

OUR VISION

Conservation Translocation initiatives, including Reintroductions and Rewilding, promote the recovery of biodiversity following a positive, pro-active approach to conservation. International directives recognise their value, since the Convention on Biological Diversity obliges signatory countries to “*Adopt measures for the recovery and rehabilitation of threatened species and for their reintroduction into their natural habitats under appropriate conditions.*” (CBD 1992 Article 9c)

In practice, however, the return of species that have been absent in an area (due to human pressure or persecution or other) is accompanied by a wide range of issues, many derived from human-wildlife interactions. While the IUCN’s Guidelines for Reintroductions (2013) state that to establish a viable, free-ranging population in the wild it is necessary to enlist public support, the success of conservation translocations requires cooperation between scientists, practitioners, governmental and non-governmental agencies, as well as the public.

The Human-Wildlife Interactions Working Group (HWIWG) was formed in 2018 by members of the IUCN/SSC Conservation Translocation Specialist Group who were interested in exploring the role that such interactions play at different stages of conservation translocations, their scope and importance to program success. The HWIWG creates connections between field practitioners and researchers to collectively address key issues concerning translocation programs.

Our vision aligns with the CTSG vision (2022) where conservation translocations have an active role to play in repairing past damage that results from people’s relationship with nature, securing against future threats. We see every CT project integrating HWI aspects to ensure its success. In keeping with the post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework and the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, we include the conservation translocation of plants in our scope, to restore degraded or deforested sites, assisted or through natural regeneration, aimed at reducing biodiversity loss by securing habitats for wild flora and fauna.

We recognize that indigenous communities and local indigenous knowledge have an important role to play in conservation translocations and HWI arising from conservation translocations.

The Human-Wildlife Interactions Working Group discussion forum that takes place online, creates opportunities for reintroduction practitioners and researchers from across the globe to discuss key issues concerning the relationships between people and wildlife within programs involving translocations for conservation purposes. We propose to expand and develop our portfolio to offer more resources and actions that integrate the CTSG's science, guidance, training, action and outreach aims.

OUR MISSION

We contribute to the CTSG's mission to 'empower responsible conservation translocations that save species, strengthen ecosystems, and benefit humanity'. We propose to do so by promoting knowledge exchange and supporting practitioners in identifying human-wildlife interaction issues that may affect the success of conservation translocations and finding solutions towards coexistence.

As a pragmatic forum, the HWIWG works as a resource, rather than an exercise, aiming:

- To promote discussion of key issues; to aid practitioners in finding solutions based on the experience of practitioners and expert advice; to help develop networks and collaborations; to provide advice to projects in all stages of development
- To support and inform the IUCN Conservation Translocation Guidelines
- To share related resources with the wider conservation translocation community

OUR CORE GROUP

Our diverse core group is composed of Adriana Consorte-McCrea, Carlos Ramon Ruiz, Jake Owens, Alistair Bath, Subir Chowfin, Michael Ruggeri, Monica Engel and Faye Whiley.

ACTION PLAN 2022-2025

THE HUMAN-WILDLIFE INTERACTIONS WORKING GROUP MANIFESTO

As a Human-Wildlife Interactions Working Group, our purpose is to contribute with responsible conservation translocations of species. To achieve this goal and ensure the long-term survival of species in the wild, we recognize the crucial role of the conservation social sciences in guiding the analytical understanding of the human dimensions of human-wildlife interactions.

Conservation translocation efforts are more likely to succeed in improving ecosystems and benefiting humanity when we understand the positive and negative interactions between people and wildlife, so that positive aspects may be promoted and conflicts anticipated, avoided or mitigated, in finding solutions towards coexistence.

To ensure that people and wildlife coexist, and threatened and vulnerable species thrive, we work toward the understanding of the HWI, sharing guidelines and best practices, and training the next generations of practitioners and conservationists.

We believe that Conservation Translocation (CT) should increase efforts to address the nature of HWI and promote coexistence between people and wildlife through every stage of the process, from planning, to implementation, to after exit. The HWIWG Action Plan has been designed to support the CTSG Strategic Plan. The objectives, targets and actions described below provide Scientific Evidence, Guidance, Action, Training and Outreach that aim to *'empower responsible conservation translocations that save species, strengthen ecosystems, and benefit humanity'* (CTSG Strategic Plan).

With this in mind, we recognise potential barriers, mostly associated with human resources and funding. We have addressed these in the attached Operational Budget document. The scope of the actions that we will be able to carry out to meet our proposed targets will depend on funds available, therefore targets and actions may be excluded accordingly to meet budget limitations. Barriers may also come from difficulties in engaging practitioners. However, our Action Plan creates opportunities for practitioners of conservation translocations to discover and explore HWI issues in alignment with the CTSG Strategy and guidelines; to raise and discuss concerns, ideas and solutions, cultivating a community of practice; to share and to benefit from the sharing of resources. Such opportunities will help practitioners and researchers to undertake reintroductions and rewilding projects so that positive HWI are emphasised and negative HWI are addressed, to enable successful conservation translocations where people, wildlife and ecosystems benefit.

AIMS	OBJECTIVES	TARGETS by 2025	ACTIONS	FUNDING NEEDS
<p>1.Supporting and informing the IUCN/SSC CTSG guidance</p>	<p>1.Producing a Good Practice Manual for HWI in CT (Science, Guidance)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Communicating with CTSG: meetings 2. Complete a full version of the HWI in CT guidelines 3. Communicate to CTSG the need to include HWI guidance and support in all stages of planning and execution of CTs 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Liaise with chair to establish recurring meetings; producing an complete annual update report 2.Solicit case studies from CTSG community, review, complement, add case studies and complete the extended guidelines by summer 2023- produce a timeline for completion 3.HWI Manifesto: Produce a statement that evidences the need for HWI as component of successful CT to accompany the Action Plan 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Funding to pay an administration or assistant. This would cover administrative tasks required to complete actions listed in the Action Plan (3-5 hours/week)

	<p>2. Sharing guidelines, best practice and training with the community (Guidance, Training and Outreach)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Publish full HWI guidelines under the CTSG (official endorsement) 2. Include HWI section in the 'Global Perspective' annual publications 3. Offer one training course per year 4. Offer workshops during conferences 	<p>1, 2, 3. Propose these to the CTSG</p> <p>2. Plan what sort of input we want to have in the 'Global Perspective'; discuss ideas with CTSG; develop a proposal on how to best contribute to it</p> <p>3. Develop training resources/course (live/ MOOCs) that may contribute to CTSG Training courses; discuss ideas with CTSG</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ How to identify HWI issues to increase project success <p>4. See section 3.3 below</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Funding to develop and deliver the training courses live and online 4. Funding to take training/workshops to conferences
	<p>3. Implementing a pilot project using the framework presented in the guidelines (Guidance and Action)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Implement one per cycle 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1a. Appoint a special committee to plan and run it 1b. Open review submissions of prospective projects 1c. Plan the HD aspects of the conservation translocation 	<p>Research funding to complete pilot</p>

			1d. Run the pilot project 1e. Evaluate results and produce report	
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	<p>4. Developing research into the role of HWI in successful CT (Science)</p>	<p>1. Assess the inclusion of HWI principles and concerns in translocation projects: 3 years project</p>	<p>1a. include information gathering mechanisms within Global Perspectives</p> <p>1b. develop a survey to collect data from non-participants in the Global Perspectives publication (confiscated wildlife rehab, non-successful project, mitigation translocations)</p> <p>1c. Assess the inclusion of HWI principles and concerns in previous case studies published in the Global Perspectives books (review of past publications)</p> <p>1d. Analyse and interpret the results from the above actions to produce a global assessment report</p>	<p>Research student(s) funded by CTSG or research grant</p>
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<p>2. Promoting discussion of key issues</p>	<p>1.Helping practitioners find solutions based on practice and research (Guidance)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Organise two discussions per year 2. Organise one expert workshop per year 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1a. Core group and other members to suggest speaker/discussion 1b.Core group member to contact prospective speakers, and set dates and identify chair for the event 1c. Request title of discussion, blurb, short bios of speakers, resources for discussion and photo for a poster 1d. Prepare poster 1e. Send invitation to event with attached information/poster to the mailing list and social media outlets; send a reminder a week before and the day before event 1f. Discussion chair to host and record event 1g. Discussion chair to follow up, share associated resources and prepare discussion report 	<p>Administration/ or assistant</p>
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	<p>2. Developing networks and opportunities for collaboration (Outreach)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increase the numbers of members in the directory to 100 2. Update and share the directory with members 3. Update communication routes: mailing list, website and social media content 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1a. Contact people who are already in our mailing list and Facebook 1b. Advertise the group via IUCN Newsletter to foster contact with Chairs of various relevant IUCN groups and members who would be interested in joining the HWIWG and also to develop networks and opportunities for collaboration. 1c. Make new contacts (with organisations and practitioners like those associated with the WAZA, AZA, Australian Wildlife Conservancy etc. who may be supporting or implementing reintroduction and rewilding programmes, for networking and opportunities for collaboration) during conferences, presentations and workshops attended or presented by HWIWG members 2. Mailing 3. Create a forum space in our website https://iucn-ctsg-hwi.wixsite.com/workinggroup for two way communication, which is monitored by a nominated core member 	<p>Media Administration/ or assistant</p>
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3. Sharing resources with the community of practice	1. Produce and share discussion reports (Science, Guidance and Outreach)	1. Produce two per year	<p>1a. Discussion chair to prepare a draft report following previous model, based on the recording/transcription of the discussion session</p> <p>1b. Discussion chair to liaise with discussion leads to produce report</p> <p>1c. Share final report by email, ResearchGate, website</p>	Administration/ or assistant
	2. Share original research and other resources associated with discussions (Science, Guidance, and Outreach)	1. Circulate via email and website	<p>1a. Collect resources from speakers; add relevant materials and share them</p> <p>1b. Share relevant resources sent by other members</p>	Administration/ or assistant

	<p>3.Preparing presentations and presenting at scientific conferences and meetings (Science and Guidance)</p>	<p>1.Present at the CTSG global conferences 2.Present at local and international conferences (at least one per year)</p>	<p>1.Submit presentation proposals to CTSG global conferences 2. Upcoming: Pathways Europe October 2022, the Netherlands; International Conference on Human-Wildlife Conflict & Coexistence March-April 2023, UK</p>	<p>-funding to cover conference fees for presenters: Pathways Full Conference Registration per presenter € 250; one day Registration per presenter 100 -general support (travel/accommodation)</p>
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	<p>4. Producing and sharing publications and sharing presentations by HWIWG (Science and Guidance)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Contribute a chapter to the book proposed by CTSG 'Conservation Translocations' Cambridge University press 2. Contribute at least one paper per year to the CTSG peer reviewed scientific journal or another peer reviewed journal 3. Share papers and presentations on website and ResearchGate 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Define the scope of the chapter (based on the guidance and themes that derive from discussions and /or original research by the group, together or in collaboration with other colleagues); bring authors together; write and edit 2. Define the scope of the paper; bring authors together; write and edit 	<p>Funding for publication fees</p>
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	<p>5.Sharing relevant news, notes and invitations with the community (Outreach)</p>	<p>1.Maintain communication via social media</p> <p>2.Maintain communication with our community of practice via email</p> <p>3.Contribute stories to the CTSG global social media program</p>	<p>1.Produce, share and maintain updated content in social media channels (Facebook, members to share on their regional networks and LinkedIn; WhatsApp?); website, ResearchGate</p> <p>2a.Migrate to a JISC Mail or similar mail platform</p> <p>2b.Produce content, read and respond to queries</p> <p>3.Keep in contact with CTSG to suggest new stories</p>	<p>Administration/ or assistant</p>
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	<p>6. Providing interactive mechanism (Guidance and Outreach)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Produce a repository / map of good and bad practices (along the lines of what Conservation Evidence has) that is accessible to users, who can then be redirected to the paper / document / project any given practice refers to. 2. Compile a list of tools to assess public positive and negative attitudes, promote behavioural change, mitigate conflict, and measuring success covering the project cycle, which practitioners can easily consult (these could be mapped by project stage and, if relevant, also by species, ecosystem, location, etc.) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1a. Developing the repository and keeping it updated 1b. Establishing a collaboration with standing repositories (e.g., Conservation Evidence) 1c. Contributing with examples or principles to already standing repositories such as Conservation Evidence 2a. Share lists compiled by core members 2b. Share research tools 2c. Share materials associated with training courses 	<p>Funding for Research assistant</p>
	<p>7. Join a platform that offers support to members</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Join and contribute to The Integrative Conservation Clinic, a platform that supports practitioners and help find solutions for problems. Topic: Human-Wildlife Interactions in Conservation Translocations 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1a. Add a message to emails promoting an opportunity for members to access The Integrative Conservation Clinic 	