Celebrating 2017

2017 was a fantastic year for the Time + Tide Foundation, with milestones in each of our project sites: we translocated 5 lemurs onto the island sanctuary of Nosy Ankao, installed the first running water in Sibemi Village, saw substantial literacy improvements in the South Luangwa Girls Club, and supported environmental education in the residential areas adjacent to the Lower Zambezi National Park.

Thank you to the Time + Tide lodges and our generous donors for helping us achieve our objectives this past year, placing us in a stronger position to undertake the conservation challenges in these four exceptional African ecosystems. From all of us at the Time + Tide Foundation, we wish you a wonderful, productive start to the New Year.
Nosy Ankao: CROWNED LEMUR CONSERVATION

In November 2017, the Time + Tide Foundation together with our partners at the Madagascar Biodiversity Partnership, Fanamby, Ministère de l’Environnement, the University of Antsiranana, Zoos Victoria, and Miavana translocated 5 lemurs onto the protected island of Nosy Ankao.

These lemurs are the same individuals that were collared in September of this year, with the delightful addition of a baby born the day before translocation. All five have habituated to life on Nosy Ankao, where they are being monitored daily by our environmental team. The translocation is part of a multi-year Crowned Lemur conservation project with the community of Ampaririana on mainland Madagascar, through which we will ensure the short-term protection of family groups by safeguarding them on Nosy Ankao and long-term conservation by promoting tourism to Ampaririana. Wildlife tourism is the most viable future for the protected areas of Madagascar as long as residents feel the immediate economic advantages of conserving threatened species. Through this project, we bring tangible social and monetary benefits to Ampaririana, while demonstrating to residents that showcasing endemic wildlife is more financially sustainable than poaching and habitat degradation.

“I believe that eco-tourism is perhaps the best way of demonstrating both to local communities and to governments of mega-diversity countries ... that conservation pays. I think translocation and setting up ... safety colonies for these species that are very endangered is very important ... We have to try every option, every method available to us and the fact that Miavana is experimenting now on this island with the lemurs, I think that’s great.”

Dr. Russell Mittermeier, Chairman of the IUCN Primate Specialist Group and former President of Conservation International
Nosy Ankao:

HEALTH LITERACY

In early October, we welcomed back the Malagasy non-profit YES-TaFiTa for another workshop with the Nosy Ankao health committee and to lead a public health campaign on the importance of sanitation and hygiene.

Over the course of 9 days, the facilitators trained 14 community health leaders on behavior change communication techniques and certified the leaders as water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) advocates. This qualification has empowered the health committee to address sanitation issues within their communities through daylong WASH exhibitions held once each month on Nosy Ankao in addition to community outreach in the archipelago. In remote areas of Madagascar, diarrhea, dehydration, typhoid, dysentery, bilharzia, and cholera can arise as a result of poor sanitation and hygiene, especially in places without healthcare personnel or support. By equipping community health leaders with the knowledge to educate their families and peers, the Time + Tide Foundation aims to provide practical solutions to some of the common ailments in this region of Madagascar.
South Luangwa:
GIRLS CLUB

Over the course of the year, the Girls Club at Yosefe Primary School followed the Adolescent Girls Empowerment Programme (AGEP) health and life skills curriculum, specifically the courses on informed decision-making and open communication. Designed for young Zambian girls living in rural environments, the curriculum helps to equip participants with the necessary skills to face challenges at home, school and in personal relationships. Underlying all club lessons is a complementary English language component, written and verbal, that ensures the girls are consistently using English while simultaneously learning how to maintain happy and healthy lifestyles. Towards the end of the school year, we administered a second round of the Functional Literacy Assessment Tool (FLAT) to measure the girls’ English literacy levels. We conducted the same assessment at the beginning of term 2 and re-tested in term 3 to track changes in the girls’ reading abilities over the past 6 months. Remarkably, every single girl showed an improvement in her reading ability, with 86% of girls scoring as functionally literate, an improvement from 73% in term 2.

“Before, I was shy, I was afraid of people. Now I feel good to stand in front of people, I feel comfortable to read aloud, I am intelligent because of girls club. I feel like I can do anything.”

Shuko Ngulube, Grade 8 at Yosefe Primary School
Lower Zambezi:
ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PROGRAMME

With support from the Time + Tide Foundation, in 2017 Conservation Lower Zambezi (CLZ), a non-profit organization focused on anti-poaching and environmental education, hosted school visits from both the Western and Eastern areas of the Chiawa Game Management Area (GMA) and conducted outreach to 10 schools, reaching 380 students.

Forty-eight top conservation club students from 5 different schools were hosted at the CLZ base during 4-day long fieldtrips, with the objective of providing learners with a comprehensive and holistic environmental education experience. In between game drives, boat cruises, films and conservation projects, students attended classes on animal behaviour, ecosystem webs, sustainable fishing, and wildlife tracking. Through the school outreach programme, a wider variety of students were taught about the responsibilities of conservation organizations and illegal activities in the Lower Zambezi such as poaching, over-fishing and habitat loss. Students watched wildlife films and participated in conservation-themed games for a hands-on understanding of how these pressures threaten the long-term sustainability of the national park and how they can personally participate in local conservation efforts.
Liuwa Plain:  
SIBEMI COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Thanks to an incredibly thoughtful donation by guests at Norman Carr’s King Lewanika Lodge and technical support from African Parks, in early November the Time + Tide Foundation installed the first well in Sibemi Village.

Prior to this installation, residents had to walk approximately 1 km to fetch water from the seasonal Munde River, not always a clean or reliable source of water. Now, the first well is conveniently situated on the grounds of Sibemi Community School and a second well will be installed elsewhere in Sibemi Village in early 2018. Additionally, the guests donated 40 new desks to Sibemi Community School, which are currently being assembled and due to be delivered before the start of the 2018 academic year. Thanks to the support from the Time + Tide Foundation and Norman Carr Safaris, teachers at other schools inside Liuwa have registered formal transfer requests with the Ministry of Education to move to Sibemi Community School in 2018. This is great news for the school as it will hopefully result in more experienced teachers and a better quality of education for Sibemi students.

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