

**annual report**  
**july 2018–june 2019**



**ifaw**

**United States**



**vision:**  
**animals and people**  
**thriving together.**



**mission:**  
**fresh thinking**  
**and bold action**  
**for animals, people,**  
**and the place we**  
**call home.**

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# where we come from and where we are headed



For 50 years IFAW has remained steadfast in our **unwavering mission to ensure that animals and people thrive together**. The journey to achieve such an outcome plays out upon the global stage day after day. It is the IFAW story, based upon the fundamental principle that individual animals matter.

It is a story that survives only if we are able to evolve, adapt, and yet remain focused. It is a story that is based on one key character—the individual animal. Where others work only to save an entire species, **IFAW rescues, rehabilitates, and releases individual animals, one by one**, for they contribute to biodiversity in their habitats and can mean the difference between losing or saving an entire species.

## building on five decades of real-world solutions

We have learned time and again over the past 50 years that when people can take better care of themselves, they often take better care of the animals and habitats they share as well. Building blocks that are intrinsic to IFAW's effectiveness include the engagement of local communities in conservation, a focus on practical solutions that make an immediate and lasting impact, and sustained efforts to shape the policies that matter most.

Not long after IFAW was founded, we started coupling advocacy with on-the-ground interventions, establishing our work in areas like Uganda's Queen Elizabeth National Park, where our work against poaching helped the elephant population rebound from 150 in 1990 to over 2,400 now. Today, it is considered one of the healthiest elephant populations in all of Uganda.

Establishing partnerships with diverse stakeholders from the ground level to the international arena has been critical to IFAW's success. In 2013, IFAW signed a historic lease with a Maasai community near Kenya's Amboseli National Park, securing 16,000 acres of critical habitat for elephants.

Later that same year, we were the first NGO to ever sign a Memorandum of Understanding with INTERPOL's Environmental Crime Program. We have taken an active role in international fora like the Convention on Migratory Species and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). We now have a "seat at the table" and we are systematically expanding our voice and influence in countries, projects, and campaigns across the globe.

In 2019, marking the 50th anniversary of IFAW, we launched our new brand. This was an exciting and critical milestone as it was the first re-brand in 50 years. Our brand transformation goes beyond just a new logo. In order to ensure conservation issues remain top of mind for the next generation, our brand is an expression of who we are, a definition of our identity, and an enabler to better communicate with our audiences. Our brand is designed to make life better for animals, bring new hope to people who care, and lead us all to a safer, brighter future.

## we are compelled to drive change

At IFAW, we understand the intricacies of the world at large and we recognize that there is no one-size-fits-all solution in conservation. We believe that there's a human side to animal welfare and as such, we value the culture and the perspectives of those who have lived and thrived alongside wildlife for generations.

**We also see the world as it is, and we are compelled to make it better**, tackling the most complex problems with creativity, tenacity, and compassion. From protecting critical habitats and supporting orphaned elephant programs in Africa to restoring keystone species and driving landscape conservation efforts in Asia, to our expansive efforts to stop illegal wildlife trafficking, IFAW is driving change.

**Today, IFAW is better positioned than ever before to help animals and people thrive together**. From our world-renowned marine mammal rescue team that performed a record number of rescues in 2019 with the help of volunteers and community members who alert us to strandings, to responding to the needs of the community and its animals in the aftermath of the deadly Camp Fire which ravaged Butte County, California, IFAW's rescue teams are helping animals and the people who care about them.

IFAW is especially grateful for our supporters all around the world, whether individual donors, foundations, or governments. All the progress described in this annual report is thanks to this continued generous support. Every contribution, small and big, is helping animals and people thrive together.

## building communities and crossing borders

We are committed to setting best practices and standards. We are committed to scientific and research-led innovations accumulated through years of experience. From working closely with fishermen to develop alternative fishing gear that reduces the threat of deadly whale entanglements, to working with Icelandic whale and dolphin watching operators and tourism companies to support alternatives to commercial whaling, IFAW has the expertise and the influence to take bold action for animals, people, and the place we call home.

**Our mission at IFAW has always been and will always be about animals. We are inspired to save their lives and nothing can compromise that mission**. We know, however, that we cannot do it alone. It takes a village—or in our experience, a local community. We are willing to work with anyone, anywhere to solve these problems which are urgent, complicated, and often ever-worsening.

**We have the infrastructure and influence to think big, act boldly, and build consensus**. Around the world, we're building support for animal welfare and conservation, and we're building consensus about what works. We call on policymakers to tip the scales in favor of endangered species and habitats.

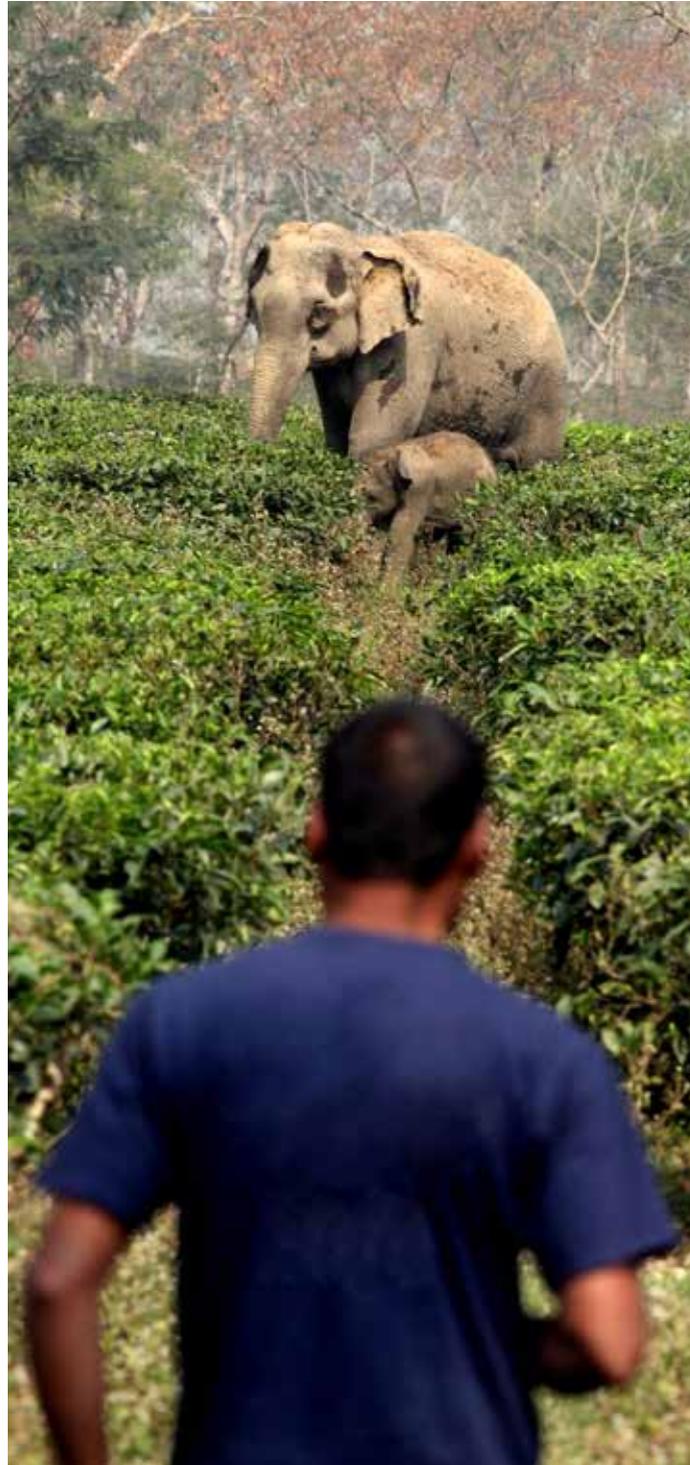
Our work transcends borders. It is not just a statement of scope, but an observation about **the power of ordinary people, wherever they are, to join together to make a difference**. We also believe in the collective movement; in working with each and every human being who has an interest in the sustainability of this planet we inhabit. We call on all people to take an active role in protecting wildlife and preserving wilderness for the generations to come.

So many are rightly concerned because of the changes they see all around them: animals and habitats that disappear, rampant illegal wildlife trade, alarmingly accelerated levels of extinction, all with an ever-increasing degree of competition for resources. Some say it's too late. At IFAW, we have 50 years' worth of reasons to believe otherwise. We know that just as people have contributed to these problems, people have the power to reverse the decline.

## Let's get to work.

◀ Crossing borders, traversing landscapes. A herd of African elephants on the move.

# animals and people thriving together



## message from the board chair

Given the serious challenges in securing the safety of animals and their habitats, it is critical for organizations and governments to create and commit to problem-solving initiatives that have positive and long-term impact. That is why I am proud to be a part of IFAW, which focuses on such substantive change. Fiscal year 19 marked our milestone 50th anniversary—a testament to our resilience and adaptability in an ever-more complex world.

I know from my experience in management consulting that sometimes we need to challenge long-established convention to achieve results. It is this focus on change that drew me to IFAW initially and keeps me engaged. Through **fresh thinking and bold action** by the organization's diverse global team, IFAW is engineering new ways to confront complicated issues and creating real-world solutions that will deliver both immediate and lasting results.

IFAW focuses its work on doing what is necessary to have the greatest impact for wildlife. The interconnectedness between humans and other animals demands integrated solutions to human/wildlife conflicts. We occupy the same space and often compete for the same resources. **Ensuring that both animals and people thrive together** requires addressing the complexity of those issues.

A critical ingredient in IFAW's approach is establishing **trust with local communities**—which is a differentiator in animal welfare and conservation. Our teams are smart, pragmatic, and committed to achieving solutions that reflect the world we live in today, as well as the one we fight to secure in the future. Given the enormous number of endangered animal populations and the need for immediate action, the **cornerstone of IFAW's guiding philosophy—that individual animals matter**—becomes ever more important.

I am privileged to lead a Board of Directors who are not only closely engaged but also strongly committed to IFAW's mission. Our Board welcomes and supports new initiatives that tackle evolving challenges, and embraces IFAW's collaboration with governments and conservation NGOs across the globe. Partnerships based upon open, honest dialogues that result in effective on-the-ground programs are fundamental to generating the creative ideas, legislative changes, and critical solutions necessary to secure wildlife worldwide.

Once again, I find myself humbled not only by the relentless dedication of the IFAW global team, but by the tireless support and unwavering commitment of its supporters as well. Individual donors, foundations, and representatives of governments have placed their faith in IFAW to ensure tangible results that allow both animals and people to thrive together.

I thank you for supporting us as we continue our conservation journey over the next 50 years. Your commitment to this journey is as important as our own.

With heartfelt thanks on behalf of the International Fund for Animal Welfare.

Joyce C. Doria  
Chair, Board of Directors

▲ Zimbabwe Elephant Nursery keeper accompanies a rescued elephant on a walk through protected landscape.

# message from the ceo



The past two decades of my time with IFAW have left me awestruck at the unwavering mission of our organization and the resilience of its programmatic initiatives across the globe. Underscoring the simple yet critical fact that we need to share the planet, IFAW champions fundamental ideals: namely that individual animals matter, that conservation must always include people, that trust must always be earned.

It is these ideals, embodied through diverse projects and peoples around the world, that have propelled the organization for the past 50 years. In 1969, IFAW took on one problem threatening one species in one part of the world, ultimately saving more than 1 million seal pups with the ban on whitecoat harp seal products. Since then we have taken on more problems threatening more species in over 40 countries—rescuing more animals and securing more habitats than at any other point in our history. As we recognize the diverse breadth of our work, we once

again reaffirm our commitment to achieve a world where animals and people thrive together, both now and in the future.

This year has brought us numerous successes. We achieved on-the-ground results that you'll learn more about in the pages of this report, including our continued protection of critical habitats and keystone species in Africa, our landscape conservation efforts in Asia, and our disaster response efforts in the aftermath of the deadly Camp Fire which ravaged Butte County, California. In so many ways, each of the past 50 years has given us the resilience to meet the challenges of today head-on by laying the groundwork of both conservation and animal welfare. In fiscal year 19 we also successfully rolled out a new global brand and website that helps position us to grow a global movement.

At IFAW we are inspired to tell our story—a story which we work to replay across the globe each and every day. It is a story that inspires us to save lives—whether that

story plays out through innovative programs, through the development of fundamental scientific research, or via our long-term collaboration with governments and local communities. Our philosophy underlies the belief that today's challenges require flexibility as well as creativity because we know there are no one-size-fits-all solutions in conservation. Hence, our work must focus on doing what is necessary to have the greatest impact for wildlife to allow us to continue saving species—including our own.

We are fully aware that we cannot do it alone. There lies tremendous and often untapped potential in what I like to call the “unusual suspects”—unlikely heroes and surprising partners that emerge, bridging the divide between people and communities. From the landowners in New South Wales, Australia, who see themselves as caretakers of their local areas, entrusted with helping local species thrive, to the Global Shapers Community of Harare, Zimbabwe, a group of young professionals who work to improve their communities and address local as well as global challenges of the day: it is people like these who provide inspiration and collective momentum for conservation of the world's species. One animal at a time. One habitat at a time. One community at a time.

Today, IFAW is better positioned than ever before to help animals and people thrive together. We have the infrastructure and the influence to take bold action, as well as the experts and partners to find solutions that work. Our commitment and our compassion over these past 50 years compel us away from a doomsday narrative so often heard around the world toward an outcome that embraces hope and recognizes the power of ordinary people to make a difference. We thank you for being a part of our collective story. But most especially, for inspiring us to save lives every day.

Azzedine T. Downes  
President and CEO  
International Fund for Animal Welfare

◀ IFAW CEO, Azzedine Downes, feeds a bowl of fruit to a palm civet undergoing rehabilitation at CWRC.

# leadership

## global board members

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Stanley Brogan  
Graeme Cottam  
Brian Hutchinson  
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H.E. Professor Judi Wakhungu

## executive staff

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Kelvin Alie  
*Executive Vice President*

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*VP, Conservation & Animal Welfare*

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Matthew Collis  
*Program Director, International Policy*

Phillip Kuvawoga  
*Program Director, Landscape Conservation*

Jimmie Mandima  
*Deputy VP, Conservation*

Vivek Menon  
*Senior Advisor for Strategic Partnerships*

Cynthia Milburn  
*Senior Advisor for Policy Development*

Kathleen Moore  
*Program Director, Wildlife Rescue Deputy VP, Animal Rescue*

Patrick R. Ramage  
*Program Director, Marine Conservation*

Rikkert Reijnen  
*Program Director, Wildlife Crime*

Brian Sharp  
*Program Director, Marine Mammal Rescue & Research*

Shannon Walajtys  
*Program Director, Disaster Response & Risk Reduction*

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*Country Director, United States of America*

Joaquin de la Torre Ponce  
*Regional Representative, Latin America & Caribbean*

Grace Ge Gabriel  
*Regional Director, Asia*

Neil Greenwood  
*Regional Director, Southern Africa*

Jeff He  
*Country Director, China*

James Isiche  
*Regional Director, East Africa*

Rebecca Keeble  
*Regional Director, Oceania*

Robert Kless  
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Staci McLennan  
*Director European Union Office, Belgium*

Katherine Miller  
*Deputy VP, International Operations*

Dr. Elsayed Ahmed Mohamed  
*Regional Director, Middle East & North Africa*

James Sawyer  
*Regional Director, United Kingdom*

Céline Sissler-Bienvenu  
*Country Director, France*

Joep van Mierlo  
*Country Director, The Netherlands Regional Director, Europe*

Patricia Zaat  
*Country Director, Canada*

# landscape conservation

Much of IFAW's work is anchored around rescue and rehabilitation of animals. But there's a third "r" in this trilogy—release. And to safely release a wild animal to thrive and survive requires safe space. That's why IFAW's Landscape Conservation Program works to ensure that habitats remain healthy and viable, able to provide ecosystem functions to both animals and people who call them home.

Empirical evidence shows that the last decade was almost certainly the hottest on record. Temperatures were on average 1.1°C hotter than in the pre-industrial period and moving towards the 1.5°C increase that could cause the loss of vital ecosystems. In addition, socioeconomic development is putting pressure on land resources and further compromising habitat quality. So, there's never been a more important time for us to take bold action to stem the threats to our planet.

When habitats deteriorate so do the animals who live there. People suffer too. In eight endangered landscapes around the world IFAW is empowering people to invest in their natural assets. Across Africa, in India, and in China, we are implementing community conservation projects that benefit people, reduce human-wildlife conflict and protect iconic species like elephants and their habitats.

IFAW's Landscape Conservation Program helps secure fragile landscapes for people and wildlife in the places they call home. Just like our landscapes, IFAW's work transcends borders and cultures, sectors, and scales. Everyone —animals and people—needs a safe habitat to call home.



Landscape Conservation

# Panda-Masuie Forest Reserve—rejuvenating wildlife



## not a single elephant has been poached on Panda-Masuie since 2017.



- ▲ IFAW CEO, Azzedine Downes, and Philip Kuvawoga meeting Seneliswe Sibanda, the cook and gardener of Panda Masuie.
- ▲ The WIL-Panda Masuie Release Project near Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe.
- ◀ Elephants near a watering hole in Zimbabwe.

Rescue and rehabilitation is an indispensable part of IFAW’s work, but it doesn’t stop there. What about when the time comes to return animals to the wild? For IFAW, finding—and securing—places to release the animals we help save is as important as saving the animals in the first place, especially as habitats are under increasing pressure due to climate change.

In Zimbabwe that place is the Panda-Masuie Forest Reserve—a vast 85,000-acre (34,000 hectares) habitat close to the world-famous Victoria Falls. This is where IFAW is supporting Wild is Life’s Zimbabwe Elephant Nursery in its mission to release into the wild the orphan elephants they have hand-reared.

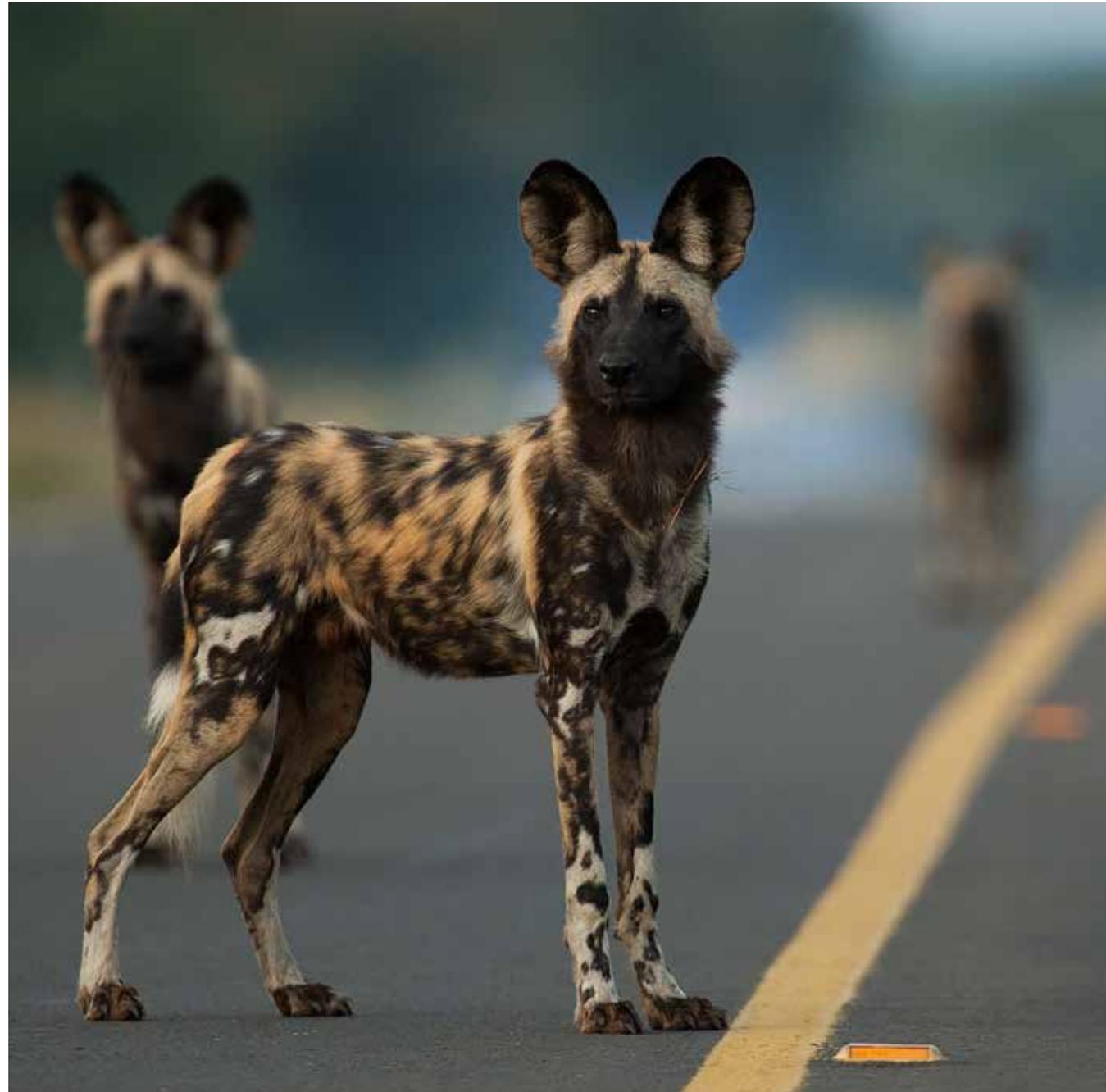
Panda-Masuie was once a hunting concession, and most wildlife had learned to give it a wide berth. In the past two years, since a lease was signed that converts the area to non-hunting use, Panda-Masuie has seen a remarkable rejuvenation in the variety of species and density of wildlife.

Now large herds of wild elephants traverse the reserve, including two rescued and relocated elephants that have successfully joined one of the family groups. Lions roam, herds of up to 100 buffalo are regularly spotted and two packs of endangered wild dogs make their home in the reserve. Other rare species like leopard, caracal, vulnerable brown hyena, and bat-eared fox have returned to the Panda-Masuie forest—all species that had not been seen in years.

Investing in infrastructure and gaining the support of local communities has been crucial to the success of the project. Projects in the area now employ more than 25 people from the local Woodlands community. With at least five people supported by every job created, Panda-Masuie has become a vital support for this community.

Rangers protect Panda-Masuie’s elephants and other wildlife from the threat of poachers, patrolling many miles of the forest every day. The good news is that they are finding fewer snares and less evidence of poachers than ever. Under their watch not a single elephant has been poached on Panda-Masuie since 2017.

# Malawi-Zambia Transboundary Landscape —wildlife beyond borders



Wildlife knows no borders. Creatures of habit and instinct, animals migrate to meet their needs—better grazing during the lean months, access to water during the dry seasons and a safe habitat to raise and nourish their young. Increasingly though, it’s humans and the impact of climate change that threaten the ability of wildlife to survive and thrive.

In the [Zambia and Malawi](#) border area are three wilderness spaces rich with natural beauty and diversity of wildlife. Once wildlife roamed freely across the corridors of land that link the parks. Now communities of people share the space and the land. The main goals of IFAW’s [Malawi-Zambia Transboundary Landscape Project](#) are to reduce poaching and to combat wildlife trafficking, harnessing the help of the communities in the three parks.

How do we do this? By engaging the community in every aspect of the work we do. From its base in [Kasungu](#), the project employs over [100 local men and women](#). Together these staffers earn the equivalent of US\$26,782 annually, which contributes to supporting an average of five dependents each. That’s [500 family members](#) benefiting from the project to end wildlife crime.

[124 new officers](#), male and female, graduated a five-month training program in fiscal year 19. Thanks to funding from development agencies such as [The United States Agency for International Development \(USAID\)](#) and the [German Corporation for International Cooperation \(GIZ\)](#) a communication station is now functioning and enabling rangers to be in constant contact with their transboundary colleagues.

Rangers, supported by [Community Enforcement Networks \(CEN\)](#), a cadre of brave civilian informants, have made great strides in reducing wildlife poaching and trafficking. Between January and June 2019, 296 kilograms of ivory were seized by the Malawi-Zambia Transboundary Landscape Project. In the same period, they seized four live pangolins and eight kilograms of dried pangolin scales. A total of 25 individuals were arrested and convicted (15 for ivory and 10 for pangolin-related crimes).

[Poaching of elephants in Kasungu National Park has virtually ceased](#). The park’s elephant population has increased to more than 80, up from fewer than 50 three years ago.

**100  
local  
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employed by the project.

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increase in the park’s  
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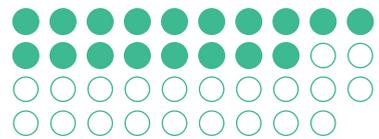
▲ Head tailor Basho Mngopola sews a ranger uniform.

◀ A pack of African wild dogs. Led by an alpha female, “painted wolves” as they are also known, have an 80% success rate when hunting.



Landscape Conservation

# landscape conservation in India



**18 of 39 rhinos**

living in the park today were rescued, rehabilitated and released with support from IFAW and WTI.



The [Manas National Park](#)—a UNESCO World Heritage Site—was left exploited after poaching and deforestation took over during ethnic conflict two decades ago. In 2006 we stepped in and partnered with the [Wildlife Trust of India \(WTI\)](#) and the [Assam Forest Department](#) to create the transboundary [Greater Manas Landscape](#).

Our holistic approach of combining animal rescue, landscape conservation and community engagement has resulted in the return of iconic species and the restoration of ecological integrity, allowing beautiful landscapes to thrive again.

When we started our work in Manas there were no rhinos left. Thanks to our work and in partnership with WTI, we were able to rescue, rehabilitate and release rhinos back into the wild. Today there are a total 39 rhinos, of which 18 are due to IFAW and WTI work. In July 2018 we rescued two more rhino calves from the Assam floods. Then in April we rescued 34 Indian vultures and were able to release 30 of them back into the wild.

We have partnered with local leaders and communities to show that it's possible to rehabilitate Asian elephant populations and to provide a sanctuary for big cats (such as lions, tigers, and cougars). 24 elephants and five clouded leopards have gone back to the wild after rescue and rehabilitation.

## tigers and humans co-existing in Central India

A growing human population in need of better infrastructure is clashing more regularly with Central India's tigers who inhabit surrounding protected areas. Tigers are increasingly found outside the protected areas as they search for new territory or mates, leading to conflict with humans or an increase in poaching. Together with WTI we are working to ensure the long-term presence of tigers and their free movement in this area. In addition, we provide training and support for forestry staff, together with legal assistance. As of November 2018, we have trained 34 frontline personnel from across 10 ranges of [Kanha National Park](#) to avoid human-wildlife conflicts and support co-existence.

## bringing elephant conservation to mainstream conversations

We brought the conservation of elephants into mainstream conversations during [Gaj Mahotsav](#), a four-day event that IFAW and WTI helped organize. We gathered more than 6,000 policy makers, industry leaders, conservationists, cultural influencers and citizens of [Delhi](#).

The event led to several policy wins, including key states working on removing encroachments, constructing ramps and collaborating with railways, tea estates, and power companies to adopt measures

that give the right of passage to elephants. In June 2019 the [Ministry of Road, Transport and Highways](#) directed national linear infrastructure agencies to ensure proper animal passage plans in road projects through wildlife habitats.

In July 2019, the first elephant corridor that IFAW and WTI secured in 2005 in [Karnataka](#) was extended by an additional 500 meters by the [State Forest Department](#).



▲ Wild tiger in Assam, India.

▲ Rhino keeper hand feeds two young rescued rhinos at IFAW-WTI's Centre for Wildlife Rehabilitation and Conservation (CWRC).

◀ Ganga, an IFAW-WTI rehabilitated rhino, and her calf, Peter, roaming in Manas National Park in India.



India

**101 life-size elephant sculptures placed around India to highlight humans and elephants living in harmony.**

Landscape Conservation

# securing fragile landscapes from China to Africa to India



## solar pumps for safer water

It may be small but the Chikolongo Livelihood Project, in Malawi, is mighty in the results it has shown for the community. **IFAW's support has been a game-changer.** Until 2015 up to three villagers a month lost their lives to human-wildlife conflict (mostly crocodiles) while fetching water from the Shire River in Liwonde National Park. With the installation of a solar-powered pump, water is pumped into the village and not a single soul has been lost to human-wildlife conflict since 2016.

**Poaching of wildlife and fish has been reduced** and the community now focuses on earning an income from irrigated crops, fish farming, beekeeping, and poultry. In fiscal year 19 villagers took 10 tons of rice to commercial market, crops of vegetables are sold to nearby tourism ventures, and more than 1,500 people have food security. A well-maintained fence keeps elephants and other wildlife out of people's fields. Community attitudes toward wildlife, and elephants in particular, have improved.

## freedom to move

Elephants' freedom to move in Africa between habitats along traditional migratory routes has been hindered by growing human populations, infrastructure development, and climate change. Since 2013, when IFAW signed a ground-breaking agreement with the Maasai community, including leases with 1,600 landowners, we've been working to secure the elephant corridor that connects Amboseli National Park in Kenya with Kilimanjaro National Park in Tanzania. In 2018 IFAW renewed its agreement, this time with 2,600 landowners, for another five-year term.

## right of passage for wild elephants in India

In India, Asian elephants have used the same migratory routes for hundreds of years to move from habitat to habitat. Infrastructure, such as roads and railways, has improved quality of life for humans, but projects that bisect migration routes can be disastrous for animals. Every year elephants are killed or injured by trains and vehicles.

IFAW and the Wildlife Trust of India have launched Gaj Yatra, a campaign to preserve 101 critical corridors for elephants so that people and elephants can coexist. One highlight of fiscal year 19 was the unveiling of 101 life-sized elephants by noted Indian artists and sculptors. These elephants are being placed in public spaces and government offices around India, a visual **encouragement for humans and elephants to live together in harmony.**

## developing communities in China

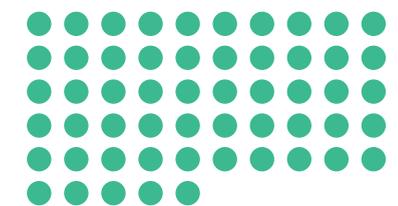
In China, community development has played an important role in IFAW's Asian Elephant Project since its inception two decades ago. As Asian elephants frequently stray from protected areas into villages and towns, we have rolled out **comprehensive human-wildlife conflict safety trainings** for the communities living alongside elephants.

So far more than 1,000 people have received the training in Xishuangbanna, at least 30% of them women from the Hani ethnic minority group. In another initiative, IFAW trained villagers to build and tend beehive fences. Since elephants avoid bees, the fences discourage elephants from entering the villagers' fields and destroying crops. IFAW sponsored 55 beehives for communities after the training.

◀ Solar features powering the pump station that brings in water to the Chikolongo community through a pipeline.

**water comes to the people and not a single soul has been lost to human-wildlife conflict since 2016.**

**2,600 landowners have agreed to secure an elephant corridor.**



**55 beehives**

sponsored by IFAW to create beehive fences that discourage elephants from entering fields.



▲ Chikolongo community members pose for a photo with IFAW staff.

◀ Elephants feeding in the wild.



# law enforcement



**500**

wildlife law enforcement, police and customs agents trained.

**10**

community wildlife rangers who graduated from an IFAW-sponsored training were deployed.

**50**

total number of IFAW-trained community rangers.

IFAW collaborates with government and community rangers. We provide training, coaching, infrastructure, equipment (such as GPS, binoculars, air pressure horns, and torches), clothing, and other resources to prevent crimes against wild animals in the places they call home. In 15 sessions we trained more than 500 customs agents, front-line border guards, animal quarantine officers, port inspectors, environmental police and wildlife law enforcement personnel with our Detecting Illegal Species Through Prevention (DISRUPT) trainings.

In fiscal year 19 we successfully wrapped up the Horn of Africa Wildlife Crime Prevention project, which was initiated by the Dutch government and implemented under the leadership of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature—Netherlands Committee (IUCN NL). A great deal was accomplished in a short amount of time, including the establishment of a regional intergovernmental platform: The Horn of Africa Wildlife Enforcement Network. We also strengthened law enforcement capacity in Kenya and Ethiopia using community scouts to supplement national wildlife authorities.

Through our tenBoma method, we continue to organize, train, equip, and inform government and community rangers in core landscape areas to combat wildlife crime. IFAW’s tenBoma platform pioneers systems-based solutions through fresh thinking from veteran counter-terrorism experts, bold community-based projects, and key cross-sector partnerships to achieve three simple, yet powerful goals: Stopping poachers before they kill; disrupting and dismantling criminal networks; and empowering local people. This work receives support from the European Union, the TUI Care Foundation, and many generous individual donors.

## Kenya-Tanzania transfrontier conservation area

In the Amboseli-Tsavo-Kilimanjaro landscape 10 community wildlife rangers who graduated from an IFAW-sponsored three-month training were deployed, bringing the total number of IFAW-trained community rangers to 50. The Olgulului Community Wildlife Rangers (OCWR) were also joined by a team of eight young Maasai women who completed their initial training and now form “team Lioness,” one of Kenya’s first all-female ranger units.

## Uganda-DR Congo transfrontier conservation area

IFAW undertook a tenBoma-based intelligence gathering and analysis training of 16 rangers from Queen Elisabeth National Park in Uganda and two from Virunga National Park in DR Congo. In Uganda and DR Congo, another 55 law enforcement officers based at airports, seaports, border points, and in parks were trained, as well as 25 judicial and prosecutorial officers – which has increased arrests and convictions.

## Malawi-Zambia transboundary landscape

With funding support from the United States Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, IFAW teamed up with Malawi’s Department of National Parks and Wildlife (DNPW Malawi) for Operation DISRUPT. This started with a series of trainings for different law enforcement officers from Malawi, Mozambique, and Zambia. In addition, Community Enforcement Networks (CENs) were meaningfully enhanced and extended. Our efforts with Operation DISRUPT are disrupting criminal networks in the Malawi-Zambia transboundary landscape. Results so far include the seizure of 380 kilograms of ivory, two pangolins, 28 firearms, hippo teeth, and bush meat. A total of 76 arrests and charges have been made.

## training dogs to stop smuggling of wildlife from Benin

West Africa is on the rise as a region from where wildlife traffickers smuggle poached pangolins, elephants, and other wildlife to markets in Asia and Europe. We therefore developed a wildlife crime detection training program for dog units in Cotonou, Benin. The program trains dogs to detect animal parts like ivory and pangolin scales, and includes best practices and high standards for dog welfare. It also prepares the handlers, who may not have had any previous experience working with dogs. Once trained, the units will deploy to strategic locations like ports, airports, border crossings, and the boundaries of protected wildlife habitats.

In this first year, as per agreement with the government of the Republic of Benin, we focused on renovating and modernizing the existing K9 Brigade facility. Dog training began and seven dogs were

selected to continue with IFAW’s training program to become part of a dog/handler unit. Some of the dogs come from local communities or were transferred from French shelters. So far, four police officers have been selected as handlers for the detection dogs.

## workshops and collaboration in China and Vietnam

In Asia, IFAW collaborated with Chinese government agencies and the Police Academy to build political commitment and to enhance enforcement. IFAW organized five capacity building trainings and communication workshops for more than 240 frontline law enforcement officers. We also supported two workshops that let customs agencies from China and Vietnam meet together to enhance regional coordination, communication, and collaboration to disrupt wildlife trafficking.

These workshops contributed to Vietnam Customs making four important seizures totaling 16,498 kilograms of ivory and pangolin scales and 34 kilograms of rhino horn.

**98**

rangers, law enforcement officers and judicial officers who received tenBoma-based intelligence gathering and analysis training.

**5 & 240**

number of trainings/workshops & the number of frontline law enforcement participants.

**16,498**

kilograms of ivory and pangolin scales seized.

**34**

kilograms of rhino horn seized.

◀ Wildlife detection dog with trainer in Benin.

# wildlife cybercrime



We cannot stop wildlife crime by cracking down on poachers and organized traffickers alone. **We also need to reduce the demand for live animals and animal body parts.** So, at the interface of supply and demand we are disrupting illegal wildlife trade on online marketplaces.

We are doing this by working with over 35 online technology companies to ensure that illegal wildlife products do not appear on their online platforms. We continue to roll out the Coalition to End Wildlife Trafficking Online, in partnership with the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and TRAFFIC. In its first year the Coalition has already seen companies remove thousands of advertisements from their platforms.

In October 2018, at the Illegal Wildlife Trade Conference hosted by the UK government in London, we ensured that wildlife cybercrime was high on the conference agenda and we participated in several panels. We also launched the Global Wildlife Cybercrime Action Plan, which enhances cooperation, communication, and collaboration across all key sectors.

Many of our results and outputs in 2018 and 2019 were made possible by a grant from the Adessium Foundation.

**at the interface of supply and demand we disrupt illegal wildlife trade on online marketplaces.**

▲ IFAW delegation visits Alibaba headquarters to promote bilateral cooperation on disrupting illegal wildlife trade linked to the internet.

# demand reduction

**On the demand side, we are changing the behaviors of wildlife consumers** through campaigns that raise awareness and mobilize society to make wildlife consumption socially unacceptable. In China, IFAW organized more than 10 events with multiple private and public sector partners to raise public awareness on illegal wildlife products, reaching an audience of over 10 million people. Our relationship with key media outlets ensured campaign coverage in 60% of urban China that has metro systems in operation, leveraging US\$25 million in-kind support. Our innovative use of technology enables us to reach our target audiences with tailored campaigns. In 2018, as recognition for our efforts to raise public awareness, we were awarded the

Annual Public Service Communication Award at the 8th China Charity Festival.

In Europe, we continue to engage the European Commission as part of our campaign to close domestic ivory markets. This campaign has been generating significant press coverage and is extending our outreach.

IFAW will continue to leverage pro bono advertising online and offline to reach even more people with public awareness messaging. We will also continue our monitoring of wildlife markets, our information sharing with companies and enforcement authorities, and our efforts to build higher political will to address illegal wildlife trade.

**10 events organized with private and public sector partners to raise awareness about illegal wildlife products.**

# strengthening policy & legislation

**we help produce the strongest possible global, regional, national and local legislation and policies for the protection of individual wild animals, populations, and their habitats.**

We help produce the strongest possible global, regional, national, and local legislation and policies for the protection of individual wild animals, populations, and their habitats.

We achieved several key results in fiscal year 19 related to wildlife cybercrime and we invested in research and advocacy work to highlight the issue. We successfully got the topic on the agenda of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) CoP18 in Geneva. At CITES CoP18, the Parties adopted the proposals to amend a resolution (Res. Conf. 11.3) and create a new Decision on Wildlife Crime Linked to the Internet. We are now looking at how we can use our networks and resources to ensure implementation.

**We are also working to close online and offline ivory markets around the world.** In December 2018, for example, after many years of campaigning, we saw the United Kingdom pass one of the toughest ivory acts to date. IFAW actively monitors these markets and we've seen significant reductions in ivory trade after several countries implemented bans. The European Commission is reviewing potential changes to current legislation. Australia is also moving towards banning domestic ivory trade. So, we're making progress. However, legal ivory markets and inaction against large illegal markets create the conditions for criminal syndicates to continue trafficking ivory.



# wildlife rescue

Our efforts to rescue, rehabilitate, and release injured and orphaned wildlife into secure habitats span five continents and include a wide variety of species. Our approach to wildlife rescue work is a commitment to best practices, building capacity, and learning from our experiences and partners.

This year presented us with thousands of animals fighting for their lives, due in part to the impact of climate change. Thanks to our global supporters we were able to achieve important milestones in rescue and release, build awareness in communities and increase the capacity of our partners to protect wildlife.

In fiscal year 19, IFAW supported the rescue, rehabilitation, and, where appropriate, the release of more than 6,700 wild animals around the world, including elephants, rhinos, big cats, primates, bears, birds, and reptiles.

# elephants one step closer to life in the wild



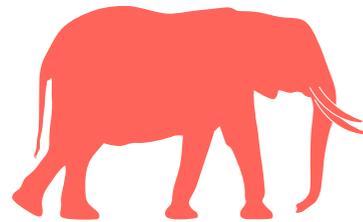
IFAW is working closely with partners and government authorities to enable the rescue, rehabilitation and release of elephants into secure landscapes. In fiscal year 19, in three different countries, IFAW and our partners have translocated 15 elephants to protected soft release sites in or near national parks.

In Zimbabwe, IFAW has partnered with Wild is Life's Zimbabwe Elephant Nursery, a dedicated and passionate team of expert wildlife rehabilitators, led by founder Roxy Danckwerts, to rescue five additional elephants in fiscal year 19 and translocate eight older orphans to Panda-Masuiie Forest Reserve for the first phase of their release.

In Zambia, IFAW works with Game Rangers International and their Zambia Elephant Orphanage Project team on a science-led rehabilitation program, where two elephants were translocated in fiscal year 19 from the nursery site in Lusaka to a protected soft release site in Kafue National Park.

Both of these projects are the first of their kind in their countries. Elephants in both Zimbabwe and Zambia project sites will gradually integrate into the wild as they master critical survival skills learned from interactions with wild herds.

In India, with our partner Wildlife Trust of India, five elephants at the Centre for Wildlife Rehabilitation and Conservation (CWRC) in Assam have been translocated and will soon be released into wild areas, as there are no immediate threats to their safety.



15

elephants translocated in fiscal year 19 to protected soft release sites in or near national parks.

▲ Roxy Danckwerts, founder of Wild is Life at ZEN, observing rescued elephants roaming in their protected area.

# improving the odds for injured and orphaned wildlife in India



Through the Centre for Wildlife Rehabilitation and Conservation (CWRC) and Mobile Veterinary Service (MSV) units in the Assam region, IFAW and partner Wildlife Trust of India (WTI) treated 390 animals fiscal year 19 and 76% of all animals rescued were released back into the wild.

Two rhino calves were rescued during the annual Assam floods, and four others were translocated to an acclimatization enclosure in Manas National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage site that IFAW and WTI have been instrumental in restoring. When ready for life in the wild, at least two of the rhinos will be pioneers in resettling a new area of the park, called Panbari, where rhinos have been locally extinct for years.

Other milestones in fiscal year 19 included placing tracking collars on four released elephants to enable one year of post-release monitoring, rescuing 34 vultures after secondary poisoning (achieving a remarkable 88% release rate), and treating elephants, leopards, small cats, and civets.

During fiscal year 19 IFAW and WTI also established the Kaziranga Discovery Park, an interpretation center for the general public. We also shared expertise with veterinarians from Cambodia and Vietnam, and supported the lifesaving work of Emergency Response Networks in India, which rescued thousands of snakes, birds, and community animals.

390

animals treated in the Assam region.

76%

annual release rate in fiscal year 19.

◀ Rhino keepers tending to rhinos rescued from floods at IFAW-WTI's Centre for Wildlife Rescue and Conservation (CWRC).

# giving a second chance to birds of prey in China



Since 2001, IFAW's Beijing Raptor Rescue Center (BRRC) on the grounds of Beijing Normal University has treated more than 5,000 injured raptors. In fiscal year 19, 325 raptors from eight different species were treated and 178 were released back to the skies. The year included two monthly highs (51 cases in September 2018 and 60 in May 2019) since the Center was established, the Center's first treatment of black-winged kites, and the release and successful post-release monitoring of a golden eagle.

BRRC received more than 320 visitors, conducted educational programming for more than 300 students, and participated in eight scientific studies with Chinese research and educational institutions. More than 90 of the admissions in fiscal year 19 were initiated by government departments, demonstrating that wildlife protection awareness in China is growing.

**325**

injured raptors treated at the rescue center in fiscal year 19.

**178**

raptors released back to the skies.

**5,000**

total number of raptors treated at the center since it was founded.

▲ Zhou Lei, a rehabilitator at the IFAW-supported Beijing Raptor Centre, releases a long-eared owl.

# tackling the challenge of wild cats in captivity



**we have developed guidelines to cooperatively rescue big cats from dangerous and inhumane conditions.**

We continue our efforts to fight private ownership and commercial exploitation of big cats in the USA. One on-the-ground highlight was working together with Turpentine Creek Wildlife Refuge to rescue two bobcats that had been kept as pets. They had been abandoned in cages and were facing rising floodwaters when they were rescued.

of rescuing and relocating big cats to sanctuaries can be undertaken efficiently and quickly. It's faster and more effective because the most qualified experts will lead the response—the sanctuaries themselves. This leads to the best outcome for all involved—especially the animals.

IFAW continued to lead and expand the Big Cat Sanctuary Alliance (BCSA), a network of qualified sanctuaries across the USA. Together with BCSA we have developed guidelines to cooperatively rescue big cats (such as lions, tigers, and cougars) from dangerous and inhumane conditions. These guidelines will help sanctuaries provide a direct, coordinated rescue response for big cats in need, without a middleman. This means that the sanctuaries, funders, transporters, veterinarians, first responders, etc. involved in the (very complex) process

In fiscal year 19 we supported important progress on policy in the USA. The Big Cat Public Safety Act was introduced in the U.S. House and now has more than 220 bipartisan co-sponsors. This is the most significant momentum that this bill has ever had.

We also helped bring important national attention to the issue by providing information for a National Geographic print and online exposé on the crisis of captive big cats in the USA. National Geographic published an investigative piece on U.S. captive big cats in

November (printed in the December issue), which highlighted IFAW and partner sanctuaries.

In fiscal year 19, we also organized the fourth Big Cat Sanctuary Conference, which included 50 participants from 20 different organizations.

▲ Tiger enjoying a pumpkin as enrichment inside its enclosure at the Lions, Tigers & Bears sanctuary.

# securing a future for koalas in australia



Koala populations are declining dramatically in Australia, and habitat loss is the number one cause. In fiscal year 19, IFAW launched a holistic strategy to rescue, rehabilitate, and release koalas into secure habitats. To strengthen rescue and rehabilitation capacity in New South Wales, IFAW is supporting a veterinary position at Friends of the Koala's Triage, Pathology and Treatment Clinic. In the first seven weeks of the position being in place (mid-May to end June 2019), 45 koalas had been treated. Increased expertise and the ability to treat immediately and onsite, rather than transport animals to other hospitals, means that more animals are saved. We aim to increase the release rates and conduct post-release monitoring as we move forward.

In South West Victoria, koalas are facing a welfare crisis due to being displaced from natural habitat into private blue gum plantations, where they become collateral damage of tree clearing and chipping.

Collaborating with Port Macquarie Koala Hospital, IFAW held a veterinary workshop for 52 vets and vet nurses and sponsored the publication of the Koala Rehabilitation Manual, a go-to authoritative guide for wildlife carers.

IFAW commissioned research by Western Sydney University's Dr. Edward Narayan, which was the first of its kind to look at physiological stress levels in wild koalas using non-invasive methods. The research, published in April 2019, found that land clearing was the top stressor for koalas, pointing to the need to consider the harm to koalas from land clearing and development projects.

To help secure koala habitat, IFAW launched a partnership with Bangalow Koalas to restore a 50 kilometer koala wildlife corridor in the Northern Rivers, New South Wales. 122 volunteers planted 1,500 trees in a single hour, including koala food and medicinal trees as well as rainforest species to provide canopy.

**1,500 trees planted in one hour to support a koala wildlife corridor.**

▲ IFAW Wildlife Campaigner, Josey Sharrad, plants one of many seedlings in Australia.

# rescue efforts in Africa



In Burkina Faso, IFAW is helping to rehabilitate Nania, an orphan elephant calf who was just two months old when she was separated from her herd. We will help Nania find her herd and prepare her for reintegration to the wild.

We are working with the local authorities and community leaders to ensure that Nania learns the survival skills necessary to thrive in a wild elephant herd. Over the course of this year, IFAW organized the move of Nania and her rehabilitation companion Whisty, a sheep, to her new boma—an enclosure within the Deux-Balé National Park.

Only a few dozen elephants live in the national park where Nania was born, and there are just 6,800 elephants in all of Burkina Faso. IFAW is laying the groundwork to help more elephant orphans, because Nania is not alone. Countless calves are lost each year in Africa, so saving even one of them makes a difference.

In Morocco, IFAW protects the endangered Barbary macaque and its habitat in the Ifrane National Park, located in the Atlas Mountains. The species is endemic to Morocco and Algeria, and these monkeys are often the victims of wildlife trade. IFAW is working closely with the Rabat Zoo and government authorities to patrol the park, rescue individuals from illegal traders and further secure the park borders. Funded by the Dutch Postcode Lottery, the Born to be Wild program was initiated by Animal Advocacy and Protection (AAP) and executed together with IFAW.

Additionally, in fiscal year 19 IFAW provided critical support to rescue 280 lesser flamingo chicks who had been abandoned by their parents after water levels dropped. The chicks were rescued and cared for by our partners at the Southern African Foundation for the Conservation of Coastal Birds (SANCCOB). A few months later, the birds were released at the Kamfers Dam to resume their life in the wild.

**280**

number of abandoned lesser flamingo chicks rescued and later released back to life in the wild.

▲ In Burkina Faso, IFAW is helping to rehabilitate Nania, an orphan elephant calf who was just two months old when she was separated from her herd. Round-the-clock care from her handler Salifou Sanogo will help prepare her for reintegration to the wild.



Section 4

# disaster response

We put ourselves on the frontlines of natural and manmade disasters to rescue animals in need. Fires, floods, heatwaves, and other natural disasters related to climate change seem to become ever more common, putting even more animals and habitats at risk. Over the years, we've rescued and rehabilitated thousands of animals threatened by natural disasters. This year alone, IFAW rescued 4,730 wild animals, an estimated 1 million bees, 14,500 companion animals, and 18,204 livestock.

From South America to Asia, we supported emergency responses in 15 countries, including Brazil, India, Pakistan, Tanzania, the United States, Guatemala, Indonesia, Mexico, Myanmar, Serbia, South Africa, France, Vietnam, Ukraine, and Australia.

# intervention highlights



Lifesaving interventions took place following the earthquake and subsequent tsunami in Sulawesi, Indonesia, in September 2018. Our Southeast Asia Animal Rescue Network provided dogs and cats with emergency veterinary care. As the disaster transitioned to recovery, the team provided pet food and temporary sheltering for community members and their animals.

Throughout November and December 2018, IFAW deployed to Butte County, California, where we provided trained search and rescue teams and temporary sheltering for pets after the devastating fire reduced the entire community of Paradise to ashes. In the weeks after the fire, IFAW led efforts to reunify hundreds of pets with their owners.

A heatwave in Australia during December affected hundreds of flying foxes, who received life-saving care thanks to several organisations working together, supported by IFAW. Disaster response can be some of the most dangerous work we do, but sometimes we're able to make the biggest difference simply by sharing expertise, helping to coordinate or providing grant funding when urgently needed.

In May 2019 we deployed to Oklahoma to support temporary sheltering for pets evacuated from flooded communities. The team then travelled to Arkansas to partner with Wings of Rescue and together we flew out 172 rescue cats and dogs to our national partners so that local animal shelters could make space for pets owned by families that were displaced or in temporary humanitarian shelters.

**sometimes we're able to make the biggest difference simply by sharing expertise, helping to coordinate or providing grant funding when urgently needed.**

◀ Kayla Lui, a rescue volunteer, carries a rescued dog with burns to a transport vehicle.



# disaster risk reduction work

When communities and authorities work together to reduce threats to humans and animals, lives are saved. In fiscal year 19, we trained 214 participants in Tanzania, India, Vietnam, the United States, Serbia, and Mexico in disaster relief strategies. In June 2019, IFAW helped establish a Cohabitation Sheltering program for the state of Mississippi, USA. This innovative model allows families and pets to stay together in emergency shelters.

As a follow-up to the IFAW flood response in June 2018, our teams, along with the government of Quintana Roo, Mexico, returned to the devastated community of Chumpon to support animal and human relief distribution as well as to provide ongoing, critical veterinary care. Our team also collected data from community members and leaders to aid resiliency building and better planning for future disasters.

Our annual trainings continued in Myanmar with our government partners, with the aim of building local capacity. This year we provided training for 49 people in disaster management, emergency evacuation, and sheltering best practices.

At the request of several local NGOs in Tanzania, IFAW presented the country's first Animals in Disasters workshop. Participants included government authorities, IFAW Regional Director James Isiche and Disaster Response & Risk Reduction global technical rescue experts.

We remain committed to working with our local partners to support planning initiatives at every level of government—because every life matters.

**214**

number of participants in Tanzania, India, Vietnam, the United States, Serbia, and Mexico trained in disaster relief strategies.

**49**

people trained in disaster management in Myanmar.

▲ Shannon Walajtys, Director of IFAW's Disaster and Risk Management program, on the ground in Oklahoma coordinating animal shelter efforts after a major flood.



# co-creating co-existence

Communities all over the world live alongside animals, both inside their communities and in the habitats they share. When human communities coexist peacefully with animals, humans and animals benefit from one another, but when the relationship is out of balance, conflict and disease leads to suffering for animals and people. We collaborate closely with communities everywhere we work to ensure that, in the face of disease, disasters, and changes in habitat, people and animals can thrive together in the place they call home.



Co-creating Co-existence

# thriving together around the world



**5,000+**

dogs helped through veterinary care, owner outreach and community partnership.

**79%**

fewer dogs in poor condition.

**0**

local rabies cases.

**2,000**

curriculum packets distributed to communities across Northern Canada to promote responsible dog ownership and safety.

- ▲ Jan Hannah, Campaign Manager for Northern Dogs Project, with a puppy licking her hand.
- ◀ IFAW's Rodger Correa, left, helps IFAW's Joaquin de la Torre Ponce, right, put up a branded banner on a hen house in the small village of Neuvo Durango, Mexico.

## better lives for community animals in Bali

In Bali we supported community teams that helped more than 5,000 dogs through veterinary care, owner education and community partnership. This successful collaboration resulted in 79% fewer dogs in poor condition and 0 local rabies cases, both key prerequisites for good disaster preparedness. We are immensely proud to see participating villages like Sanur Kaja doing so well with their animals. This year Sanur Kaja won the Bali-wide "engaged community" contest for their work in Program Dharma, and placed second in the Indonesia-wide competition.

## empowering communities to care for dogs

In Bosnia-Herzegovina we partnered with the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) to increase the number of communities that are committed to managing their dogs humanely. With our support, 10 communities are now independently providing for the health and welfare of thousands of dogs, leading to better wellbeing for animals and people. Having helped the communities reach their goals, we are now handing the program over to UNDP, who will expand it as part of their nationwide Integrated Local Development Program.

## thriving together in Canada's First Nations

First Nations in Canada are often in remote places, far from assistance, including veterinary services. Dogs often wander freely, where, left unmanaged, they can threaten the safety of the community. We provided direct care, community outreach and shelter to dogs in many of these communities. In 2019 we produced the first-ever animal welfare education materials created specifically for First Nations, which are being distributed to more than 2,000 First Nations outreach officers to help children and communities learn how to live safely with their dogs.

## jaguars of Mexico

In Mexico, where jaguars face numerous threats across their jungle home, IFAW harnesses the knowledge and willingness of locals to protect animals by helping local groups to build jaguar-proof shelters for dogs, chickens, and livestock. In fiscal year 19, 90 shelters were built, keeping more than 300 animals—and their communities—safe from jaguar attacks, and keeping jaguars safely away from human retaliation.



# marine mammal rescue

The gently sloping, sandy beaches and dramatic tidal fluxes of Cape Cod, USA—home to IFAW's Marine Mammal Rescue and Research team—make the area the world's busiest location for cetacean (that is, dolphin and whale) strandings.

For the past 20 years, we have been the first line of defense for marine mammals in distress there. We aim to provide the best triage and veterinary care possible to these animals in need and give as many as possible a second chance at life. We train first responders from around the globe in cutting-edge stranding response and our data serve as the baseline in other teams' research globally.



Marine Mammal Rescue

# first line of defense for marine mammals in distress



## our 5,000th response to help marine mammals in need

On 27 November 2018, our team responded to the 5,000th case, the same month the team celebrated its 20th anniversary. It was a remarkable milestone, in what was also IFAW's busiest year on record, with a total of 539 responses—more than double the annual average of 251. We responded to 151 live marine mammal strandings, of which seven were rescued for further rehabilitation and 74 were assessed, treated and released safely back to the sea.

## more and more successful releases

This ongoing high response rate allows us to pioneer field health assessments and treatments for stranded dolphins and whales in order to increase the likelihood of their survival after release. By gaining more insights, improving techniques, and evaluating scientific data, our successful release rate for the past year was 66%.

Looking back from where we started in November 1998, we've increased our dolphin release rates from 15% to more than quadruple that rate today. And that hasn't gone unnoticed. We have spread the knowledge we've gained across the globe, from the United Kingdom to New Zealand, from Iceland to India. Today, IFAW is a world leader in rescuing stranded dolphins.

## new tracking and transmitting record

We also continued the use of innovative tracking technology to help evaluate the survival of released dolphins. In 2019 we

successfully released a single female Atlantic white-sided dolphin with a temporary satellite tag, which transmitted for 160 days. This was the longest tag transmission time from one of our released cetaceans. Our efforts have shown that stranded animals not only survive after release, but thrive too. These data are used not only to improve future stranding responses, but also to shed light on how these animals navigate their ocean habitat.

## leading in international marine mammal rescue and research

This year we co-hosted a stranding response and necropsy workshop at the 50th annual International Association for Aquatic Animal Medicine (IAAAM) conference in Durban, South Africa. In addition, our staff continues to share knowledge by presenting at scientific conferences and conducting trainings across the globe—this year in the United Kingdom, South Africa, Brazil, and New Zealand.

## investigating mortality in one of the most endangered whales in the world

Multi-agency research led by IFAW veterinarian Dr. Sarah Sharp and published in 2019 has demonstrated that between 2003 and 2018, where cause of death could be definitively determined, no adult or juvenile North Atlantic right whale deaths were a result of natural causes. Not a single one. IFAW is determined to overcome this disheartening reality, as the loss of even one individual represents a major blow to the long-term recovery of the species as a whole.

**5,376**

total number of IFAW responses to marine mammals since we started in 1998.

**604**

small cetaceans rescued and released since 1998.

**539**

number of responses in fiscal year 19 (compared to an annual average of 251).

**151**

live marine mammal (cetacean and pinniped) strandings that we responded to in fiscal year 19.

**74**

successful releases of cetaceans back into the sea, a 66% success rate.



▲ IFAW's Marine Mammal Rescue and Research team, volunteers, and interns, pose for a group photo after the successful release of four dolphins, marking their 5,000th response.

▲ Rescued dolphins being released together after being treated by IFAW's Marine Mammal Rescue and Research team.

◀ IFAW's Marine Mammal Rescue and Research team tend to a rescued dolphin before release.

# marine conservation

Life in the sea is under threat. As many as one million species live in our oceans, and many of them are in danger. IFAW works to protect whales and other marine species from threats including entanglements in fishing gear, collisions with fast ships, ocean noise pollution, commercial whaling, plastic litter, and climate change. Whether promoting alternative practices or lobbying for stronger laws, we focus on solutions that enable animals and people to thrive together.

# saving the North Atlantic right whale



For millennia, they numbered in the tens of thousands: males and females, mothers and their calves, moving slowly up and down the east coast of North America, following migratory pathways from calving grounds off Florida and Georgia to feeding grounds in coastal New England waters and the Canadian Maritimes. Known by Yankee whalers as the “right” whale to hunt, by the 20th century these gentle, slow-moving creatures had been almost completely wiped out.

Today, the [North Atlantic right whale](#) is perilously close to extinction at the hands of humans, but from two completely different causes—entanglement in commercial fishing gear and collisions with vessels. IFAW’s flagship marine conservation campaign is addressing both of these threats, giving one of the most endangered animals on the planet a fighting chance.

The North Atlantic right whales’ ancient pathway is now one of the planet’s most industrialized ocean corridors, and the intensity of human activity within this urbanized waterway has prevented the population of whales from recovering. Mortalities of adult and juvenile North Atlantic right whales are driven overwhelmingly by human-induced trauma, according to a data-driven scientific paper published in 2019, based on multi-agency research led by IFAW veterinarian Dr. Sarah Sharp. Today, we are left with just 400 individuals,

of which only 90 are reproductively viable females. Alarmingly, [30 North Atlantic right whales](#) have died since June 2017.

Through extensive advocacy efforts in both the [United States](#) and [Canada](#), grassroots campaigning, and media outreach initiatives, IFAW is at the forefront of the effort to engage government officials, the fishing and shipping industries, and other stakeholders to take immediate action to protect the right whale and proactively preserve their habitat.

**Reducing the threat of entanglement lies at the core of IFAW’s campaign.**

Entanglement in fishing gear causes immediate, traumatic drowning in some cases and prolonged, painful death in others, as whales constricted by ropes slowly starve. 85% of right whales have experienced entanglement at least once within their lifetime.

The past year has seen continued collaboration between IFAW and [regional fishing industry associations](#) and [underwater technology manufacturers](#) to encourage widespread adoption of “ropeless fishing gear.” This whale-safe technology eliminates vertical buoy lines in the water to allow right whales safe passage through critical habitat, ultimately **ensuring the livelihoods of local fishermen while also safeguarding the survival of the right whale.**



**IFAW is at the forefront of the effort to engage government officials, the fishing and shipping industries, and other stakeholders to take immediate action to protect the right whale.**

IFAW continues to encourage the private sector, government officials, and other stakeholders to endorse and adopt new approaches and technologies to reduce and ultimately eliminate these human-caused threats to right whales. Through our comprehensive action, advocacy, collaboration, and encouragement of technological innovation, IFAW will remain steadfast at the helm, setting a course for recovery of the North Atlantic right whale for generations to come.

◀ Head of a North Atlantic right whale in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence, Canada.

◀ A North Atlantic right whale rests at the ocean’s surface in the Bay of Fundy, New Brunswick, Canada.

# protecting marine life from invisible pollution —underwater noise



Life in the ocean has become loud and busy. Underwater noise pollution from human activities now threatens the world's largest ecosystem. Less known than plastic pollution and invisible to the human eye, noise pollution from construction, seismic surveys, military sonar, and commercial shipping is displacing whales from their feeding and breeding grounds and changing life underwater for marine animals across the globe.

As well as increasing underwater noise, fast-moving commercial vessels are also striking whales, killing them or causing horrific injuries, whilst emitting large quantities of greenhouse gases, endangering the planet as a whole. These problems are connected, and we've committed to working together across

sectors and national borders to set better standards and align interests. In this way, IFAW is addressing urgent animal welfare and conservation challenges in the context of global concerns that fundamentally affect human well-being.

Taking one breath at a time, we are concentrating our efforts on the shipping industry, the largest source of ocean noise pollution. Recent research shows that a moderate reduction in the speed of all merchant ships could have several corresponding environmental benefits: reducing underwater noise, reducing the risk of ship strikes to whales, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. For example, studies suggest that a 15% reduction in global shipping speeds could reduce underwater noise from shipping by up to 50%.

## 15% reduction in global shipping speeds could reduce underwater noise from shipping by up to 50%.

▲ Humpback whale with calf swimming above her head.

# partnering for progress in Iceland

Since Iceland resumed commercial whaling in 2003, IFAW has been working with Icelandic colleagues and partners to raise awareness and encourage protection of the largest mammals in the marine ecosystem.

Our very visible Icelandic-led campaign has helped raise awareness among tourists and Icelandic citizens alike,

discouraging whale meat consumption and changing attitudes by focusing on the benefits of conservation. Our campaign to end whale hunting and promote responsible whale watching saw 2019 become the first year without any commercial whaling in Iceland since 2003. IFAW's positive approach is driving positive outcomes and delivering real results.

**2019 become the first year without any commercial whaling in Iceland since 2003.**



# the end of high-seas whaling

Fiscal year 19 also produced ground-breaking progress in the long-running campaign to end the killing of whales in international waters. In December 2018, Japan announced it would end its high seas whaling around Antarctica and in the North Pacific. For the first time since the advent of industrial

whaling, no whales are being hunted in international waters or in the Southern Hemisphere and the long-running sham of "scientific whaling" has ended.

These hard-won victories are major milestones in IFAW's campaign to end commercial whaling. Unfortunately, some whales are still being hunted in Japan's coastal waters. But there is new hope for them too. Thanks to the steadily growing whale watching industry in Japan, living whales are bringing real value to coastal communities around the country, helping build a better world for animals and people. Outside Japan and through our offices worldwide, IFAW continues to work closely with governments active in the International Whaling Commission (IWC), charting a course for effective whale conservation in the 21st century.

▲ The fluke of a North Atlantic right whale in the Bay of Fundy, New Brunswick, Canada.

# international policy

At IFAW, when we talk about secure habitats for the places animals call home, we mean more than just security on the ground. Unless animals and their habitats are protected in law and policies, we cannot be sure these places will stay secure over time. It is for this reason that IFAW engages so actively in advocacy work both nationally and internationally.

IFAW has long participated in the workings of multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) such as the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), International Whaling Commission (IWC), and other intergovernmental agreements and institutions with environmental and animal welfare aspects. We send representatives to meetings of these MEAs to ensure that their decisions are in the best interests of the world's wildlife.

## securing international legal protection for vulnerable species

In addition to significant progress made in international agreements towards ending commercial whaling (see Marine Conservation section), there were many other important outcomes at meetings of international agreements during fiscal year 19.

The Standing Committee of CITES, the United Nations agreement that governs the international trade in wildlife and wildlife products, met in October 2018. IFAW has been working for a number of years to ensure illegal trade in wildlife on the internet is considered at CITES. The Standing Committee agreed to recommend to the CITES Conference that language around wildlife cybercrime should be strengthened.

The CITES Standing Committee also saw the launch of new proposals to list an additional 18 shark and ray species under CITES, to ensure any trade in their products is sustainable, to be discussed at the next CITES Conference.

IFAW worked with Latin American countries on the idea of a regional declaration on wildlife crime to help elevate efforts in the region to tackle exploitation of wildlife across the continent.

In November 2018 Egypt hosted the 14th Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) conference which began a process to negotiate a new framework for protecting nature. IFAW launched a report at the meeting about the importance of protecting animals for human wellbeing, making the link between why and how

humans and animals can thrive together. IFAW is working to ensure a strong focus on protecting wildlife within this new framework that reflects this approach.

Every year on March 3 we celebrate World Wildlife Day. As part of the 2019 event, IFAW worked with UN partners to host an international youth art contest on this year's theme: Life below water. IFAW announced the winner at a high-level event held at the UN headquarters in New York.

Our involvement in the aforementioned forums and the strategic relationships our participation builds with governments and institutions around the globe establishes IFAW as a trusted partner, as well as enabling us to showcase our pioneering solutions to government decision makers who drive funding and policy decisions.



**our involvement showcases our pioneering solutions to government decision makers who drive funding and policy decisions.**

◀ Close up of a mako shark.



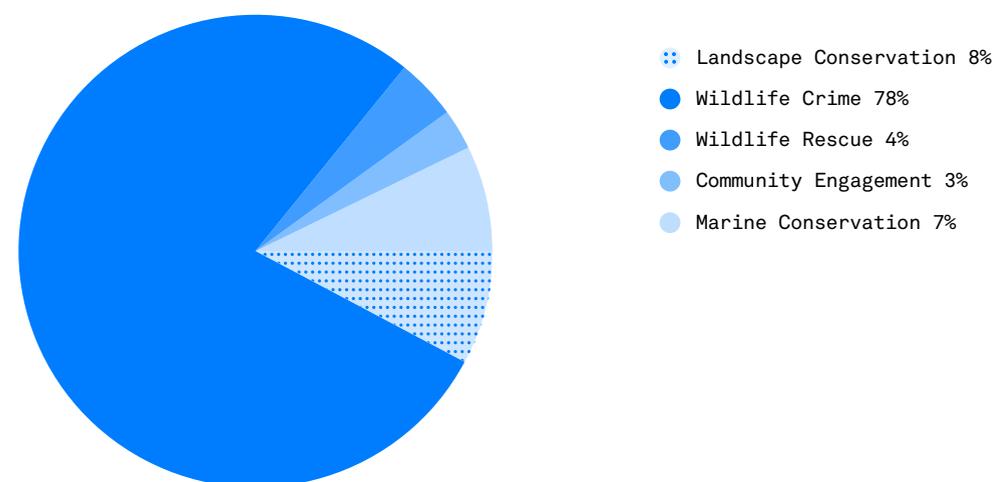
# financial statements

IFAW donors and supporters include individuals, corporations, foundations, communities, and governments. Our continued work, and the progress we are making together is only possible thanks to this continued support. As we reflect on what we achieved in fiscal year 19, we want to extend another heartfelt thanks to all of those who have supported us and shared our vision of animals and people thriving together.

# worldwide and country specific financial overview

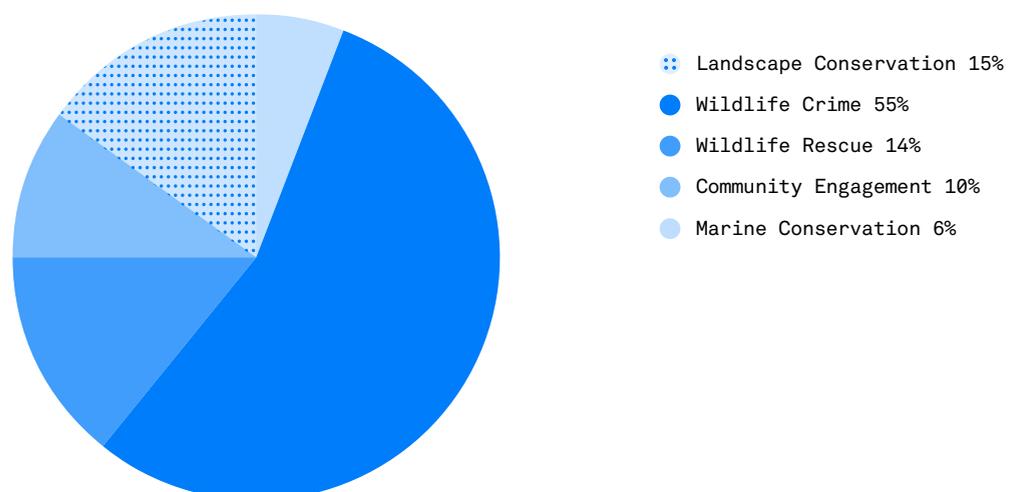
## United States program priority

1 July 2018 – 30 June 2019



## worldwide program priority

1 July 2018 – 30 June 2019



## combined financial statements

Combined financial statements unaudited\* for the years ended 30 June 2019 and 2018  
Figures below in thousands of dollars.

### statement of financial position

Assets	2019	2018
Cash and cash equivalents	15,835	25,377
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	11,889	13,304
Fixed assets, net	18,749	18,007
Investments	59,101	58,947
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>105,574</b>	<b>115,635</b>
Liabilities	2019	2018
Accounts payable and other current liabilities	11,365	10,012
Notes payable	10,961	11,413
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>22,326</b>	<b>21,425</b>
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>83,248</b>	<b>94,210</b>
<b>Total liabilities and net assets</b>	<b>105,574</b>	<b>115,635</b>

\* Financial statements for each IFAW entity are prepared in accordance with local country accounting principles and are audited separately. The Revenue/ Expenses summary is prepared on a basis that approximates accounting principles used in the United States.

### statement of activities

Revenues	2019	2018
Supporter contributions	51,838	52,867
Bequests	16,298	24,502
Donated goods and services	30,290	23,329
Investment and other operating income	3,630	4,448
<b>Total revenues, gains and other support</b>	<b>102,056</b>	<b>105,146</b>
Expenses	2019	2018
Total program and operating expenses	111,626	97,774
<b>Excess (deficit) of revenue over expenses</b>	<b>(9,570)</b>	<b>7,372</b>

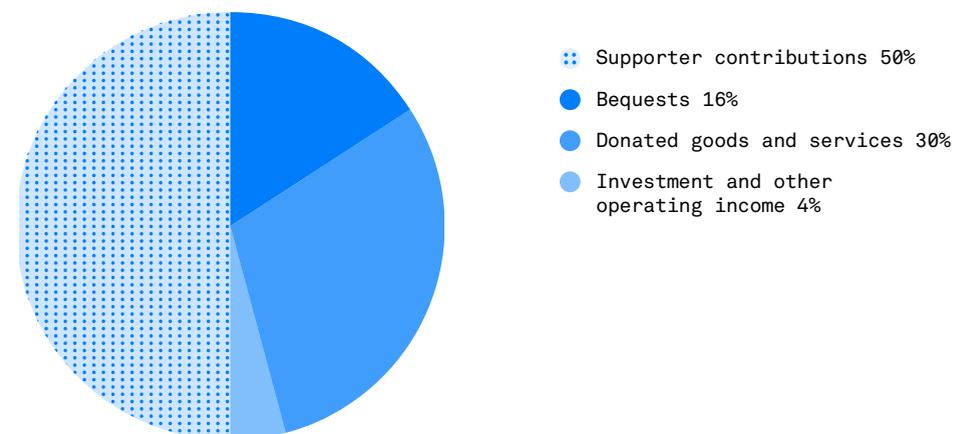
# ifaw allocation of program and operating expenses

Year Ended 30 June 2019

Entity	Location	Program & Program support	Fundraising
International Fund for Animal Welfare, Inc.	United States	90.0%	10.0%
International Fund for Animal Welfare IFAW in Action	United Kingdom	100%	0.0%
International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW)	United Kingdom	83.7%	16.3%
International Fund for Animal Welfare Inc./ Fonds international pour la Protection des animaux inc.	Canada	83.4%	16.6%
Stichting IFAW (International Fund for Animal Welfare)	The Netherlands	87.4%	12.6%
IFAW Internationaler Tierschutz-Fonds gGmbH	Germany	81.5%	18.5%
Fonds International pour la protection des animaux (IFAW France)	France	70.8%	29.2%
International Fund for Animal Welfare (Australia) Pty Limited	Australia	75.4%	24.6%
International Fund for Animal Welfare NPC	South Africa	92.6%	7.4%
International Fund for Animal Welfare Limited	Zambia	100%	0.0%
International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) Limited	Malawi	100%	0.0%

## total revenue gains and other support

1 July 2018 – 30 June 2019



# ifaw revenue/expenses — United States

Figures below in thousands of US Dollars for the years ended 30 June 2019 and 2018

Revenues	2019	2018
Supporter contributions	25,739	21,257
Bequests	2,559	3,684
Donated goods and services	26,022	21,277
Investment and other operating income	1,878	2,499
<b>Total revenues, gains and other support</b>	<b>56,198</b>	<b>48,717</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Program	48,277	38,393
Fundraising	5,743	4,855
Administrative support	3,146	2,445
<b>Total program and operating expenses</b>	<b>57,166</b>	<b>45,693</b>
<b>Excess (deficit) of revenue over expenses</b>	<b>(968)</b>	<b>3,024</b>

International Fund  
for Animal Welfare

Annual Report FY 2019  
United States

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