1.8 million Swiss francs in a range of conservation projects each year. Two percent of the turnover from the zoo restaurants and zoo shops goes towards the nature conservation projects of Zoo Zurich, for example.

Education

The animals and plants at Zoo Zurich are ambassadors for their wild counterparts. They raise visitors' awareness for nature conservation. Animal presentations, exhibitions, guided tours and information services make the public aware of the facts. The aim is for visitors in turn to become actively involved in the protection of ecosystems and the preservation of species. Specific activities are organised for schools. School classes from state-funded day schools in the canton of Zurich are entitled to free admission to Zoo Zurich. There are guided tours and workshops especially designed for school classes, as well as the opportunity to arrange interviews with animal keepers. Various learning resources, such as lesson packs, are also available. (📄 [zoo.ch/schule](https://www.zoo.ch/schule))

Breeding programmes

Zoo Zurich is a member of international breeding programmes such as the European Endangered Species Programme EEP and the European Stud Book scheme ESB. If possible, animals are made available for reintroduction programmes. (📄 [zoo.ch/zuchtprogramme](https://www.zoo.ch/zuchtprogramme))

Headquarters of foundations

Zoo Zurich provides a base for several conservation organisations free of charge: the Bat protection foundation, the Friends of Masoala association, the Antarctic Research Trust and the Swiss friends of the Galapagos Islands association.

Eight key projects

Beyond the zoo's fences, Zoo Zurich is committed to eight key projects with a long-term strategy. It follows the principles of the World Zoo and Aquarium Conservation Strategy of the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums WAZA.

(① zoo.ch/en/conservation)

Masoala National Park, Madagascar

Since 1995. Partners: Masoala National Park; Wildlife Conservation Society WCS; Medair. Projects: Preservation of the rainforest and reforestation; sustainable farming, water supplies and hygiene; formal education for children. Annual contributions of at least 125,000 US Dollars. zoo.ch/en/masoala-conservation

Kaeng Krachan National Park, Thailand

Since 2009. Partners: Kaeng Krachan National Park; Wildlife Conservation Society WCS. Projects: Resolving the human-elephant conflict; anti-poaching measures; construction of wildlife corridors. zoo.ch/en/kaengkrachan-conservation

Lewa Wildlife Conservancy, Kenya

Since 1998. Partners: Lewa Wildlife Conservancy. Projects: Construction of wildlife corridors; anti-poaching measures; resolving conflicts between people and wild animals; rhinoceros translocations. zoo.ch/en/lewa-conservation

Sumatra

Since 2007. Partners: PanEco Foundation. Projects: Preservation of the last remaining continuous peat swamp forests in northern Sumatra; operation of stations for the capture and reintroduction of orangutans. zoo.ch/en/Sumatra-conservation

Australian Ark

Since 2017. Partner: Australian Reptile Park. Projects: Conservation and re-introduction into the wild of Australian Marsupials (Aussie Ark). zoo.ch/en/aussie-ark

Amphibian Survival

Since 2006. Partners: Zoo Cali; Wildlife Conservation Society WCS. Projects: Support of amphibian breeding centre at Zoo Cali; research; information programmes. Keeping and breeding of endangered frog species at Zoo Zurich. zoo.ch/en/amphibian-survival

Antarctic Research

Since 2006. Partners: Antarctic Research Trust ART. Projects: Long-term protection of penguins and their habitats in the Antarctic and Subantarctic thanks to research work. zoo.ch/en/antarctic-research

Bats

Since 1998. Partners: Bat protection foundation; Zurich Animal Protection Association. Projects: Supporting the foundation's activities concerning information, education and coordination; joint rescue station for bats. zoo.ch/en/bat-conservation