



## ANNUAL REPORT 2012

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### « Dear Reader,

It's April 2007. We're in New Delhi to visit the projects supported by our Foundation. An association from the south of India makes an appointment to see us and at 4 p.m. we're in the hotel lobby waiting for their representative. Time passes and no-one appears. At 6.30 p.m. a breathless, sweating figure turns up and tells us of the epic journey he has made to get here: the plane that broke down, the hunt for a car, the twelve-hour dusty drive, etc. His project is excellent but when we ask how much funding is needed, he replies '25,000 euros.' And at that point I have to tell him that we are unable to help as the sum involved is too... small. Because of the Foundation's stringent monitoring requirements, we cannot support any project requiring less than € 50,000 in annual funding. Our visitor is bitterly disappointed and we, too, are saddened.

It was on that day that the idea for the Small Grants Fund came into being. We decided that all types of project should be able to benefit from the Foundation's support, and that small-scale initiatives could also make a difference at the local level. Since then, 78 Small Grants of between € 3,000 and € 30,000 have been made for a total investment of € 1,572,000. Some of our project partners have come back with new proposals, others have not. Some projects have seen their capacity to expand tested, and there have been notable success stories, such as *1001 Fontaines pour Demain\**. But every one of these initiatives has been a fascinating voyage of discovery, enabling us to get to know some of the remarkable people behind these projects and their indomitable passion and determination. It is to them that this newsletter is dedicated. »

Jacqueline Délia Brémond  
Executive Vice-President

### SUMMARY

**Focus on Animal Biodiversity:** Interviews with Souffleurs d'Ecume, Poh Kao, Kwata and Des Eléphants & des Hommes.

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**Small Grants facts and figures:** Find out more about the 78 supported Small Grants as well as some key figures.

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\* See technical sheet ['Micro-enterprise for access to safe drinking water'](#) on [our website](#)

## ANIMAL BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION IS A PRIORITY OF THE SMALL GRANTS FUND

31 PARTNERSHIPS MAKE UP ALMOST 50% OF THE TOTAL INVESTMENT.  
AROUND TWENTY ENDANGERED ANIMAL SPECIES HAVE BEEN PRO-  
TECTED ACROSS THE WORLD.

### INTERVIEWS WITH FOUR PROJECT PARTNERS



Kwata

## 'Sea turtles are becoming an asset for coastal development.'

From April to August, sea turtles come to lay their eggs on the beaches of French Guiana. This site is recognized as being of worldwide.

**Virginie Dos Reis** (Mediation and Communication Officer): Despite their importance, the sea turtles are still subject to serious environmental (climate change) and, especially, human pressures. Take, for example, the unauthorized removal of adult turtles and their eggs; their accidental entanglement in fishing nets; marine pollution caused by plastic and hydrocarbon waste. There is much to be done!

### Is the protection of egg laying sites compatible with coastal development?

There needs to be an ongoing dialogue between all the stakeholders (State and

local authorities and site users), but before 2009 this was extremely limited. The support of the Foundation contributed to a 'sustainable development mediator' position being created between 2009 and 2010 to ensure ongoing dialogue with local government and the coastal development and protection authorities. The post of mediator continues to exist today.

### Sea turtles are receiving a great deal of attention these days.

People have become more aware of the importance of turtles to the local economy - of their image and appeal to tourists. This helped us obtain permission for a pilot site, where the street lighting on a road near an egg laying site was changed in order to reduce the light pollution that was directly threatening breeding.

### What challenges lie ahead?

We need to extend our role as mediator beyond the sea turtle project. By getting involved in urban development and expansion projects in the Cayenne region, we will be able to put our knowledge and expertise to good use in the protection of peri-urban biodiversity.

[www.kwata.net](http://www.kwata.net)



### FRENCH GUIANA

#### Direct beneficiaries:

Guiana sea turtles

Total budget: € 46,500

Foundation grant: € 8,500

Project duration: 12 months (2009).

## Only 300 elephants are thought to remain in the Boucle du Mouhoun region of Burkina Faso

This iconic species remains poorly understood ...

**Julien Marchais**, (project Founder and Coordinator): Education is one of our major goals. We believe that, without proper knowledge of elephants, the younger generation is unlikely to take the decisions needed for their conservation. In the region of Mouhoun, we discovered that 80% of primary pupils had never actually seen an elephant. And for the few that had, their first encounter had unfortunately often been negative, in the context of what is now known as 'human-elephant conflict'. Extending our project to the present 250 schools has been a great source of satisfaction. The children

are fascinated by elephants' solidarity with one another, one of the qualities they share with humans.

### Unfortunately, we also share a common failing: greed for land and resources.

Yes, but elephants have a good excuse! We urgently need to learn to live together. Elephants must be protected not only for their own sake but also for what they represent: biodiversity and the biosphere of which we are a part. Protecting them comes down to preserving their vast natural habitats and consequently our own well-being.

### What has the Foundation's support enabled you to do?

We share the Foundation's conception of biodiversity protection as an integral part of sustainable socioeconomic development. From June 2011 to August 2012, the Foundation's support enabled us to develop income-generating activities that are compatible with elephant conservation. Ten beneficiaries were trained and equipped for beekeeping, ten for the production of soumbala (a traditional condiment), three for grasscutter (cane rat) rearing, and six for the marketing of medicinal plants.

### And what are the main challenges that lie ahead?

We are pleased to report encouraging results up to now for almost all our initiatives. But there is an urgent need to consolidate our programme and to extend it to several different localities at the same time.

[www.deselephantsetdeshommes.org](http://www.deselephantsetdeshommes.org)

et

[www.mon-voisin-elephant.net](http://www.mon-voisin-elephant.net)

### BURKINA FASO

#### Direct beneficiaries:

Elephants of Mouhoun

Total budget: € 63,000

Foundation grant: € 10,000

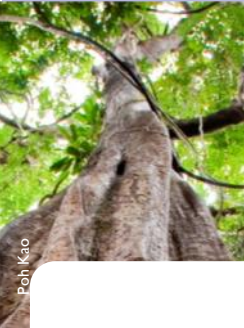
Project duration: 14 months



Des éléphants & des Hommes - Liane Berthel







## 'We have five years left to save the wilderness heritage of Cambodia.'

**Poh Kao has been working since 1998 to promote biodiversity in the north-east of Cambodia. Why?**

**Véronique Audibert-Pestel**, (Founder of Poh Kao): The 55,000 hectares of primary forest where we operate have an ecosystem that is still intact, offering one of the last remaining refuges for a number of endangered species. Rare trees grow in the forest, which is home to the highest density of 24 threatened species on the IUCN's Red List. When I arrived in 1998, there was still a high density of Indochinese tigers – around 700. Now, the number has dropped to ten!

**What can be done to combat deforestation and poaching, which is all too common?**

There is enormous pressure. A valuable tree can bring in as much as \$10,000. And a tiger, 40 years of average earnings! We have been campaigning for the last 15 years and in 2005 we managed to secure

a ban on hunting in the area. A total of 3 148 beneficiaries from five villages have also signed an agreement with us.

**What about the threat of land seizures?**

The local people are well aware that forest conservation is, now more than ever, a means of preserving their own existence. Our role consists not only in raising awareness but also in obtaining official documents that guarantee local people's rights, such as maps of their sacred sites and registration of forest communities.

**How has the Foundation's support helped you?**

For a small association such as ours, located on just one site, the Foundation's support has been invaluable! It has enabled us to develop new income-generating animal husbandry and market gardening initiatives, thereby helping to preserve 73 hectares of forest and to save hundreds of rare animal species each

### CAMBODIA

**Direct beneficiaries:** 3 000 local residents, 16 rare or critically endangered species of mammal, reptile, bird, etc.

**Total budget:** € 52,1274

**Foundation grant:** € 30,000

**Project duration:** 3 years

(June 2009 – August 2012)



year. Nowadays, only 10% of our beneficiaries are involved in illegal activities compared with 50% previously.

**What message would you like to pass on for the future?**

The same as all other NGOs, from Burma to Vietnam, working in favour of biodiversity. We need long-term support. Therein lies the key to success. Another important priority is security. Now that all the forest areas have been mapped out, more rangers and patrols are needed. We have five years left ... not much more.

[www.pohkao.org](http://www.pohkao.org)

## Collisions with ships: leading cause of death for large cetaceans

**One or two whales at the very least are killed each year in the north-western Mediterranean as a result of collisions with vessels.**

**Pascal Mayol**, (Director of Souffleurs d'Écume): The above figure refers only to known collisions and is a gross underestimation (by a factor of ten to thirty, according to various publications). It has been estimated that at least 16% to 20% of known fin whale deaths are attributable to collisions, a rate that is particularly disturbing in the light of the whale population's ecological characteristics.

**Thanks to your REPCET system, vessels equipped with onboard software can share real-time information on the location of whales via satellite. What is the current situation?**

The volume of data transmitted by the collaborative software system is currently doubling each year. And no increase in the number of collisions has been reported, despite the growth in maritime traffic. But, to be honest, given the stakes, these indicators are not developing as fast as they should. The fact that

several shipping companies have recently approached us of their own accord would seem to be a step forward, and this is encouraging.

**Does this represent some kind of recognition for your campaign?**

When we set up our association, we would have found it hard to believe that 13 years later we would be operating in several countries, be part of the French delegation to the Pelagos Sanctuary ([www.sanctuaire-pelagos.org](http://www.sanctuaire-pelagos.org)) or be working with the ENSM (French National Maritime College) in Marseille and with the Armateurs de France (French shipowners' association).

**What are the main challenges you face?**

There's a great need for more ships to join the REPCET network in the north-western Mediterranean. In my view, a minimum for 2014 would be around thirty. We can all do something about this, for example by e-mailing shipping companies or using social networks to urge them to act. In the medium term, we also need to respond to the interest

expressed in Spain, the Bay of Biscay and the Caribbean. The Pelagos Sanctuary model can be replicated elsewhere. We are ready and willing to meet the challenge and to use our experience to help other endangered whale populations. Ten years on from the creation of the Pelagos Sanctuary, it would be a great tribute, and would bring us one step closer to passing on this priceless heritage to our children.

[www.souffleursdecume.com](http://www.souffleursdecume.com)



### MEDITERRANEAN SEA

**Direct beneficiaries:** Fin and sperm whales

**Total budget:** € 281,500

**Foundation grant:** € 10,000

**Project duration:** 16 months  
(January 2009 - April 2010)

Aventures sans Frontières  
ACANB  
AFDI  
Ambassades Animales  
AWELY  
CENPAD  
CRP Lwiro  
Des Elephants et des Hommes  
Elefantasia  
FABPL  
FES  
HELP  
Hutan  
Kwata  
L'Homme et l'Environnement  
La Dame Blanche  
Les amis des bonobos  
Maynlay  
Ocean Revolution  
Poh Kao  
Sabrina Krief  
SCS  
Shark trust  
Soptom/SOS Sulcata  
Souffleurs d'écumes  
Syndicat apicole de Mayenne  
Wild Flora and Fauna Fund  
Yabumba

1001 Fontaines pour demain  
Blue energy  
Cedinco  
Essor  
Excellent  
Graines d'écoles  
Ideas at Work  
Les cultures Onlus  
Maison de la Sagesse  
Masnat  
Rainwater Cambodia  
PADEM  
Shechen Clinic  
Sodis  
Un Enfant par la Main  
Zinado

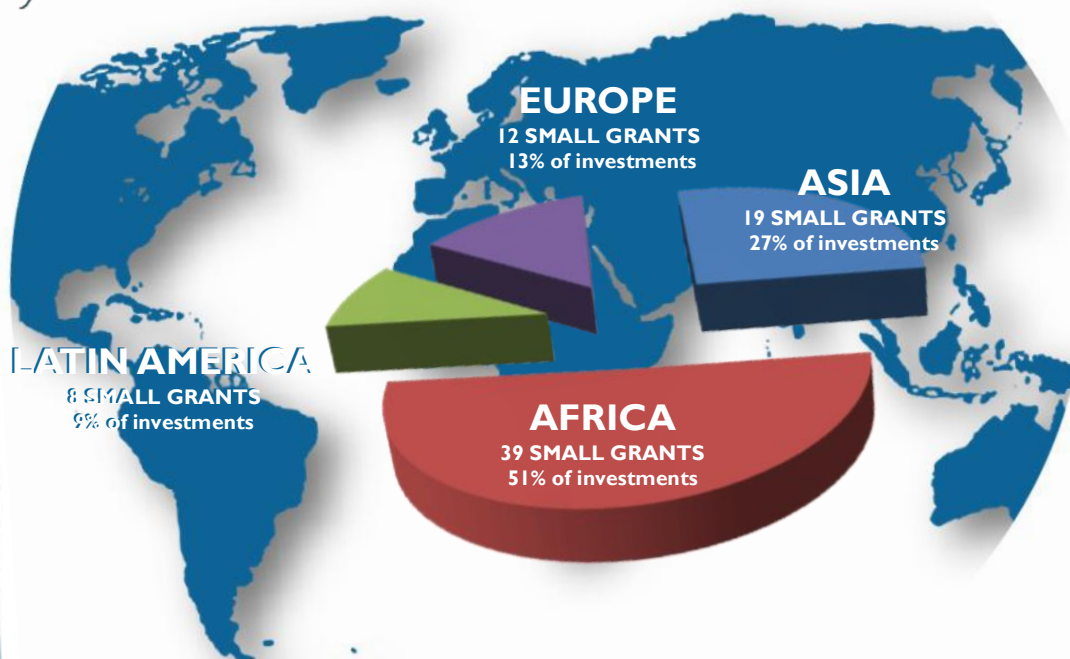
ADF (Ass. du Dr Fatiha)  
ALAD  
Autre Terre (CFSI)  
AGRECOL  
Binkad  
Camide  
Codegaz  
GERES  
Graines de Développement  
Green Belt Movement  
GRDR  
Ishpingo  
Jardins du Monde  
Kangyur Rinpoche Foundation  
Les Amis de Bada  
Light Up the World  
Nord Ouest Africa  
Nurture Africa  
Médecine de la nature  
Rongead  
SEM (Solidarité entraide Madagascar)  
Tchendukua  
Tropical Forest Trust

+ 5 Small Grants Solidarity  
and Sustainable Development.



**Congratulations to our partner ACANB** (Association for the Conservation of the Breton Black Bee), which, in partnership with the Guerlain Foundation, has been awarded the **"Coup de cœur" Corporate Sponsorship for Sustainable Development Trophy** by the Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy.

78 Small Grants Projects supported over 5 years



**The Small Grants Fund was set up in 2008 to give a helping hand to smaller-scale projects. Some key figures:**

€ 1,572,385 has been committed.

78 partnerships have received support of up to € 30,000.

Conservation of Endangered Species programmes make up **46%** of the total (cf. pages 2 and 3), Sustainable Development initiatives **31%**, and Water and Sanitation **16%**.

With 39 Small Grants, Africa receives **51%** of investments, well ahead of Asia's **27%**, Europe's **13%** and Latin America's **9%**.

As well as the protection of around twenty endangered animal species and the safeguarding of forest areas and farming land over this period, the total number of beneficiaries is estimated at **177,930**.

**Find out more about the Small Grants Fund at:**  
[www.fondationensemble.org](http://www.fondationensemble.org)  
under 'Small Grants'

Editor-in-chief:  
**O. Braunsteffer**  
Graphic design and text: **B. Galliot**  
Editor: **A-L. Balan Peyrot**

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Fondation Ensemble  
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