future for nature
FUTURE FOR NATURE

Motivation
Life on earth depends on biodiversity. Humans, animals and plants heavily rely on the services ecosystems provide, such as fresh water, soil fertility and stability, food and medicine. Equally, endogenous processes such as pollination and fertilization help maintain the ecosystem in equilibrium. Each species that goes extinct weakens the system. Its extinction can snowball into a crisis for numerous other species. Once collapsed, ecosystems are difficult and sometimes impossible to restore.

Aim
Future For Nature aims to protect threatened animal and plant species. Therefore, we support young, talented and ambitious conservationists. Young people with vision and purpose, who think and act out of the box. Trailblazers who inspire, galvanise and mobilize communities, governments and the public at large, to safeguard species and ecosystems. It’s those individuals that bring hope for nature.

As Sir David Attenborough put it: “You can form all the committees, all the working groups, all the charities you like, but you know that in the end, it is that one individual, that one individual that has fire in the belly, that one individual that is determined that something should be done!”

Action
Every year our selection committees of top international conservationists select three of these young conservationists. We give Future For Nature Award winners our unconditional trust and support, showcase their work and award them with €50,000 each. Once they are part of the growing family of Future For Nature winners, we continue supporting them to boost their impact on the environment. FFN facilitates alliances and meetings, continues to put the winners work in the spotlight and matches individual winners with interested donors.

“It is only when people love something that they will go out of their way to protect it. Our young award winners are the perfect embodiment of the love and, therefore, the hope for the future for nature.”

Saba Douglas-Hamilton, chair of the Future For Nature’s International Selection Committee
The Future For Nature winners are making a difference for our planet in all the corners of the world. You can find out more about their groundbreaking work at futurefornature.org. Get inspired by a few examples shown on the next pages.

The icons on this map represent the places and species the award winners (2008-2020) converse. Some have embarked on new missions to protect the environment. Recent updates on their projects and objectives can be found at futurefornature.org.
Patrícia Medici (2008)
Patrícia dedicates her life to the protection of tapirs, the largest terrestrial mammals of South America, the gardeners of the forest. She launched the Lowland Tapir Conservation Initiative in the Pantanal and has been expanding her programmes to other parts of Brazil.

Ofir Drori (2011)
Ofir is fighting corruption and wildlife crime in ten countries in West and Central Africa within the law enforcement and the judicial systems. Ofir and his team at LAGA and the EAGLE Network put over 1,500 wildlife traffickers and corrupt officials behind bars.

Matthew Shirley (2016)
Matt has established a breeding programme in Côte d’Ivoire for West Africa’s most critically endangered crocodilian: the West African slendersnouted crocodile. Moreover, he is determined to establish protected areas for target ecosystems, such as wetlands.

Shahriar Caesar Rahman (2017)
In Bangladesh Caesar is focused to bring back imperiled tortoise and turtle species from the brink of extinction. Amongst other things he manages to turn life-long hunters into para-biologists who use their traditional ecological knowledge for conservation purposes.

Jean Thomas (2010)
For Jean, conservation needs community engagement. Her training programmes at the Tenkile Conservation Alliance to reduce the hunt for tree kangaroos have led to community engagement among 50 villages in the most remote areas of Papua New Guinea and the protection of 200,000 hectares of rainforest.

Wietse van der Werf (2016)
Wietse’s mission is to protect the world’s oceans. In 2010 he founded a grassroots movement that trains volunteers to collect evidence for wildlife crimes. Since 2016 he brings together unemployed youth and navy veterans to become new ocean protectors, the Sea Ranger Service.

Adam Miller (2019)
With his NGO Planet Indonesia, Adam creates solutions that catalyse conservation while improving human well-being in Borneo. For example, they offer small loans to bird shop owners to kick-start an alternative business to decrease the number of 600,000 tropical birds annually traded in Indonesia.

Bárbara Galletti (2011)
Bárbara is founder of the Cetacean Conservation Centre in Chile. She combines scientific research, coastal community development and the promotion of marine conservation measures to stop the rapid disappearance of great whales in the South Pacific and to achieve their long-term recovery.
"I think of FFN as my hidden power. It gives me a firm faith in true visionaries who care about tomorrow and have found a way of serving the nature of tomorrow in their own way."

Manoj Gautam (winner Future For Nature Award 2015)

JOIN FUTURE FOR NATURE!

The incredible Future For Nature Award winners are true heroes of our planet! They form an inspiring community of natural leaders, from over 25 different countries ranging from the most secluded rainforests in Papua New Guinea to the vast savannahs in Kenya. These young people are the trailblazers for a future for nature. Their indomitable spirit, pure passion and outstanding dedication to nature is inspiring to anyone.

You can make a meaningful contribution to true effective and efficient nature conservation by investing in FFN’s network of winners, selected with care by top international conservation experts. Your contribution will boost the impact of these conservationists on the future of nature.

There are many different ways to support the Future For Nature Foundation and our winners (financial and in-kind). If you are interested in becoming a donor and would like to discuss the possibilities, please contact us through info@futurefornature.org.

For more information about Future For Nature, the organisation and the winners please visit futurefornature.org or contact us via info@futurefornature.org.
“FFN is the gift that keeps on giving”

Anna Oposa (winner Future For Nature Award 2012)