



**Due to privacy policies, this chat transcript does not include participants' names besides panelists and hosts.**

- Jon Paul Rodriguez - IUCN SSC: If you have any comments or questions, please feel free to make them here.
- Jon Paul Rodriguez - IUCN SSC: We'll keep an eye on the chat and try to respond them!
- Katy Scholfield, Arcus Foundation: Territories of life report  
<https://report.territoriesoflife.org/>
- Katy Scholfield, Arcus Foundation: \$5B conservation plan offers new approach, but faces hurdles:  
<https://apnews.com/article/climate-change-science-business-philanthropy-oceans-6ca70181c532be88358cbdda72dce1e>
- Katy Scholfield, Arcus Foundation: Disparities in funding for African NGOs:  
<https://www.bridgespan.org/insights/library/philanthropy/disparities-in-funding-for-african-ngos>
- Katy Scholfield, Arcus Foundation: <https://www.synchronicityearth.org/>
- Katy Scholfield, Arcus Foundation: <http://www.soralo.org/>
- Katy Scholfield, Arcus Foundation: <https://www.iccaconsortium.org/>
- Katy Scholfield, Arcus Foundation: <https://www.arcusfoundation.org/>
- Love the John's idea of shifting from Community Based Conservation to instead Community LED Conservation. Co-creation with communities is essential so that all benefit.
- Thank you, John!
- agree with you John
- Pure wisdom!
- @Fres, when you say "we must....." who is "WE"? Are the international funder? what about to push the government to allocate funds for conservation?
- civil society involved in conservation are not have access to funding mechanism easily and challenges still waiting
- The Indianapolis Prize Emerging Conservationist Award is currently open and welcomes applications in English, Spanish, French, Portuguese, Mandarin, Russian

and Arabic

<https://www.indianapoliszoo.com/prize/support/emergingconservationist/>

- as a recognition that language can be barrier, and proactively eliminating it
- Jon Paul Rodriguez - IUCN SSC: Many thanks for your excellent feedback. We always try to direct questions to the panelists as part of the discussion. But if we run out of time, we'll make sure that they receive a transcript of the chat.
- I performed three small projects from Rufford on Dugong in the Egyptian Red Sea. I'm looking for perform projects on marine biodiversity in the Egyptian Red Sea after Covid19 pandemic, where clear recovery and changes are occurring.
- How do we overcome those barriers for funding for conservation?
- Agree with you about funding relationships
- @Annette - an excellent argument for working with intermediary regrating organizations that DO have the relationships, expertise, and capacity to make those small grants to community-led initiatives.
- In Latin America, writing a proposal in English becomes a privilege that only some have. The costs of studying English are not achievable for most students
- Does anyone know of research that compares the real transaction costs of large bilateral grants vs multiple grants to small organisations?
- Ameyali, very interesting perspective thanks you. how do you think this disconnect can be overcome - the problem being that funders including investment managers need to work with certain standard metrics for MRV purposes. How would you reconcile this with a much more liberal attitude to the use of their money?
- +1 Great summary of barriers for funders Annettee!
- Donor-driven priority and interest also another challenge to access the fund no matter how the proposal is valid and technical acceptable...
- Thank you. Annette!
- Katy Scholfield, Arcus Foundation: We will talk more about solutions to overcoming these barriers too later in the webinar
- Thank you so much Annette for speaking out the funding reality !
- Transactions costs are high so is the reputation risk
- That's great, we would appreciate information about tbd
- The use of local/national conservation trust funds helps to address a number of the issues raised.
- We need to keep some small grants to the new careers of students at the last year of B.SC. We need to help them for the further projects and how to become a new conservationist.

- Excellent, great alternatives.....is possible next opportunities, specially in resilient ecosystem
- Great perspective Annette. As both a person that headed a philanthropic organization and one that has received gifts, relationships are often the basis of a decision. Those language difference can influence that relationship and inadvertently change funding decisions.
- Is there a place that lists various environmental funders out there and helps organisations navigate the space and help them a) determine which fund they should apply for and b) provide resources and tools to apply for these funds?
- Thank you. Gemma!
- Jon Paul Rodriguez - IUCN SSC: Thank you for a great questions. These are some that we use: <https://www2.fundsforngos.org/tag/latin-america/>
- <https://www.instrumentl.com> (prueba de 14 dias)
- <http://terravivagrants.org>
- <https://www.greengrants.org/info-for-grantseekers/>
- <http://www.authoraid.info/en/funding/>
- In Belize, we are currently establishing a new programme specifically for capacity building of community and early stage conservation professionals to address the need for proposal writing, project development, logframes / conceptual models, conservation planning. Without this, many small organizations fail, or are forced to hire external consultants who, as was mentioned, don't understand the local and national contexts
- Database for marine conservation <https://fundingtheocean.org/funding-map/>
- Katy Scholfield, Arcus Foundation: <https://news.mongabay.com/2021/10/how-can-philanthropy-be-more-effective-in-environmental-grant-making/> Byron Swift article
- How to help the initiatives of the local community which is involved in the conservation of its natural and cultural heritage of a protected area, the case of a nature reserve in New Caledonia managed by an association of the indigenous Kanak people.
- Exactly John!
- Good point John - we battle with securing/covering overheads
- I am working on a similar project here in Ireland I would love to talk to you more about your experience in Belize, my email is eleanorturner.08@gmail.com
- Katy Scholfield, Arcus Foundation: So wonderful that people are connecting in the chat to share learning and experiences!

- Conservation work with animals pulls on emotions and it is frightening to know how many “cons” are funded because of intense social media inputs and charisma developing relationships .. this causes unfair issues for the implementation and control by governments
- Covering fixed expenses is difficult with small funds. Some of them restrict their use to pay employees, taxes, bank charges, etc.
- Good point John, These are long term investments in community relationships
- I think the question for every organisation is how to empower their organisation sustainably to finance the program, without rely on donors.
- In Francophone Africa we are often confronted with a language barrier where donors sometimes require submissions in English with many documents to be translated and this in a very short time. What do you think of these situations that limit NGOs to capture certain funding that should contribute to conservation in Francophone Africa?
- Question for Jenny -- couldn't WAZA-member zoos, which have dedicated conservation staff and solid connections to local conservation NGOs, form a consortium to apply for the large grants (from, say, Arcos) with the aim of distributing the money to the community-led NGOs for community-led conservation, and with the zoos' responsibility to manage the microloan project reports into a larger-scale project report for the donor organization?
- thanks John Paul and Emma. It's something we are looking at doing at #NatureForAll, to help partners collaborate on new initiatives.
- One of the problems that I have noticed is that grassroots organisations fail to compete with international/national conservation organisations that have bigger brand names. Bigger organisations are effective in capturing large donor funds and have higher administrative costs, the scale which by itself is sufficient to run grassroots organisations for a year or more in most cases. Unfortunately, the collaboration between such large organisations with grassroots organisations are very poor which reduces impact on the ground and increases duplication of work. How can this be resolved?
- Looks like we have to find ways to reduce middleman costs in moving funding.
- Jenny Gray, Reverse the Red: Thanks Donald, good idea. we can explore further.
- That's better, Ameyali!
- Agree Ameyali.. enough lip service to how important IPLCs are and then funding to BINGOS!
- Love the idea Ameyali

- Katy Scholfield, Arcus Foundation: <https://www.fasol-ac.org/>
- Can I also contact you to learn more about capacity building of local Communities?
- yes please do I would love to learn from more communities globally
- 🙌🔥👏 Ame!!
- Feeling completely inspired, thank you Ameyali!
- Go Ameyali!
- Thanks, Ameyali! Great point about focusing on outcomes rather than outputs!  
#ReimaginingConservation here.
- Great point, just much more work to manage many small projects
- Great to hear great thoughts. Just wondering, if you could provide ideas on possible interested bodies on mushrooms poisoning awareness /preventive program. We have serious issues with it in Nepal Himalaya and dozens of people are losing their lives sadly. As much of the amount is allocated for flagships animals and plants, it is harder to get funding on such underestimated taxa. Thank you
- Well spoken Ameyali! can we not achieve a compromise by separating what is achieved from how it is achieved? Would that not meet both party's needs?
- Small grants are still important for local NGOs in many countries. I am working with several NGOs in developing countries and see that they need small grants that are easier to manage for the surviving and conservation actions on the ground.
- The Glasgow Protocol 2021 may set a direction on reversing climate change through nature-based solutions. And, launching a worldwide intensive programme on restoration and revival of the ecosystems could be a win-win game for all parties to the conference and a grand success to COP26 with zero conflict, low investments, and returns. So, in my opinion, it is going to be more appropriate to call it RESTORATION FUNDING rather than CONSERVATION FUNDING.
- Restoration funding and conservation funding are different things, and both are needed.
- Annete, would you tell me how should we keep balance between these international fundings and regional fundings for each regional conservation?
- It might be useful for funders to support more respectful partnerships between IPLCs and science/knowledge institutions such as universities on co-creation of conservation outcomes (rather than international NGOs as middle operators)
- We need more technical support in writing project that Can align with donors expectations. Nowday working in EASTERN DRC where criminality of faune and Flora because a challenge. but limited funding in the landscape kahuzi biega, Itombwe and lake Tanganyika

- I want to echo Ameyali's point (if I understood correctly) of a need for a larger effort to integrate conservation efforts with the broader social and justice development movement. There is a lot of room for synergy and learning
- Are there grants from large NGOs that base their decisions on local organization/community statements on mission, goals, strategies, but not specific projects?
- FLEXIBILITY of Funding. Great point, Gemma!
- This question is for all: How to create partnerships with the private sector making them part of the solution working along with communities? and what should be included in the framework that shows the impact of that partnership? Thanks
- Katy Scholfield, Arcus Foundation: Amphibian Fund  
<https://www.synchronicityearth.org/our-work/funding/expendable-endowments/the-amphibian-fund/>
- <https://www.synchronicityearth.org/congo-basin-programme/>
- Are there examples of working with coalitions of local organizations to make things more efficient and supporting a larger number of groups?
- Katy Scholfield, Arcus Foundation: Claire the congo basin prog is a good example of that that gemma mentioned
- Dear Mirande a good question
- A simple thing to do is to improve funding allocation transparency on the big conservation organizations
- Again, working with trusted intermediary regranting organizations can “de-risk”, leverage expertise (language, regional, grant-making), and make use of their trusted networks of community-level initiatives - getting larger pools of money to ground more effectively and achieving BINGO goals.
- Annette Lanjouw, Arcus Foundation: For Ned Horning: yes, there are examples of blockchain technology being used to improve funding efficiency, and using green energy.
- The Endangered Landscapes Programme supports multiple organizations co-managing landscapes and seascapes  
<https://www.endangeredlandscapes.org/projects/implementation-projects/>
- The Community Leaders Network in Southern Africa just formalised as an institution is a perfect example
- Katy Scholfield, Arcus Foundation: To Fred's point, we really do see this as the start of a conversation with everyone!
- <https://cbcscongo-basin.org/>

- Training is crucial. Most of conservation practitioners are trained in ecological sciences, with poor or nil development in social sciences. That limits the vision of conservation projects. This is changing lately, but at a slow pace
- Question: What will be the requirements (eligibility criteria) to get funds to the communities, what are the steps to be followed? How the communities should be organized to be eligible.
- To Gemma's earlier point — pooled funds are an excellent option for that step-wise transition to localizing funding. Intermediary organizations with deep partnerships on the ground can be helpful too. Let's also look to the growing role of Indigenous-led Funding mechanisms
- In my opinion building up trust, and hiring local talents !
- To have better results is the coalitions between local organizations in a distribution regions
- There is an evolving trend of local NGOs maturing and gaining the experience and capacity to manage and mentor multiple, smaller, emerging local NGOs. This should be the focus of future work and channelling of funds
- Katy Scholfield, Arcus Foundation: Agroecology Fund is a good example of a pooled fund several people on this call are involved in <https://www.agroecologyfund.org/>
- Thank you Ameyali
- Building capacity of local organizations is one of the key points, very important for many to grow in the conservation stewards.
- YES! Elena
- Great webinar! I think there's definitely a need for creating transparent databases of network groups and practitioners that can be supported and having projects that focus on long-term exit strategies.
- Yess of course Kennedy
- Yes agree!
- omg! I'm so thankful for all this information you are sharing <3
- People in the local organisations are hardly paid well. Funds do not allow the people on ground well. It reduces the capacity of grassroots organisations to attract talents and capacities to deliver the results on ground.
- +1 to Elena's perspective of benefit of building capacity in local communities, but also in building capacity and sensitivity among conservation organizations of the need to have conservation be led by local communities to ensure that all benefit, not just nature.
- As loads of local talent because of different ways of expressing themselves are unable to convey their message and support and are left behind the system

- Isn't it necessary for Global agenda and local/regional agenda to strengthen the bonds among them? If you would have any example, I am glad to hear some examples from your experiences.
- +1 Katy re: Agroecology Fund. It is proving to be not just an effective mechanism for pooled funding that reaches grassroots agroecology efforts, but also a learning network for the donors, practitioners and all partners involved.
- Yes, i agree with you Kennedy for the database!
- Do funders need more people to do the listening and relationship building (not decision making and agenda pushing) - realistically speaking if you need to talk with more organisations - how do you practically do it?
- Johan made a great point about support for the organization leader - for many Community-based organizations this is one of the hardest positions to fund - yet is often the person with the vision and leadership to ensure the organization survives and thrives.
- Yes. This webinar was extremely therapeutic. cathartic, at least. Is this going to be available for sharing?
- Thanks everyone for great talks and important ideas. Looking forward to some of the changes discussed today 🧡. Cheers everybody.
- The same
- The UNDP/GEF Small Grants Programme (SGP) will be marking 30 years of support to local organisations and IPLCs in 2022 - some of our lessons working with Indigenous Peoples are available in this publication: <https://sgp.undp.org/innovation-library/item/2170-small-grants-programme--25-years-of-engagement-with-indigenous-peoples.html>
- Katy Scholfield, Arcus Foundation: Tammy- this report is worth a read to your point: Territories of life report <https://report.territoriesoflife.org/>
- This has been an excellent webinar - really useful insights from a knowledgeable panel!
- Very important workshop and learned a lot from you, respected speaker, thank you very much ❤️❤️❤️
- Great point Gemma on long-term funding, so the local orgs don't have to spend their valuable human resources on applying for funds. Rather they can just "get the work done".
- Learning and understanding the local culture around money and funds and supporting the management of funds is also important. Any discussion on this aspect?
- Thanks a lot all.



- Thanks for the great and important webinar! It would be really useful to have a follow up session or resources with a few examples of how this works in practice
- Also local realities have to come up to international decision-making processes to improve on the ground conservation & implementation
- Building capacity is one thing but we need also a guidelines from the funders on the eligibility criteria to be followed during funds application, inc, among others key outcomes to be achieved in line with high level goals inc. SDGs.
- Jon Paul Rodriguez - IUCN SSC: Thanks to all the panelists for your excellent and thought provoking presentations!
- Jon Paul Rodriguez - IUCN SSC: Please keep in touch and visit us at <https://www.reversethered.org/>