



## SEAZA GUIDELINES ON THE DEFINITIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONTRIBUTION TO CONSERVATION

### DEFINITIONS

#### **Conservation (as defined by WAZA)**

Securing populations of species in natural habitats for the long term.

#### **Contribution to Conservation**

Donation of time, expertise, funds, materials and/or in-kind support from a SEAZA member institution to a cause that is aiming to secure long-term populations of species in natural ecosystems and habitats.

#### **Conservation Communication**

Communicating and promoting knowledge relating to the conservation of biodiversity.

#### **Population Management in Zoological Collections**

Maintaining and breeding of genetically healthy specimens of wild animal species to ensure sustainable captive populations for zoological collections.

#### **Conservation Breeding**

Breeding of genetically healthy specimens of threatened wild animals as part of a well-integrated species conservation action plan ([IUCN One Plan Approach](#) to conservation).

#### **Assurance Colonies**

Genetically healthy and sustainably managed captive populations of threatened species that, as part of a well-integrated conservation action plan, have the purpose to safeguard a species from becoming extinct in the wild.



## METHODS OF CONTRIBUTING

Conservation activities of SEAZA member institutions are considered to contribute directly to the long-term survival of species in natural ecosystems and habitats in the following cases:

### 1. Habitats

- a. Contributions aimed at maintaining, restoring or creating habitats **within zoo grounds**, with the intent to create or sustain conservation benefits for native biodiversity i.e. research, biodiversity surveys, creation of wildlife corridors etc.
- b. Contributions aimed at field work (**outside the zoological facility**) maintaining, restoring or creating wildlife habitats, with the intent to create or sustain conservation benefits for biodiversity.

### 2. Species and Populations

- a. Contributions to food, housing, health management, transport and husbandry of species held in the collection of the SEAZA institution (on site or off site / on display or off display) that:
  - i. are **extinct in the wild**.
  - ii. and/or for which an ex situ management plan exists and brings conservation benefit to a threatened species or habitat through:
    - a. Addressing the causes of primary threats.
    - b. Creating sustainable and genetically health assurance colonies as a hedge against extinction.
    - c. Restoring wild populations through conservation breeding.

NOTE: All projects and activities under item (2a) must be carried out in accordance to the [IUCN Guidelines for Reintroductions](#) and the [IUCN Guidelines on the Use of Ex situ management for Species Conservation](#) and the ex situ activities are part of a locally or globally recommended (by a recognised authority e.g. IUCN, Birdlife, National or Regional governments etc.) conservation action.

- b. Contributions to wildlife rescue operations of threatened species which are identified for release programmes or that remain in the collection and meet the criteria under item (a) above.
- c. Contributions to the rehabilitation of threatened species from captive breeding efforts that are programmed for reintroduction into the wild.
- d. Contributions to species or population management in the field such as conservation translocations, surveys, protection, research etc.
- e. Contributions related to biomaterial banking actions that are part of recommended conservation and research strategies for threatened species.



- f. Contributions related to the intensive management of populations:
  - i. Contributions related to the coordination of an ex situ population management programme for species included in item (a) above.
  - ii. Contributions related to the coordination of a **meta-population** management programme (i.e. regional or international **studbook** management) for species included in item (a) above.
- g. Veterinary Care
  - i. Contributions of veterinary care for wildlife disease issues and animal health issues for animals found in the institution's collection that fall under the definition in item (a) above.
  - ii. Contributions of veterinary care for wildlife disease issues and animal health issues for animals not part of the institution's collection if it directly impacts the conservation of species in the wild.

### 3. Research

- a. Contributions of research that takes place outside of the institution and is specifically intended to contribute to the conservation of species or ecosystems in situ.
- b. Contributions of research that takes place inside the institution and is specifically intended to contribute to the conservation of species or ecosystems in situ.
- c. Research into captive breeding, husbandry, health and welfare for animals found in the institution's collection that fall under the definition in item (2a) above.

### 4. Conservation Education and Capacity Building

- a. Contributions aimed at engaging people (e.g. general public, communities, and schools) specifically to raise awareness about conservation and sustainability issues and ultimately help to bring about an attitude and behaviour change to benefit nature conservation.
- b. Production of educational materials and tools by an institution for themselves or a third party is considered to a conservation contribution.
- c. Contributions of conservation outreach programs that target an external audience whose activities directly impact the species or habitat of concern.
- d. Contributions of training field conservation staff or volunteers not employed by the institution.
- e. Contributions aimed at enabling colleagues (internal or external, staff, non-staff) to attain the required level of knowledge and skills to carry out activities that lead to conservation benefits for threatened species or habitats (e.g. assisting with customs seizures, transports or sharing husbandry techniques, field conservation techniques, developing healthcare skills).



## 5. Advocacy

- a. Contributions related to a process that brings about policy and/or legislative change to benefit conservation. This includes combating wildlife trade, legal advice, and lobbying to generate support for conservation.

## 6. Fundraising/Direct Grants

- a. Cash grants made to other conservation organisations or persons to support field work relevant to threatened species and their habitats.
- b. The value of any goods, equipment or supplies (including educational supplies) donated to field conservation projects as defined above.
- c. In-kind personnel support if an employee of the institution is doing the work that would normally be done by an employee of another conservation organisation.

### NOTES:

#### a. Contributions in this document may include:

- Salary and benefits of employees who contribute to conservation work as defined above, reflecting the percentage of time spent doing so.
- Direct financial grants with or without a specific label, scholarships, received grants.
- Materials and equipment.
- In-kind costs: staff time, office space or facilities, make available materials already in possession of the institution, knowledge.
- Time and travel costs spent on conservation meetings.
- Membership fees when related to conservation organisations (100%).

#### b. Costs relating to the list below should not be considered conservation contributions:

- Restaurants and shops
- Ticket sales
- Security in zoos
- Cleaning
- IT except for activities included in the definition above
- Social services
- Zoo maintenance
- Amusement installations
- Marketing not directly related to supporting conservation activities listed above.
- Gardening
- Administration time in general
- Breeding and display of species not included in the definition stated above
- Research not directly linked with conservation programs
- Public relations