

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

The return of this iconic species after its extinction in the wild is a remarkable achievement and testament to shared vision, collaboration, long term commitment and how global interests aligned with local desire to see these animals back where they belong

FROM OUR CEO

It proved to be a seminal year for Sahara Conservation and our partners. The big cause for celebration was the achievement of our long-term goal to reintroduce the scimitar-horned oryx to the wild! As a result of the multi-year process, the re-establishment of a population of oryx in the Ouadi Rimé – Ouadi Achim Faunal Reserve (OROAFR) in Chad was recognized by the formal downlisting of the species on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. The return of this iconic species after its extinction in the wild is a remarkable achievement and testament to shared vision, collaboration, long term commitment and how global interests aligned with local desire to see these animals back where they belong. We are naturally honored to have played a pivotal role planning and implementing this ambitious project through a groundbreaking collaboration between the Environment Agency of Abu Dhabi and the Government of Chad.

The success of the Oryx Project has enabled positive outcomes for other threatened species and gained support for the wider environment in Chad. With fewer than 100 of each left in the wild and amongst the world's most endangered species, we are pleased to report on positive steps for addax and dama gazelles as part of a multi-species approach in the OROAFR. We also report activities currently being undertaken on behalf of the Chadian Ministry of Environment to enhance protected area management and biodiversity conservation, and on the finalization of a related four-year European Union funded project that was successfully audited in 2023 after completion of activities at the end of 2022. Together, these initiatives have provided a pathway towards sustainable management of this vast reserve for the benefit of wildlife and people. All of this progress has not gone unnoticed and the depiction of scimitar-horned oryx, addax and North African ostriches on the 5,000 Central African Franc banknote issued in 2022 was an apt sign of regional pride in these shared achievements.

While the success of the Oryx Project drew headlines, our team in Niger were quietly proving their agility and fortitude during a period of disruption when the country's leadership abruptly changed halfway through the year. Niger has irreplaceable populations of wildlife and the continuity of our operations and ongoing work in critical conservation landscapes with protected area managers and local communities described in this report were particularly important at a time when other organizations were unable to continue in the same way. Whether maintaining a national meta-population of North African ostriches ready for reintroduction, seeing attitudes towards vultures change for the better or facilitating healthcare missions and positive dialogue with communities, these are all critically important steps in safeguarding biodiversity and supporting livelihoods. Indeed, regardless of the scale and focus of operations in the OROAFR in Chad or the quietly effective national programs of work in Niger, Sahara Conservation has come to mean employment, stability and hope for many.

We are mindful that conservation is not a linear process and whether due to natural processes or human influences, we are sure to encounter turbulence along the way. The strength of our partnership network will continue to be critical for sustaining the progress made so far while seeking to create further gains for biodiversity, people and the wider environment in what remains one of the most under-resourced parts of the world. Our sincere thanks to all of our valued partners for your collaboration, friendship and commitment to the wildlife and communities of the Sahara and Sahel, and for sharing in our achievements.

Tim Woodfine

Tim Woodfine, CEO,
Sahara Conservation



Highlights of 2023



Scimitar-horned oryx downlisted from 'Extinct in the Wild' to 'Endangered' on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species

600+



scimitar-horned oryx living in the wild in Chad by the end of 2023

56

animals released into the wild as part of reintroduction programs (35 addax, 15 oryx, 6 North African ostriches)

10



North African ostrich chicks hatched in the Ouadi Rimé – Ouadi Achim Faunal Reserve – the first time this has happened in the area for half a century

0



Vulture parts found for sale in markets after 6 years of awareness raising with hunters and belief-based practitioners in Niger

22,301

people from local communities participated in consultation and awareness raising forums

1,590

beneficiaries of healthcare and dental care missions

110

reintroduced animals tracked using satellite collars (43 addax, 67 oryx) as part of pioneering post-release monitoring and research

112



Protected area rangers, ecoguards and community agents enabled to monitor wildlife and liaise with communities

64

participants from 15 countries contributed to the 22nd Sahel and Sahara Interest Group Meeting in Almeria, Spain

200

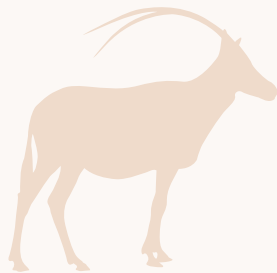


km of fire breaks maintained to combat bushfires

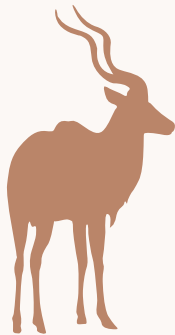
The Sahara and Sahel

The Sahara is a vast region of dry, harsh but diverse and beautiful environments, ranging from sand seas to stony plateaus, mountain massifs and oases, through to arid Sahelian grasslands and riverine woodlands. It is home to some of the most highly adapted and rarest species on the planet, and people who are amongst those most dependent on nature for their daily livelihoods sharing critical conservation landscapes. The Sahara and Sahel remain **overlooked**, under-studied and **under-resourced** but there is untapped potential for biodiversity, climate and social gain for local and global good.

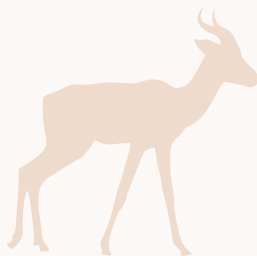
Spanning 9,200,000 km², the Sahara is similar in size to the USA, occupies about a third of the African continent and is the largest hot desert on Earth. The desert is not however deserted! It is a place of ecological complexity providing pathways and destinations for migratory birds, and homes to highly adapted endemic species, and diverse human cultures.



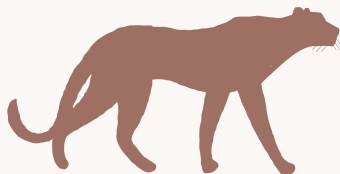
SCIMITAR-HORNED ORYX: Became extinct in the wild and despite being successfully reintroduced to the wild, further work is needed to secure the future of this iconic species



ADDAX: Less than 100 of this true desert dwelling antelope were thought to exist in the wild when the species was last assessed for the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species



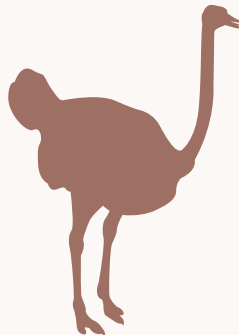
DAMA GAZELLE: Like the addax, the dama gazelle is one of the world's rarest mammals with less than 100 animals remaining in the wild



SAHARAN CHEETAH: Despite once occupying much of the region, the cheetah is only known from a few sightings over the last decade from Algeria and Niger



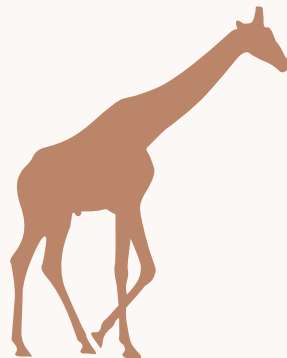
VULTURES: These species play an important role in maintaining healthy ecosystems for the benefit of wildlife, livestock and people, yet little is known about the vultures of West and Central Africa



NORTH AFRICAN OSTRICH: Even bigger than its East and Southern African counterparts, the North African ostrich is the largest bird on Earth but has disappeared from most of its Saharan range



BUSTARDS: Several species of these large, ground nesting birds are synonymous with the open ecosystems of the region. They migrate to varying degrees and are dependent on finding good habitat while being under pressure from over-hunting



WEST AFRICAN GIRAFFE: Now found exclusively in Niger, the West African giraffe was close to extinction but is recovering thanks to conservation action

Diverse and culturally rich communities prevail across the Sahara and Sahel where traditional nomadic and transhumance pastoralism have occurred since pre-history. Pastoral and agro-pastoral communities of the region are highly dependent on natural resources to meet their needs. Up to 80% of the population in countries like Chad and Niger makes a living by rearing livestock and many in these marginalised communities have little access to healthcare and other essential services.



📍 USA

📍 FRANCE

Where we work

SAHARA CONSERVATION OPERATES THROUGHOUT THE REGION UNDER AGREEMENTS

with governments and statutory agencies responsible for wildlife, protected areas and natural resources but with particular focus on critical conservation landscapes in Chad and Niger. We have registered not for profit legal entities in the US, France, Niger and Chad to generate resources and expend them directly in the field.

📍 NIGER

📍 CHAD

Our Registered Not for Profit Organisations and Offices

- Sahara Conservation US: Board of Directors
- Sahara Conservation Europe: Board of Directors and 7 personnel
- Sahara Conservation Niger: 18 personnel
- Sahara Conservation Chad: 76 personnel

Critical Conservation Landscapes:

1. Aïr and Ténéré National Nature Reserve (Niger): 77,360 km²
2. Gadabedji Biosphere Reserve (Niger): 14,136 km²
3. Kellé and the Koutous massif (Niger): 1,200km²
4. Ouadi Rimé - Ouadi Achim Faunal Reserve (Chad): 78,000 km²

Our approach

Delivering

Biodiversity, climate and socio-economic gains in the Sahara and Sahel

Resulting in

Healthy (biodiverse, productive, resilient) ecosystems

Contribute to

Multifunctional land management and nature-based solutions

Our activities

Species recovery

We have shown that **reintroductions and other conservation translocations** can improve the status of threatened species and attract resources to address wider environmental and socio-economic challenges.

We have simultaneously **increased knowledge and understanding of extant populations of threatened species** that are of ecological, economic and cultural significance. This has helped to engage local and international stakeholders and sustain those populations where they might otherwise have disappeared.

We seek to create conditions in which the conservation status of threatened species is improved against the IUCN Red List and populations increase by orders of magnitude compared to baseline numbers.



Critical Conservation Landscapes

We have been able to make progress by focusing on places of special conservation and cultural value, and where communities are highly dependent on natural resources. This includes building capacity for **effective protected area management and governance**.

These places are characteristically large, retain key populations of highly threatened species, and are important havens for migratory species.

They are among the best remaining examples of Saharan or Sahelian ecosystems or may help secure populations of threatened species.

Our critical conservation landscapes offer potential for **biodiversity, climate and social gains through ecological restoration**.



Capacity Sharing

We play a pivotal role as a **voice for the Sahara**, putting the region on the conservation map by **connecting local agendas to global interests**. In doing so we act as a pipeline of resources to one of the most under-resourced parts of the world.

We **employ, develop and benefit from local skills and knowledge, foster positive and participative relationships** with communities and local authorities to deliver results where they are needed.

Our international network provides access to world class technical support, and together we have created a **legacy of scientific knowledge and practical skills** that can be applied more broadly in the region and elsewhere.

We convene the **Sahel and Sahara Interest Group** as an annual forum of scientists and practitioners to promote information sharing and collaboration.

Improved Conservation Status of the Scimitar-horned Oryx is Formally Recognized

AFTER DISAPPEARING FROM THE WILD, THE SCIMITAR-HORNED ORYX IS BACK and once again roaming free across the Sahelian grasslands of the Ouadi Rimé – Ouadi Achim Faunal Reserve (OROAFR) in Chad. At the end of 2023, the species was formally downlisted from ‘Extinct in the Wild’ and reclassified as ‘Endangered’ on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.

The improved conservation status of the scimitar-horned oryx is an important milestone in one of the most ambitious wildlife conservation programs ever undertaken and has helped put the Sahara and the Sahel on the global conservation map. The successful reintroduction of the scimitar-horned oryx has also paved the way for the recovery of other species, including the Critically Endangered addax and dama gazelle, which are already benefitting from an associated multi-species approach in Chad.

Since 2016, 285 captive bred oryx have been brought to Chad from a genetic ‘world herd’ established in Abu Dhabi, and transferred to pre-release enclosures for a period of acclimatization before being released in the reserve. The reintroduced oryx have produced more than 500 calves and by the end of 2023, the wild population was estimated to be at least 600 animals in OROAFR.

While celebrating progress to date, ongoing efforts are needed to secure the long-term future of what is still a threatened species. This includes further focus on the sustainability of the wider environment and the effective management of OROAFR for the benefit of wildlife and people.



Positive Steps for the Addax

WE WELCOMED A 5TH TRANSFER OF CAPTIVE BRED

ADDAX FROM ABU DHABI to the OROAFR in Chad since these operations began in 2020, bringing the total number of animals released to 115. With previously reintroduced addax reproducing, there were over 150 individuals roaming free in the reserve by the end of 2023. This figure is significant because it surpassed the total number of addax estimated to remain in the wild when the status of the species was last assessed for the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.

In addition to the progress being made in OROAFR, we partnered with African Parks to bring 10 addax to the Ennedi Natural and Cultural Reserve. Situated to the Northeast of OROAFR, the reintroduction of addax to Ennedi is part of the wider plan to re-establish the species across its former range in Chad.



Hope for dama gazelles

IN 2023, WE RECORDED THE LARGEST NUMBER OF DAMA GAZELLES SEEN during a single mission around Mount Takolokouzet in the Aïr and Ténéré National Nature Reserve in Niger, since regular monitoring began in 2017. The observation of just 18 individuals represents a significant subset of the total number and the population remains perilously low. It is however welcome evidence that this irreplaceable group of animals is persisting as a likely result of our efforts to mobilize and enable the critical work of protected area personnel while working closely with the local community.

The number of dama gazelles in the *in situ* captive breeding facility in OROAFR in Chad increased by over a third to a total of 29 individuals in 2023, paving the way for future releases to augment the local wild population. These are small but significant steps for one of the world's most endangered mammals, with perhaps fewer than 100 animals left in the wild in total.



Reviving the North African Ostrich

MANAGING NIGER'S REMAINING NORTH AFRICAN OSTRICHES

Twenty years ago, North African ostriches disappeared from the wild in Niger, but thanks to locally motivated initiatives, a small but critically important captive population is actively managed across four locations.

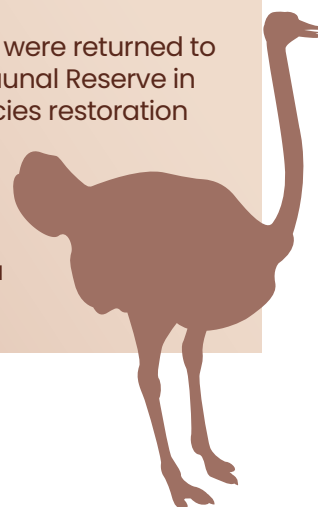
There are currently 49 ostriches in this managed program and routine visits were made to all sites throughout 2023 to carry out facility maintenance, monitor the status of ostriches and manage breeding. Three chicks from the site at Iférouane and three chicks from the site at Mainé Soroa were successfully transferred to the group in Kellé as part of the national population management plan to improve reproduction and avoid inbreeding.

Meanwhile, the feasibility of creating an additional enclosure in the Gadabedji Biosphere Reserve was assessed as we seek to increase the number of birds in that location ahead of reintroduction.

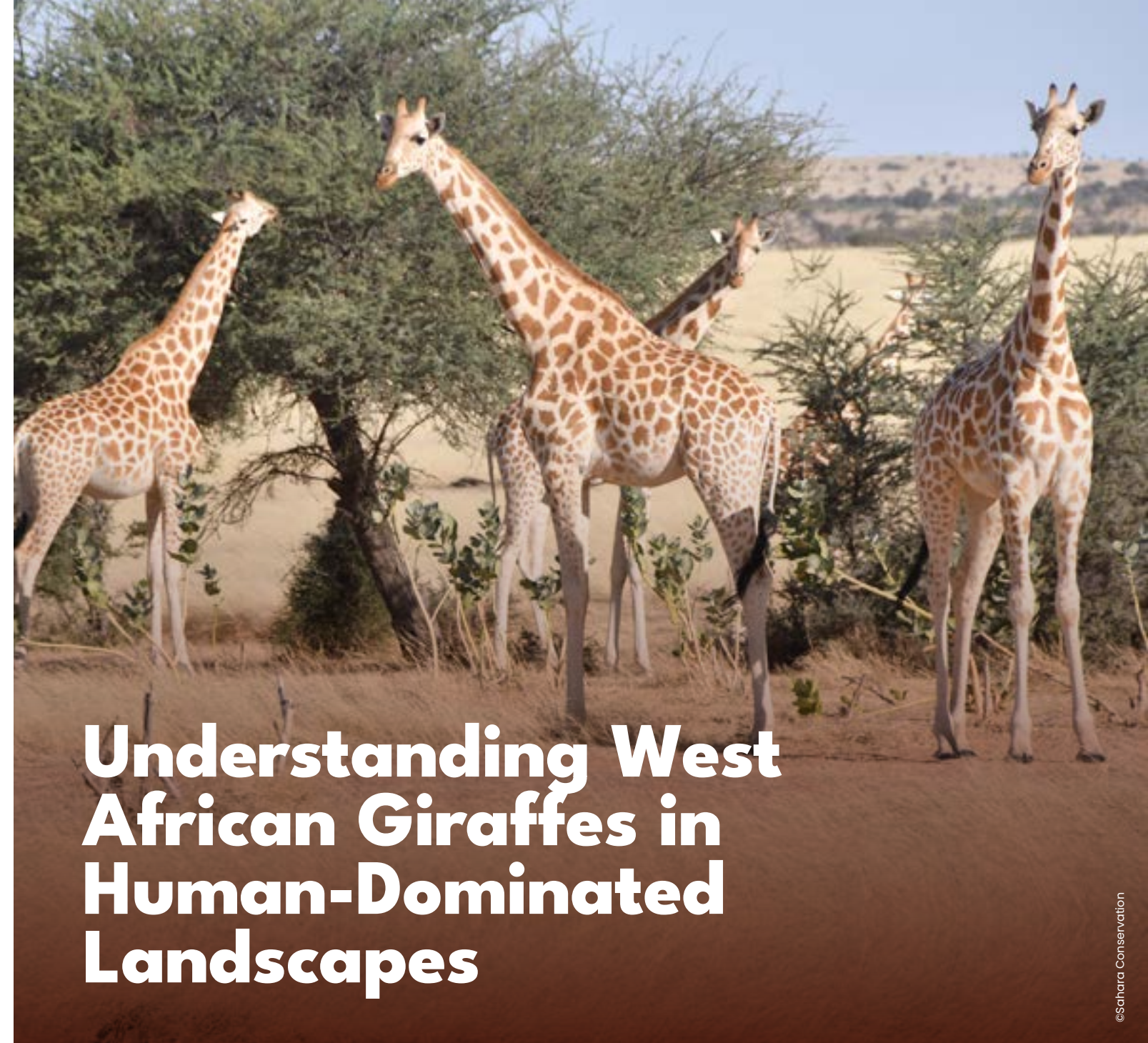
The North African Ostrich Recovery Project employs 8 people dedicated to the daily care of the birds, but many more routinely contribute to wider activities. Kellé has become a centre for environmental education and awareness raising, welcoming 743 people in 2023, including over 100 school children. Vegetables are produced on site to supplement the diets of ostriches and supply the local community with fresh produce that is not otherwise widely available in the area.

HISTORIC MOMENT FOR NORTH AFRICAN OSTRICHES IN CHAD

Young North African ostriches were returned to Ouadi Rimé – Ouadi Achim Faunal Reserve in 2020 as part of our multi-species restoration initiative. Having matured, these birds successfully hatched and raised 10 chicks in 2023; the first time this has happened in the area for 50 years.



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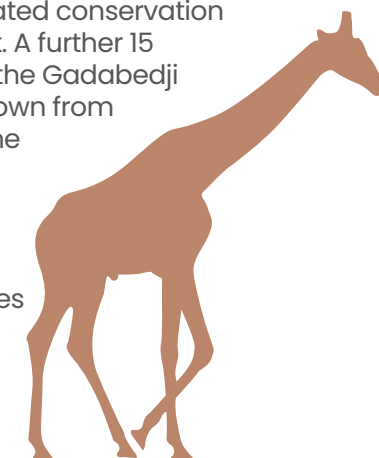
Understanding West African Giraffes in Human-Dominated Landscapes

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OUR INVOLVEMENT WITH THE GIRAFFE CONSERVATION FOUNDATION in enabling half a decade of data collection by community wildlife monitoring agents has shown that West African giraffes continue to do well in Niger, while raising questions about the long-term prospects of these animals in two human-dominated landscapes.

In 2023, giraffes were encountered on 1,110 occasions during 8,000km of patrols in the main 'giraffe zone' in the Southwest of the country. Meanwhile, the team in the Gadabedji Biosphere Reserve continued to carry out intensive observations of a small satellite population of individually known giraffes, helping to understand much more about their behavior and spatial use of the environment.

Once reduced to just 49 animals in the 1990s, there are now thought to be several hundred West African giraffes in the core population in Niger thanks to locally motivated conservation efforts and on-going support. A further 15 individuals are now found in the Gadabedji Biosphere Reserve having grown from 12 founders translocated in the area in recent years. Despite the contrasting numbers, monitoring and community engagement reveals that local attitudes towards giraffes are generally positive in both areas although animals face an uncertain future due to pressures on their habitat.



More Attention Needed to Aid Recovery of West and Central African Vultures

VULTURE MONITORING MISSIONS WERE CARRIED OUT FOR THE SIXTH SUCCESSIVE YEAR around the Koutous Massif and the core area of the Gadabedji Biosphere Reserve in 2023. Five pairs of Egyptian vultures produced chicks out of eight active nests observed around the Koutous Massif, representing the best reproductive success rate for this species (62%) since monitoring began in 2018. Reproductive success was slightly lower for Rüppell’s vultures (50%), with three pairs producing chicks out of six active nests observed.

Vulture nests are harder to find in the core part of the Gadabedji Biosphere Reserve, perhaps reflecting greater dispersal or disturbance to these tree nesting birds. Chicks in just one Rüppell’s vulture nest and in one white-headed vulture nest were found

in 2023, marking no change compared to the previous year. Unfortunately, no lappet-faced vulture nests have been seen in this area since 2021.

While the presence of vultures may be overlooked in inaccessible environments, concerns naturally remain because of the low numbers found each year. It also highlights the importance of our work with communities to raise awareness of the prominent role these birds play in maintaining a healthy environment and the resulting social and economic benefits.

In 2023, we began monitoring vulture nests in OROAFR in Chad, with over 200 nests recorded using a standardized approach for this area and sites in Niger.

REDUCING DEMAND FOR VULTURE PARTS

An annual survey of markets in the Maradi and Zinder regions of Niger found no vulture parts for sale in 2023. This coincides with our multi-year engagement program with groups traditionally involved in the trafficking of vulture parts for belief-based use.

Over this period, awareness was raised with hunters and traditional practitioners about the importance of vultures in maintaining a healthy environment while promoting plant-based alternatives. Traditional practitioners interviewed in 2023 confirmed that there had been no recent demand for vulture products while there had been an increased use of alternative products.



Related activities in 2023 included:

34

Wildlife authority personnel trained in vulture species identification, understanding threats to these species, and illegal wildlife trade and law enforcement

1,305

School children taught about vultures, their ecology and importance in the environment around the Koutous Massif and Gadabedji Biosphere Reserve

1,406

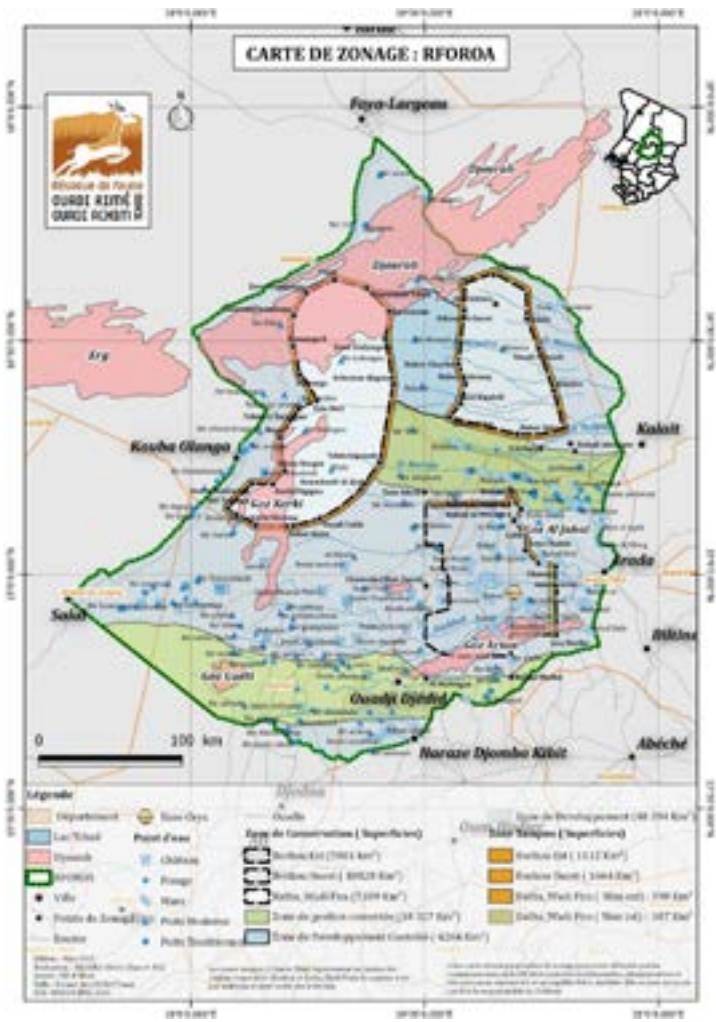
Members of local communities sensitized about the importance of vultures, including 456 hunters



Successful Completion of ‘POROA’ (Project Ouadi Rimé – Ouadi Achim)

REPORTING AGAINST A €3.65 MILLION FOUR-YEAR EUROPEAN UNION (EU) FUNDED PROJECT to support the development of the 78,000 km² Ouadi Rimé – Ouadi Achim Faunal Reserve and the sustainable management of its biodiversity, was concluded in 2023. Project activities were completed at the end of 2022, initiating a rigorous reporting and audit process drawing the initiative to a successful end last year. The project included wide-ranging initiatives to improve socio-economic information, strengthen management and monitoring systems, build local capacity and enhance infrastructure, strengthen links between the reserve and local communities, and raise awareness about the conservation value and management of the reserve.

- Despite the project being disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic, it resulted in a number of important outcomes over the period, including:**
- Publication of a development and management plan for the reserve involving consultation with 957 local stakeholders.
 - A comprehensive study of the socio-economic cultural context of the reserve to help inform management of the area.
 - Forty rangers (ecoguards) recruited, trained and deployed to work in the reserve.
 - Construction of offices and ranger outposts to support operations of the Department of Wildlife and Protected Areas.
 - 11,000 households benefitting from healthcare missions.
 - 120,000 members of communities engaged through awareness raising initiatives.



OROAFR zoning map



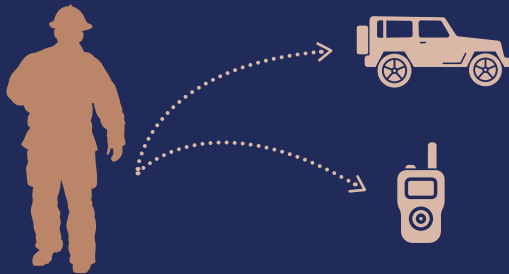
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Enhancing Capacity for Protected Area Management in OROAFR

SAHARA CONSERVATION MANAGES A RANGE OF ACTIVITIES UNDER THE ALBIA (‘ENVIRONMENT’) LOCAL DEVELOPMENT AND ADAPTATION PROJECT, on behalf of the Chadian Ministry of Environment, Fisheries and Sustainable Development, funded by the World Bank and the Global Environment Facility. This \$5 million project aims to improve natural resource management and livelihoods in climate-vulnerable areas in Chad. Our role involves implementing the Improved Management of Protected Areas subcomponent for OROAFR to support biodiversity conservation and enhance the capacity of wildlife conservation authorities.

Infrastructure

- Delivered an **ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT** assessment to inform the future responsible construction of the OROAFR headquarters.



Interventions

- Enabled anti-poaching patrols conducted by the rangers in OROAFR.
- Created 200km of **FIRE BREAKS**.
- Deployed personnel to **CONTROL BUSHFIRES**.



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Enabling Protected Area Personnel

- Mobilized **PROTECTED AREA PERSONNEL** and facilitated their work through the acquisition and maintenance of vehicles, camping and communications equipment.

Linking With Communities

- Deployed **PROTECTED AREA RANGERS** to undertake awareness raising missions on reserve protection for 9,500 people.
- Deployed community mediators to deliver **AWARENESS-RAISING SESSIONS** on bushfires, wildlife protection and illegal logging for 9,113 people.



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Wildlife Monitoring

- Acquired and deployed **WILDLIFE TRACKING** and monitoring equipment.
- Conducted **AERIAL WILDLIFE SURVEYS**.
- Conducted **GROUND-BASED** wildlife surveys.

Collaboration and Participatory Conservation



SAHARA CONSERVATION ENABLES THE WORK OF 57 PROTECTED AREA RANGERS AND 15 COMMUNITY WILDLIFE MONITORING AGENTS ACROSS PROGRAMS OF WORK IN NIGER AND CHAD, ensuring they have the training, equipment and other resources needed to understand and protect their local wildlife and the wider environment.

Aïr and Ténéré National Nature Reserve – Niger

Community agents

Number: 4
Role: Conduct monitoring missions with Sahara Conservation Niger team, maintain camera traps, liaise and exchange information with local communities, support surveillance activities of the rangers from the Protected Area Management Unit.

Rangers, Protected Area Management Unit

Number: 10
Role: Gather information to address illegal activities such as mining, logging and poaching, monitor presence of wildlife and livestock, engage with local communities.



Gadabedji Biosphere Reserve – Niger

Community agents

Number: 2
Role: Monitor reintroduced population of West African giraffes, liaise with the community to share information about giraffes, other wildlife and the environment.

Rangers, Protected Area Management Unit

Number: 27
Role: Assist our team during field missions, facilitate the works of community agents, collect additional data on vultures.



Ouadi Rimé–Ouadi Achim Faunal Reserve – Chad

Community agents and facilitators

Number: 9
Role: Community engagement and communications, delivering awareness-raising sessions about the importance and management of the reserve, facilitate feedback and information exchange.

Protected area rangers

Number: 20
Role: Community engagement, wildlife monitoring, anti-poaching patrols, supporting other agencies to address illegal activities in the reserve, bushfire control.

Ecoguards

Number: 40
Role: Adding capacity to support the role of Protected Area rangers. Ecoguards carry out the same activities as rangers except law enforcement.



Mutual Benefits Through Healthcare and Education

THROUGHOUT 2023, WORKING TOGETHER WITH EDUCATION ET SANTÉ SANS FRONTIÈRE (ESAFRO) AND WITH HUMANITARIAN SUPPORT FROM OTHER PARTNERS, we facilitated healthcare missions and distributed education resources to remote, rural communities in close proximity to protected areas and key wildlife populations.

These activities provide important services for people who may have no other access to healthcare and for school children with otherwise limited resources to support their formal, primary education.

Providing these services helps to build and maintain positive relationships between protected area managers, conservationists and communities, creating opportunities for dialogue and information exchange about the environment and understanding local perspectives. For example, sightings of vultures are now regularly reported to our team in Niger providing important additional data.

During the year we:

750

Facilitated five healthcare and dental care missions benefiting over 750 people around Air and Ténéré National Nature Reserve and Gadabedji Biosphere Reserve, Niger

800

Provided books and other education resources for over 800 children at six schools around the Gadabedji Biosphere Reserve and Koutous Massif, Niger

2,000

Distributed 2,000 mosquito nets to agro-pastoralists and nomads living in and around OROAFR, Chad

836

Facilitated vaccinations for 836 people living in and around OROAFR, Chad with local healthcare professionals



Together again! The Sahel and Sahara Interest Group Meeting

WE WERE ABLE TO CONVENE THE 22ND MEETING OF THE SAHEL AND SAHARA INTEREST GROUP (SSIG) in person for the first time since the disruption of the COVID-19 global pandemic. This normally annual event is a highlight of our calendar, bringing together a dedicated community of conservation practitioners and scientists from range states and elsewhere around the world with a special focus on the biodiversity and related issues of the region. Kindly hosted by the Estación Experimental de Zonas Áridas/CSIC in Almería, Spain, the meeting brought together 64 participants from 15 countries and 4 continents. During the meeting, a wide variety of topics were covered by 33 speakers, including outcomes of species conservation, research, and ecological restoration initiatives.



Our Partners

Sahara Conservation is about collaboration. Our thanks to all of our partners for making our activities possible and sharing in our achievements.

INSTITUTIONAL (STATUTORY, FUNDING, TECHNICAL AND DELIVERY) PARTNERS

AAZK South Florida
Addax & Oryx Foundation
African Parks
Amazon Smile
Arizona Center for Nature – Phoenix Zoo
Band Foundation
Biodune Riviera
Bioparc Conservation
Boissière Mervent Conservation
Buffalo Zoo
Bulgarian Society for the Protection of Birds
Conservation Film Company
Coopérative d’Exploitation des Ressources Naturelles du Koutous (CERNK)
Detroit Zoological Park
Dickerson Park Zoo
Éducation et Santé sans Frontière (Esafro)
Endangered Wildlife Trust
Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi
Erlebnis – Zoo Hannover
Estación Experimental de Zonas Áridas / CSIC
European Union
Fossil Rim Wildlife Center
Franconian International School
Giraffe Conservation Foundation
IUCN
IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation
IUCN PACO PAPBio
IUCN Save our Species – African Wildlife Initiative
Kolmården Foundation
Lee Richardson Zoo
Maryland Zoological Society
Mellivora Systems
Milwaukee County Zoo
Ministère de l’Environnement, de la Pêche et du Développement Durable, Republic of Chad
Ministère de l’Hydraulique, de l’Assainissement et de l’Environnement, Republic of Niger
Montpellier Zoo
Network for Good
North Carolina Zoo
ONG GAGE
Paulton Parks
Planète Sauvage Nature
Programme d’appui à la gestion concertée des Aires Protégées et Écosystèmes Fragiles du Tchad (APEF)

Rolling Hills
Royal Zoological Society of Scotland
Safari West
Saint Louis Zoo
Santo Iñacio Zoo
Savannah Energy
Smithsonian’s National Zoo & Conservation Biology Institute
The Living Desert
Vogelbescherming Nederland
Wildwood Park Zoo
Wings for Conservation
World Bank
Wroclaw Poland Zoo
Zoofari Parks
Zoological Association of America
Zoological Society of London
Zoological Society of San Diego

INDIVIDUAL SUPPORTERS

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Alexis Erickson
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Mikell Le Neve Harmin
Patrick Zehr
Richard Tennent
Sarah Fallon
St Louis Zoo – Anon Donor #1
St Louis Zoo – Anon Donor #2
Steve Monfort
Thomas Clode
William Stallsmith

Financial Report

FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 12/31/2023

Sahara Conservation was established in 2007 as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization by the US Internal Revenue Service (tax identification number: 26-0171939) in the State of Missouri (United States). Sahara Conservation – Europe was established in 2016 under the French Law of Associations 1901. These organizations facilitate the essential acquisition and distribution of resources to where they are needed in the field. Sahara Conservation operates across the region but with particular focus on critical conservation landscapes in Chad and Niger where we operate through our locally registered non-profit entities under agreements with those governments.

2023 Contributions to our core operations

Our thanks for the generosity of all our partners and donors who make it possible for Sahara Conservation to provide the range of essential services needed to support our teams and breadth of operations in the field. These contributions underpin all of our work and are critical for allowing the organization to grow and develop, and have the resilience agility to meet challenges as they arise.

CONTRIBUTIONS	SAHARA CONSERVATION – US	SAHARA CONSERVATION – EUROPE
\$25,000 – \$99,999	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Saint Louis Zoo	
\$5,000 – \$24,999	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Fossil RimZoological Society of San Diego	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Boissière Mervent ConservationInternational Union for the Conservation of Nature<ul style="list-style-type: none">Erlebnis – Zoo HannoverZoo Wroclaw Poland
\$1,000 – \$4,999	<ul style="list-style-type: none">AAZK South FloridaD & D Charitable FoundationMaryland Zoological Society<ul style="list-style-type: none">Safari WestZoological Association of America<ul style="list-style-type: none">Zoo Santo IñacioThomas ClodeAdam EyresSteve Monfort	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Paultons ParkPlanète SauvageBioparc ConservationZoo de Montpellier
< \$1,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Amazon SmileBuffalo ZooFranconian International School<ul style="list-style-type: none">Lee Richardson ZooNetwork for Good – Anonymous<ul style="list-style-type: none">Rolling HillsWildwood Park Zoo<ul style="list-style-type: none">Alexis EricksonAmy HuttoDevney Olsen-Bowen<ul style="list-style-type: none">Edward SpevakEric SternGregory Greenwood<ul style="list-style-type: none">Holly HaefeleJohn NewbyKaroline SiebererKyla JohnsonLindsey J RichardsonMahamat Hassan Hatcha<ul style="list-style-type: none">Matthew KirwinMichael LoweryMikell Le Neve Harmin<ul style="list-style-type: none">Patrick ZehrRichard Tennent<ul style="list-style-type: none">Sarah FallonWilliam Stallsmith	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Biodune RivieraFrançois Lamarque

2023 Contributions to Projects

Grants, donations and other income to projects are gratefully received and applied to the specified causes.

	Sahara Conservation US (US\$)	Sahara Conservation – Europe (€)
Addax & Oryx Foundation		8,475.00
Arizona Center for Nature – Phoenix Zoo	5,000.00	
Band Foundation	53,500.00	
Berry, Ken & Ilka Rauch	25,000.00	
Bulgarian Society for the Protection of Birds		2,000.00
Convention on Migratory Species		7,527.04
Detroit Zoological Society	2,500.00	
Dickerson Park Zoo	500.00	
Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi	1,633,379.00	
European Union		– 10,443.54
Giraffe Conservation Foundation	52,645.36	
IUCN SOS African Wildlife Initiative	36,331.97	
Jade Tinker	106.00	
Kolmarden Foundation	9,150.00	
Milwaukee County Zoo	1,500.00	
North Carolina Zoo	1,985.98	
Chad Ministry of Environment, Fisheries and Sustainable Development (funded by the World Bank and Global Environment Facility)		1,178,576.74
Sahara Conservation US		478,520.16
Savannah Conservation Program		19,161.19
SSIG Subscription fees		7,606.02
St Louis Zoo	60,000.00	
St Louis Zoo – Anonymous donor	68,500.00	
The Living Desert	5,000.00	
Vogelbescherming		3,000.00
Zoofari parks	2,000.00	
Total project income 2023	\$1,957,098.31	€1,694,422.61

2023 Summary of Income

	Sahara Conservation US (US\$)	Sahara Conservation Europe (€)
Total income – projects	1,957,098.31	1,694,422.61
Total income – other projects	6,069.00	
Total income – core operations	109,589.41	45,375.02
Total additional income – general operations	322,584.00	469.11
TOTAL INCOME 2023	\$2,395,340.72	€1,740,266.74

2023 Summary of Expenditure

	Sahara Conservation US (US\$)	Sahara Conservation Europe (€)
Secretariat	85,732.89	419,455.00
Communications		98,044.00
Sahara Conservation – Europe support for operations	551,710.02	
Sahel & Sahara Interest Group		22,269.00
Program costs		
Oryx project	1,980,433.49	6,212.00
POROA	90.00	554.00
ALBIA project	22,357.59	831,617.00
OROAFR – One Health	1,917.45	
Addax project	7,944.51	
Vulture project	1,402.33	
Dama gazelle project	86,205.16	
Vulture project	31,208.70	17,283.00
West African giraffe project	21,303.72	
North African ostrich project	66,531.35	
Healthcare missions	4,236.65	11,443.00
Other programs	16,069.00	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE 2023	\$2,877,142.86	€1,406,877.00

In 2023, Sahara Conservation US planned for an operating loss with the sum of –\$481,802.14 drawn from the organization’s reserves. Sahara Conservation – Europe generated an operating surplus of €333,389.74 including funds restricted and carried forward for projects.



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