

ISSUE #4 - QUARTER 4, 2017

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IN THE FIELD

OCTOBER 25 IN WASHINGTON, DC

### ICCF HOLDS HIGH-LEVEL DIALOGUE FOR CONSERVATION IN OKAVANGO REGION

On Wednesday, October 25th, the ICCF hosted Members of the U.S. Congress, including Co-Chairs of the International Conservation Caucus, for a high-level dialogue focused on the important Okavango River watershed region. Also attending were representatives from governments in the Okavango region, conservation experts, private-sector conservation donors, and philanthropists investing in the region.

The Okavango watershed is the largest inland water system in Africa and home to the biggest remaining population of elephants in the world, presenting an



REP. JEFF FORTENBERRY SHARES EXPERIENCES FROM A

immense opportunity economic growth and improved livelihoods of resident populations ecotourism through development.

Members of Congress who recently visited the Okavango Delta in Botswana and who in July

formed a Congressional working group on the Okavango, expressed a sense of urgency to take action to address the most pressing challenges facing the region, as well as excitement about the potential for the U.S. Government to work with governments in the region toward conservation and sustainable development.



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### **IN CAPITALS**

# SENATE PRESIDENT THE NEWEST CO-CHAIR OF COLOMBIAN CAUCUSES

# COLOMBIAN CONSERVATION CAUCUS CO-CHAIRS

SEN. JUAN DIEGO GÓMEZ (PC)

SEN. DAIRA GALVIS MÉNDEZ (PCR)

SEN. LUIS FERNANDO DUQUE (PL)

# COLOMBIAN OCEANS CAUCUS CO-CHAIRS

SEN. EFRAÍN CEPEDA SARABIA (PC) SEN. DAIRA GALVIS MÉNDEZ (PCR) ICCF Colombia is pleased to announce that H.S. Efraín Cepeda Sarabia (pictured above right), President of the Senate, will serve as Co-Chair of the Colombian Conservation Caucus (CCC) and the Colombian Oceans Caucus (COC). Senator Cepeda has served in Colombia's upper chamber since 1991, and as President has named sustainable development and reconciliation as thematic legislative objectives.

At a recent ICCF roundtable, Senator Cepeda highlighted the "commitment from the Congress to improve and facilitate national environmental management, as the effects of human intervention on the terrestrial and marine ecosystems of the country have generated quite negative consequences."

# ICCF, ANGOLAN PARLIAMENT TALK CONSERVATION/ DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

In November, ICCF President John Gantt and ICCF Group Senior Africa Program Officer Daniel Tanner visited Luanda, Angola to discuss opportunities for collaboration for conservation and development with leaders in the Angolan government and the National Assembly.



### ICCF GROUP SET TO BEGIN GOVERNANCE WORK IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

The ICCF Group and its affiliate organizations have laid the groundwork to start work in Asia in 2018 focusing on caucus building and addressing governance issues related to wildlife trafficking and other conservation topics of importance throughout the region.





# NEW PUBLICATIONS OFFER BEST PRACTICES FOR WILDLIFE CRIME ENFORCEMENT

PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE ICCF GROUP, SPACE FOR GIANTS, AND STOP IVORY

Countries across Africa face growing challenges applying existing laws to protect natural resources including productive land, wildlife, and forestry. Poachers, illegal loggers, and trespassers routinely escape justice because of loopholes in old legislation, counter-productive sentencing options, or a lack of case law that might guide fresh convictions.

The ICCF Group, Space for Giants, and Stop Ivory have launched a suite of new advisory documents to guide authorities and policymakers as they enact and enforce stronger laws against wildlife and forestry crime. The documents draw on the insight of experienced legal practitioners in

the wildlife and environmental fields. These documents include guidance on legislative drafting, criminal sentencing, conducting court surveys, identification evidence, prosecution standards, and mutual legal assistance.

The three organizations are working to circulate the documents to legislators, prosecuting authorities, and judiciaries in the 14 countries where they work: Angola, Botswana, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Gabon, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Republic of Congo, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.





Incidences of poachers, illegal loggers, and other perpetrators of wildlife and environmental crime escaping justice will be significantly reduced if countries adopt these straightforward guidelines for strengthening legislation, improving prosecution and sentencing, and conducting court surveys."

-- Susan Herman Lylis
Vice-President, ICCF



# INTERNATIONAL CONSERVATION CORPS COMPLETES MULTIYEAR PROJECT TO STRENGTHEN INTERPRETATION CAPACITY IN COLOMBIA'S NATIONAL PARKS



The ICCF International Conservation Corps team recently completed a two-year project in Colombia to support the country's National Natural Parks (PNN) in developing interpretive plans and interpretive centers for two of its national parks: Tayrona and Amacayacu. The project involved six trips by International Conservation Corps experts to conduct interpretive planning workshops, develop an interpretive plan for Tayrona PNN, develop pre-design concept documents for the redevelopment of the Chairama facility in Tayrona PNN, assist with an interpretive plan for Amacayacu, develop concept documents for an interpretation/education/research center for Amacayacu, and identify future projects that the International Conservation Corps can support to further assist PNN.

During the most recent trip from November 12 through November 19, 2017, the ICCF International Conservation Corps team participated in an interpretive planning and interpretive center pre-design workshop at Amacayacu, Colombia's national park on the Amazon River.

### Workshop objectives included:

- Develop a comprehensive interpretive plan for the park involving both park staff and members of two local communities, Macagua and San Martin. Both communities are on the park boundary and provide overnight, food, and guide services to park and area visitors.
- Begin the development of concept documents for a park interpretive center.
- Create an analysis of regional tourism and park development opportunities.

During the workshop, the International Conservation Corps team presented and coordinated sessions on visitor center



and exhibit planning and design, and local community leaders described and discussed their ecotourism services. The International Conservation Corps team also visited Macagua, San Martin, and Puerto Narino to assess tourist facilities. Local communities, assisted by PNN, currently support and can expand their capabilities for sustainable visitation to the Amazon.

The workshop concluded by identifying desired objectives, functions, and activities for the interpretation/education/research complex, as well as visitor flow and capacities. Tentative design work by the PNN regional architect and the International Conservation Corps landscape architect was planned, with next steps discussed.

In the final project report, the International Conservation Corps team identified a number of significant, achievable projects that could benefit from future technical assistance by the team, including a signature project at Amacayacu. Discussion of these projects will continue in 2018.

### CONSERVATION CORPS TEAM UNDERTAKES SCOPING VISIT IN PERU

ICCF's International Conservation Corps program carried out a field mission in partnership with Peru's National Services for Protected Areas (SERNANP) to define areas of collaboration in which the program can support Peru through expert technical assistance that strengthens the management and protection of natural resources.

To this end, the International Conservation Corps team and ICCF staff visited SERNANP managers in their headquarters, the Palomino and Lachay protected areas, and met with park rangers, community leaders, and tourism operators.

Many concrete collaborative opportunities were identified where the International Conservation Corps and SERNANP can work together in a sustained partnership to strengthen the management of national parks and the natural resources they protect, including the transfer of knowledge and best practices to develop capacity.



# MOBILE TECHNOLOGY IMPROVING LIVELIHOODS FOR SMALL-SCALE FISHERMEN



#### **BRAZIL**

Fishing has long provided incomes for generations of locals in southern coastal Brazil who have inherited the practice from their ancestors before them. However, overfishing and depletion of fishery resources threaten many of Brazil's coastal communities. Fishing opportunities are diminished, reducing the income of the fishing communities and forcing younger generations to leave to seek jobs in other cities.

To counter these effects, Qualcomm's Pescando com Redes 3G (Fishing with 3G Nets) was created in 2010 to promote sustainable social and economic development in fishing communities in the city of Santa Cruz Cabrália, in southern Bahia, through digital and social inclusion. Fishing with 3G Nets aims to support the implementation of new economic activities through the use of 3G-connected smartphone and tablet applications.

Initial and continued support for this project has been provided by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

### INDIA

Generations of India's coastal communities have relied on fishing for their livelihoods, but a 2004 tsunami has changed conditions, making traditional fishing knowledge obsolete. To help fishermen know when it's safe to fish and where to find fish, Qualcomm's Fisher Friend mobile application provides critical information about weather and ocean conditions, Potential Fishing Zones (PFZ), and current market prices of fish, helping the fishermen improve their catch and their incomes.

# NAL

### WELCOME NEW CONSERVATION CAUCUS MEMBERS

### MEXICAN CONSERVATION PARLIAMENTARY GROUP

Dip. Dennisse Hauffen (MC)

Dip. Pedro Garza Treviño (PAN)

Dip. Ramón Villagómez Guerrero (PRI)

Dip. Germán Escobar Manjarrez (PRI)

Dip. Jose de Jesus Galindo Rosas (PVEM)

Dip. Edna Gonzalez Evia (PVEM)

Dip. Haydee Nadia Vega Olivas (PAN)

Dip. Nora Liliana Oropeza Olguín (PRI)

Dip. Xitlalic Ceja García (PRI)

Dip. Francisco Javier Pinto Torres (PANAL)

Dip. Óscar Ferrer Abalos (PRD)

# U.S. CONGRESSIONAL OCEANS CAUCUS

Sen. David Perdue (R-GA)

Rep. Francis Rooney (R-FL)

# U.S. CONGRESSIONAL INTERNATIONAL CONSERVATION CAUCUS

Rep. Carlos Curbelo (R-FL)

Rep. Dina Titus (D-NV)

Rep. David Valadao (R-CA)



### **RECENT BRIEFINGS & WORKSHOPS**

### COLOMBIA ROUNDTABLE ON MULTILATERAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENTS

NOVEMBER 29, 2017 Roundtable discussion with Colombia Caucus on ratification of several MEAs

# PARLAMERICAS FORUM WITH COLOMBIAN/MEXICAN CONSERVATION CAUCUS CO-CHAIRS

NOVEMBER 15-17, 2017 Working Lunch with Senator Marcela Guerra

(Co-Chair, GPCM) and H.R Germán Blanco (Co-Chair, CCC)

### NATIONAL SECURITY BRIEFING: MARITIME LAW ENFORCEMENT

NOVEMBER 8, 2017

Roundtable discussion on the Coast Guard's role in maritime law enforcement with Admiral Charles Ray, USCG

# THE LAST ANIMALS: FEATURED FILM CLIPS AND PANEL DISCUSSION

OCTOBER 24, 2017

Congressional staff briefing featuring previews of exposé film on wildlife trafficking by photojournalist Kate Brooks

# MANAGING HUMAN-ELEPHANT CONFLICT IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

OCTOBER 6, 2017

Congressional staff briefing with Dr. Christopher Stremme and the International Elephant Foundation



ICCF TEAM WELCOMES ISRA SUNTHORNVUT, SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY AT A MEETING WITH MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONSERVATION CAUCUS





Looking back at 2017 and forward to a new year, I am extremely happy with all that The ICCF Group has achieved and excited about new programs being launched, both domestically and abroad.

In 2017, we welcomed a new Congress and Administration in Washington at our Inauguration Gala, and we worked throughout the year to convene public- and private-sector leaders at the highest levels to forge new partnerships and encourage continued marketdriven conservation initiatives. We added new members to the U.S. Congressional International Conservation Caucus and Oceans Caucus and saw bipartisan legislation introduced and unanimously passed by the Senate to address marine debris (the bipartisan Save Our Seas Act).

We expanded our network of parliamentary conservation caucuses in Africa, Latin America, and the Caribbean and continued to strengthen relationships with policymakers around the world. We also guided the development of new conservation legislation and policies in Africa and Latin America and provided education and guidance to prosecutors and members of the judiciary to bolster their ability to enforce conservation laws within their countries. Our International Conservation Corps experts conducted a number of missions across Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Caribbean to share their expertise with parks officials and personnel on the ground.

### I FTTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

In 2018 we will build upon all of these initiatives while maintaining our focus on collaboration, public-private partnerships, and market-oriented conservation solutions. We are working to expand our caucus network by establishing parliamentary caucuses in several additional countries, and the development of exciting new programs is underway for Africa and Asia. None of what we have and will achieve is possible without our many partners. We are grateful for your continued support in this new year.

Best Wishes.





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### **BECOME AN ICCF GLOBAL PARTNER**

For information about our partnership opportunities, please contact:

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AFRICAN WILDLIFE FOUNDATIONS









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