

Application criteria for a one-time contribution by Foundation Burgers' Zoo Conservation to a nature conservation project

Vision

Burgers' Zoo Conservation is a foundation set up by Royal Burgers' Zoo, the Netherlands, with the aim of providing financial support to various foundations for nature conservation. Burgers' Zoo does not only want to convey the passion, wonder and admiration for animals and nature to the visitors, but also actively contribute to nature conservation projects around the world.

Criteria for application

The following criteria must be met to be eligible to apply and will be used in the selection procedure for the spreading of funds:

The funds must be fully used for a conservation initiative in the benefit of species survival and/or habitat protection. The conservation initiative can involve a component of (fundamental) research or of an education project, but this should not be the main focus. The relevance of the proposed activities to species conservation and/or habitat protection and the practical impact should be made very clear in the application.

Projects that are eligible to be selected must fulfil the following criteria:

- Funding goes in the first place to **globally threatened species** according to the IUCN criteria. Support to locally threatened species is preferred above projects concerning non-threatened species. If a project is centred around a non-threatened species or a domestic species, clearly express the (indirect) benefits for species threatened by extinction that the project realises. Animal health or animal welfare related projects exclusively dealing with domestic species are not eligible to apply.
- Burgers' Zoo Conservation supports **projects in situ**. Applications for projects dealing with wildlife kept ex situ will only make a chance to be honoured if there is a very clear and direct benefit for the in situ population as well.
- If a project is mainly habitat-centred, the location of the area preferable is situated in a region that is an officially recognized **biodiversity hotspot for conservation priorities** (as defined by CEPF).
- The proof that the applicant has already achieved substantial and long-term benefit to the conservation status of one or more animal or plant species is a pre.
- Recommendation by WAZA, a TAG of EAZA itself or a zoo association that EAZA cooperates with, is a pre.

Applicants are willing to adhere to the following rules and conditions:

- If research is a part of the conservation project, Burgers' Zoo Conservation expects the applicant to undertake the utmost effort in order to realize a significant scientific output by publications in peer-reviewed scientific magazines. In such a publication, Burgers' Zoo Conservation asks to be named as sponsor in the acknowledgments of the paper. In the case that scientific input to the research paper is given by Burgers' Zoo Conservation or an employee of Royal Burgers' Zoo, being mentioned as co-author is desirable.
- If education is part of the conservation project, a clear overview over the intended programme, its education output plus the planned validated evaluation method and scheme must be included in the application.
- Grants must be spent within 18 months after receiving them, in the way as proposed in the application. Changes in that timeframe or suggestions for other use of the donations within the projects must be discussed timely and on the forehand with the Board of Burgers' Zoo Conservation. If not spent within the indicated time span the funds must be returned if they are already paid out.
- Burgers' Zoo Conservation expects to receive official annual reports of the funded projects in the period between the commitment of a donation by Burgers' Zoo Conservation to the applicant and the realization of the sponsored part of the project. In between informal updates on a regular basis are also desirable.
- Burgers' Zoo Conservation and the zoo attached to it, Royal Burgers' Zoo, expect to receive photo- and film footage about the project, which can be used internally for trainings of employees as well as on the zoos publication channels in order to communicate about the conservation project. This obligation ends at the time that the sponsored part of the project is finalized.
- Applicants naturally operate within the lines of local regulations and laws on all areas; for example they have all the requested permits and adhere to local legal rules when animals have to be restricted, anaesthetised, handled or translocated. Also, the applicants are aware of and fully follow the international guidelines by IUCN, such as the 'IUCN Guidelines to Reintroduction and Other Conservation Translocations'.
- Burgers' Zoo Conservation appreciates global involvement in conservation issues; however we believe that enhancing professionalism and conservation action of the local population is key as well. Applicants who are students, researchers or conservationists from Western origin with a project in the tropics should therefore preferably have a clear vision on how their involvement abroad also furthers the development of conservationists on the local grounds.
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Advisory Council

The Foundation has an Advisory council which will evaluate the proposals according to the above rules and conditions and give a written advise to the Board. The Board is independent in taken a decision.

Relevant dates and instructions

Applications will be reviewed twice a year, namely in December and June. It is therefore advisable to send your application in May respectively November at the latest. Applications can be sent to info@burgerszoo-conservation.nl with the subject 'Burgers' Zoo Conservation Application' plus the name of your institution.

After the application has been approved and granted, a donation agreement will be concluded between the recipient of the funds and Burgers' Zoo Conservation.

Applications can be sent in Dutch or English.

Please include in the application:

- Description of the scope of the project, the parties involved
- A clear description on what specific part of your project you would like use the grant for and the conservation benefit aimed for
- An annual report of your organisation, if available
- The link to your organisation's website, if available