

future for nature



FUTURE FOR NATURE FOUNDATION ANNUAL REPORT 2021

Published March 2022

A large flock of blue and yellow parrots is captured in flight against a clear, bright blue sky. The parrots are scattered across the frame, with some in the foreground and others further back, creating a sense of depth and movement. Their wings are spread, and their long tails are visible. The overall scene is vibrant and dynamic.

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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 heroes. 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.

2021, ANOTHER YEAR OF ...

INSPIRING EACH OTHER

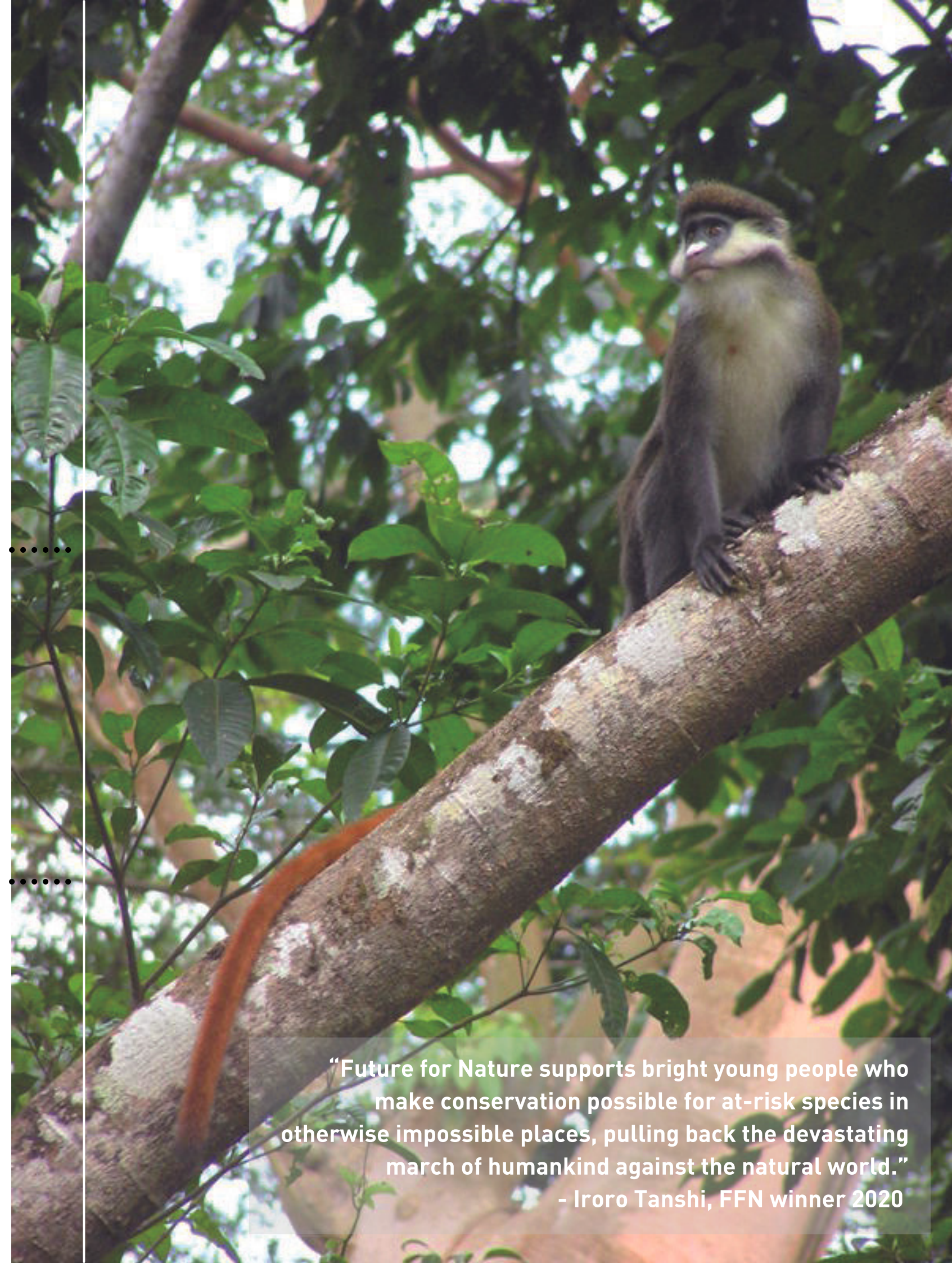
While there was hope that 2021 would be different in regards to the COVID-19 pandemic, the fast-changing disease has continuously held the world in its grip throughout the year. Unfortunately, this meant that we were not able to organise an in-person event and the FFN Award Event of 2021 was held virtually again. However, this did not tamper the enthusiasm, inspiration and passion that is at the roots of the Future For Nature Foundation and its events. Many people from all over the world were able to join in on the festivities and help us celebrate the 2021 winners.

PROTECTING THE PLANET

The Future For Nature Family of Winners persevered as well. They set up new nature conservation projects, discovered new species and reintroduced others, inspired and educated others about the environment, and wrote papers about their scientific findings. Family members have also won many awards for their incredible work, and have been featured frequently on the news. Their tireless efforts to protect our planet and all the species that call it home are being seen and celebrated.

SUPPORTING CONSERVATIONISTS

Through the FFN Award and the Family Funding, we were able to support conservationists with their work. Three new winners Monica, Karolina and Mohsen joined the Family and received their prize money. We have organised regional meetings to keep up to date about the FFN Family's work and learn how we can help them better. Multiple Family members have initiated collaborative projects or visits and got financial support from the FFN Family Funding to implement this. We look forward to see all that will be achieved!



“Future for Nature supports bright young people who make conservation possible for at-risk species in otherwise impossible places, pulling back the devastating march of humankind against the natural world.”
- Iroro Tanshi, FFN winner 2020

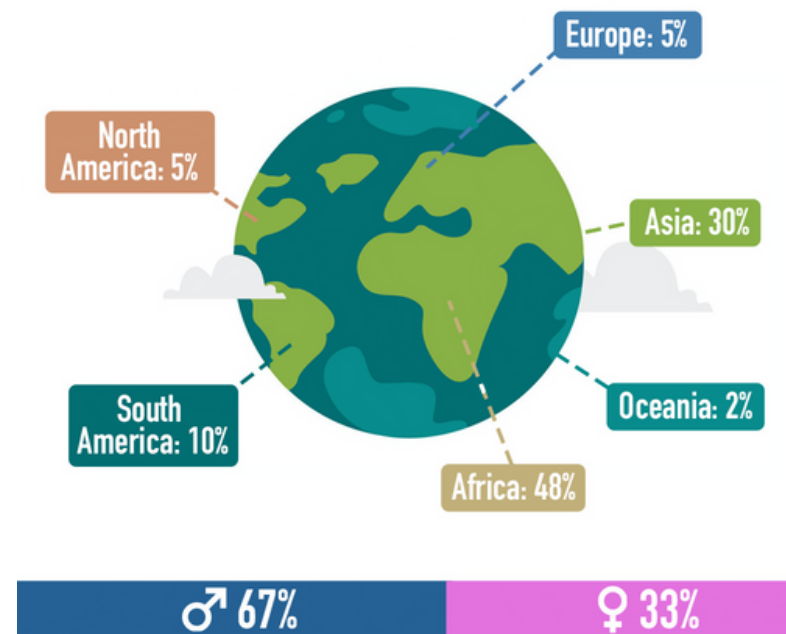
FFN AWARDS 2021

From applicant to winner

The Call to Apply for the 2021 Future For Nature Award reeled in a record number of applications. Over 450 people from all over the world applied to win the prestigious award and shoot their shot to join the FFN Family.

Our National Selection Committee has carefully gone through them all to select the 2021 nominees. This was not an easy task, but a beautiful list of 10 nominees was the result.

For the 10 nominees we set up a social media campaign. Through animal facts and introduction videos we shared their work with the FFN audience.



In March, the three winners were announced.

Mónica Torres, Guatemala

She rediscovered the presumed extinct Campbell's alligator lizard in Guatemala and has dedicated her career to protecting this species and its habitat. She encourages local farmers to reforest, works together with communities to restore habitats and has reintroduced almost 300 Campbell's alligator lizards into the wild.



Mohsen Rezaie-Atagholipour, Iran

He is passionate about marine life and works hard to protect it in a country within a challenging political landscape and an ongoing economic depression. His tireless efforts have resulted in the first ever shark and ray conservation programme in Iran. Mohsen is committed to reduce ray and shark bycatch by providing fishermen with practical solutions.



The FFN Award Nominees of 2021



Karolina Araya Sandoval, Chile

She is going to great lengths to protect the smallest bird in Chile, the Chilean woodstar hummingbird. Recently this led her to discover a new breeding ground for this endangered species. Her foundation Picaflor de Arica raises awareness among local people, creates alliances with communities and protects the last key habitats of this tiny hummingbird.



FFN AWARD EVENT 2021

Apart, yet together

As the world was still in the firm grasp of COVID-19, we organised a Virtual FFN Award Event for the second year in a row. It was another inspiring afternoon, with both presenters and guests joining in from all over the world to celebrate the achievements of the 2021 FFN Award winners.

FRIDAY
THE 21ST OF MAY
16:00 UTC+2



Through the online event platform Hopin and livestreams on Facebook and Youtube, we were able to connect with winners Mónica Torres, Karolina Araya Sandoval and Mohsen Rezaie-Atagholipour, host Saba Douglas Hamilton and Guest of Honour Frans Lanting.

Over 250 people
tuned in and joined
the celebration!



The 2021 Award Winners presented themselves and their work through pre-recorded presentation and a live Q&A session. In return they were surprised with congratulatory videos from their friends, family, colleagues and also a touching message from the FFN laureates!

Visitors could watch the 'main stage' for the presentations of the winners and our Guest of Honour Frans Lanting, ask questions during the Live Q&A with Saba and the winners, and even have a look at our 'Expo' which displayed interesting facts about FFN, the Family and its sponsors.

Guest of Honour Frans Lanting gave an inspiring speech addressing the importance of young conservationists and the support from established ones..



The 2021 Guest of Honour was world renowned Dutch nature photographer Frans Lanting, who joined us from San Diego, USA



Saba Douglas-Hamilton is the 'Mother hen' of the FFN Family and our every gracious yearly host. She tuned in from her home in Kenya.

Behind the scenes, our amazing team of volunteers helped the event run smoothly. The IT, livestreams, graphic design, video editing, social media and more was all done with the support of the FFN volunteers.





In 2021, the three winners received their Award certificate through the mail, with the promise that they will receive their award statue during the next in-person Award Event.

Future For Nature hopes to invite the 2020 and 2021 winners to the 2022 FFN Award Event, but time will tell if international travel restrictions, as well as Dutch event regulations will allow it.



Besides Hopin, the FFN Award Event 2021 was streamed to both Facebook and Youtube. About a 100 people joined us on those platforms and even more watched a playback.

The full recording is still available to watch on the FFN YouTube channel:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JC77tAQUB40>



Mónica, Mohsen and Karolina have continued their work since the event. Monica went on to complete another season of forestation work, together with the communities. Mohsen has focussed on spreading and publishing the news about the rediscovery of the tentacled butterfly ray and the threats to Iranian marine life. Karolina spent more time in the field to study and monitor the remaining populations of the Chilean woodstar and their nests.

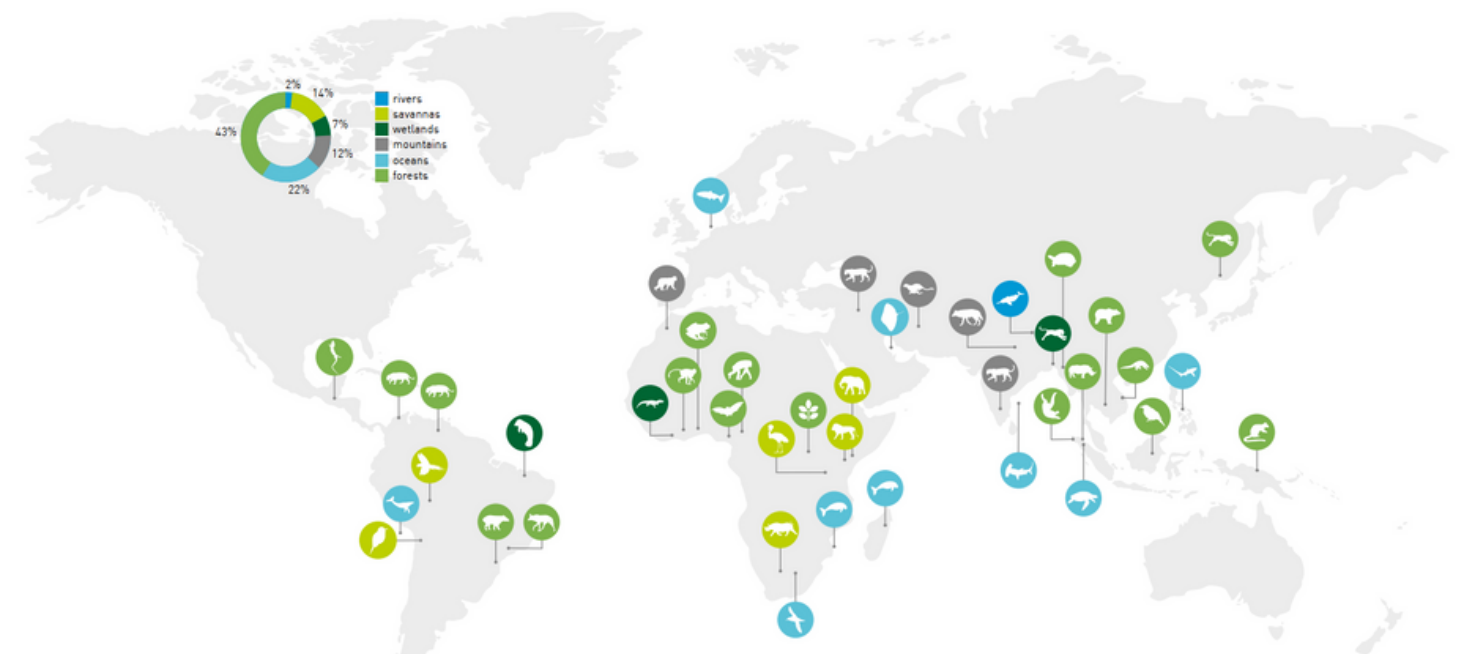


“Being part of the Future For Nature Family has provided an inspirational network of people to connect with and together I believe we can really make a difference.”

- Olivier Nsengimana, FFN winner 2019

FFN FAMILY GROWS

The Future For Nature Family of winners is now 42 conservationists strong and they are active in 29 countries, all over the world. Throughout the year we aim to stay up-to-date about the goings-on and help promote their work.



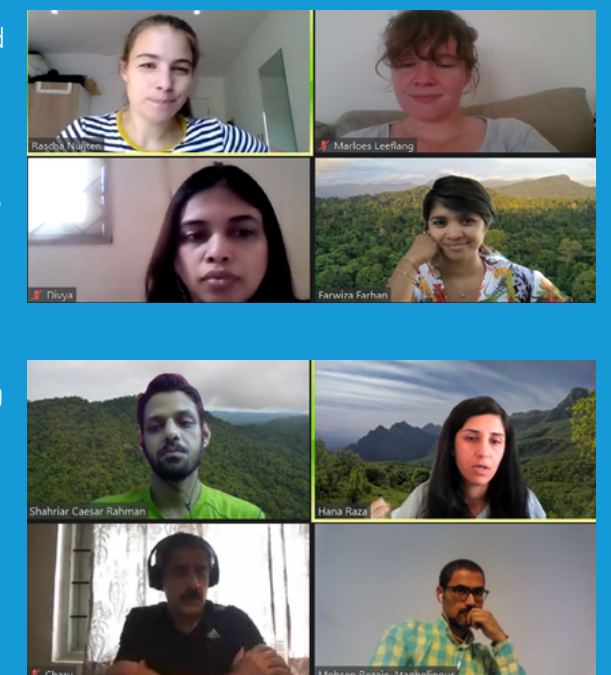
Meeting the Family online

In 2021 we organised multiple digital get-togethers to keep the spirits high despite the difficult times and distance.

An informative online seminar on using technologies for conservation was held, and Conservation Careers provided the interested Family members with a useful online course.

Additionally, we set up regional meetings with the FFN Family for the first time. We met up with over 30 Family members online to hear about their current activities.

Through an extensive questionnaire Family members were asked how FFN could potentially help them and their conservation work. We got great feedback and look forward to increasing our support.



FFN FAMILY UPDATES

To increase the support from the Future For Nature Foundation to the growing family of winners, all previous FFN Award winners are eligible to apply for specific types of projects aimed at strengthening the collaboration through the FFN Family Funding.

Aims of Future For Nature's Family Funding

- To encourage FFN Award winners to learn from each other. For example by visiting each other's projects in order to exchange knowledge and experience.
- To encourage collaborations between FFN Award winners, to set up new projects together.

2021 Family Funding numbers

5 applications were submitted, for two visits and three projects. They varied in topics, ranging from reintroduction to education focussed.

11 Family members applied for the 2021 funding round. None of which had applied before.

59.160 euros in total was granted!

New species were discovered

Caleb Boateng (winner 2014) recently discovered the critically endangered Afia Birago puddle frog in the Atewa Range Forest in Ghana. With the discovery of this frog, the forest was able to gain its recognition as an Alliance for Zero Extinction site.

Caesar Rahman (winner 2017) discovered a new frog species in the tropical forests of south eastern Bangladesh! It has been named Swanborn's Puddle Frog in honour of the Swanborn family, who are FFN Major Donors and have been supporters of Caesar and his conservation work.



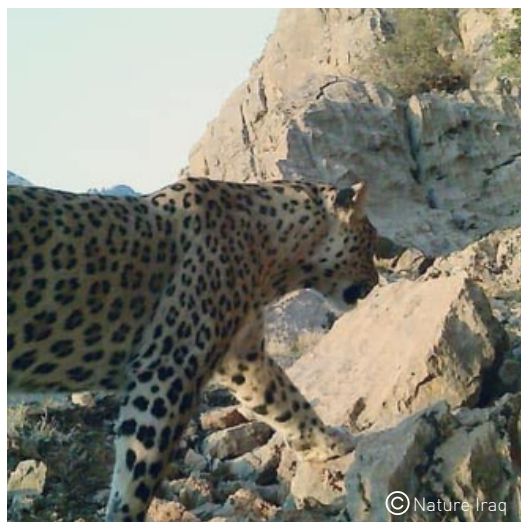
Prizes were won

Many of the Future For Nature Family of Winners continue to receive praise for the incredible nature conservation work they are doing.

2021 is no exception. Some of the achievements were: Farwiza Farhan (winner 2017) has been selected for the TED Fellows Program; Fernanda Abra (winner 2019) got the McKenna-Travers People's Choice Award of the Born Free Foundation; Charudutt Mishra (winner 2008) won the Ecological Engagement Award from the British Ecological Society. Thai Nguyen (winner 2016) was one of the Goldman Environmental Award winners and Iroro Tanshi (winner 2020) was granted the Whitley Award

Last year's impact

Family members Mohammad Farhadinia and Hana Raza successfully applied for the Family Funding in 2020. The aim of their project was to set up a Persian leopard conservation and monitoring programme across Iran and Iraq. Part of their collaborative project had gotten some delay as a result of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. However, the project is currently in full swing. Hana has already finished up part of their plans, which entailed setting up a training course for conservationists and monitoring the Persian leopard in Iraq through camera traps.



Goals were accomplished

Jean Thomas (winner 2010) and her team at the Tenkile Conservation Alliance are bringing light to remote communities in Papua New Guinea. They distributed 2,690 solar household lighting units and 350 streetlights will be distributed in over 40 villages.

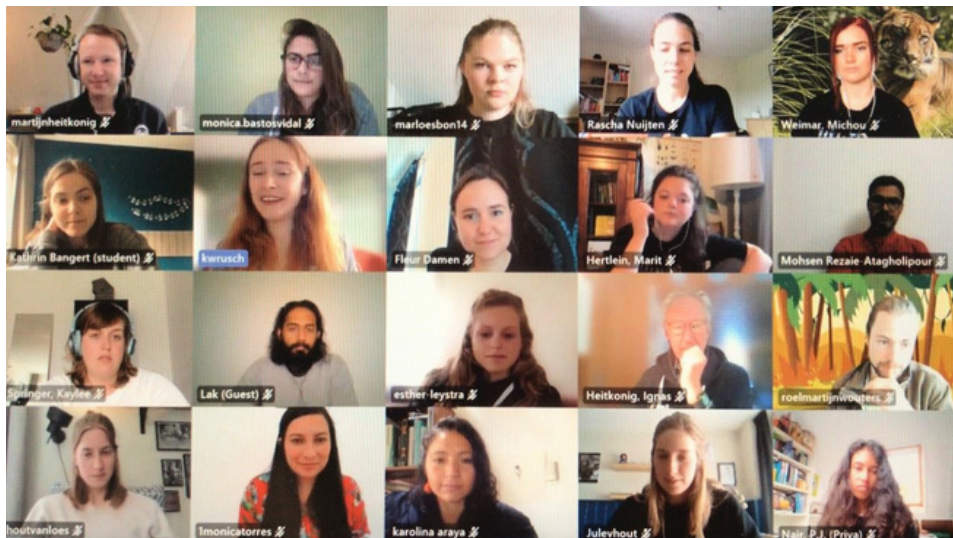
Leela Hazzah (winner 2014) and her Lion Guardians alongside were able to stop 87% of lion hunts in the Amboseli-Tsavo ecosystem in 2020. Many young Maasai now actually want lions in their ecosystem, showing a big shift from their traditional lion hunts. Lion Guardians' education initiatives and employment opportunities likely are behind this transformation.



THE NEXT GENERATION

The Future For Nature Academy is a growing network of students and young graduates with a passion for nature conservation, inspired by the FFN winners and other conservation heroes. Together they organise a variety of activities including lectures and symposia to create a platform for people to meet, discuss and make plans together for a better future for nature.

Even though it was not possible to organise in-person events during most of the year, the FFN Academy was able to successfully host more than 25 activities in 2021. Despite the circumstances, the enthusiastic Academy members kept their spirits high, made the transition to a digital environment and continued to spread their positive conservation message.



The yearly FFN Academy Day was another big success. The three winners Monica, Karolina and Mohsen were invited to join the Academy members in a group discussion and separate sessions provided space for more specific questions for the winners about their conservation work and to get to know each other. It was inspirational, both for the Academy members and FFN winners.

Other outstanding events were the online lecture provided by FFN Guest of Honour Frans Lanting, which was open to people outside the Academy and over a 100 people attended. And a lecture by elephant conservationist Antoinette van de Water, the first in-person Academy activity of 2021.

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nature
academy**



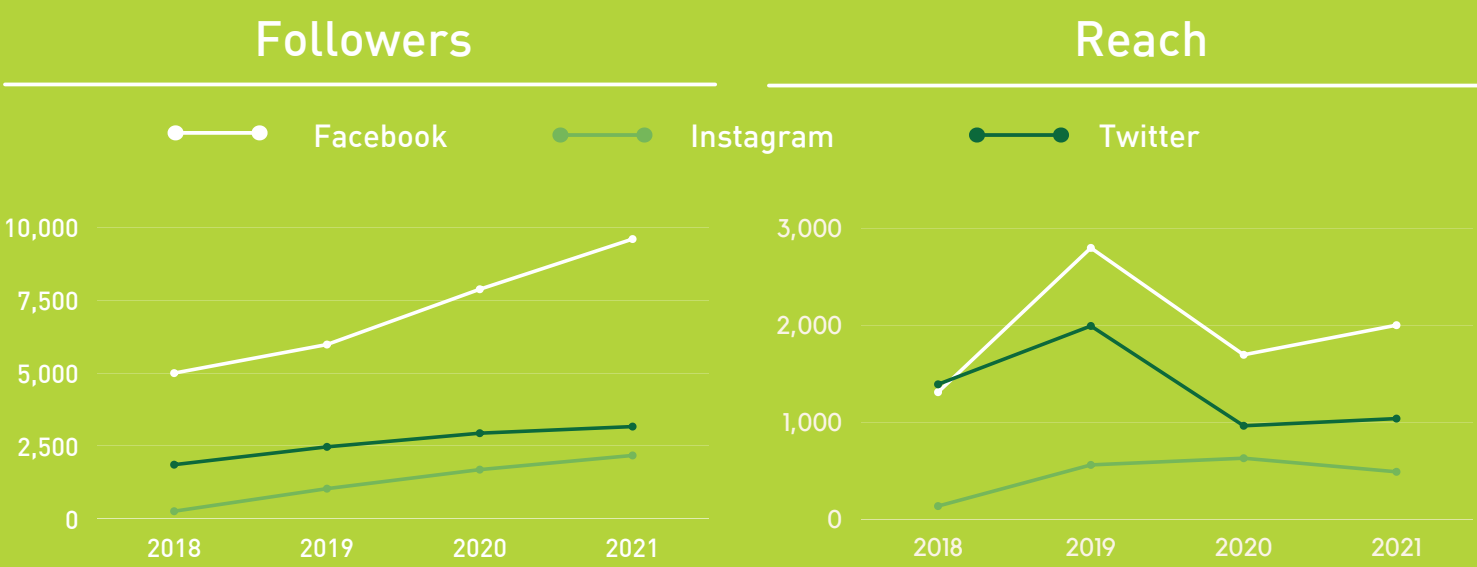


SOCIAL MEDIA STATS

FFN is mainly active on the social media platforms Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. In 2021 we have invested more time on LinkedIn as well, but for now those numbers are still relatively low.

Our followers on all platforms are continuously increasing throughout the years. Facebook remains the most popular platform our audience is following us on, even though Instagram has gained a lot more users over the years.

In 2020 our reach on both Facebook and Twitter has decreased, after a peak in 2019. This could be due to the every changing algorithms, which seem to work against natural reach and for paid reach.



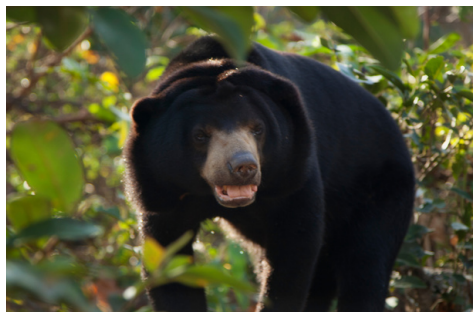
Content

In 2021 we have published more than 150 unique posts on our social media platforms. and many website updates. With our content we aim to promote the 2021 FFN Award Winners and the Award Event, as well as highlight projects and achievements of the FFN Family.



SUPPORT

The Future For Nature Foundation receives continuous support from different corners.



Major Donors

Future For Nature can run properly thanks to our Major Donors: Burgers' Zoo, Africa's Eden, Fondation Segre, Van Wijhe Verf and the Vat Foundation.



FFN Friends

70 people are supporting us as FFN Friends, pledging a total of €3880,-. Many of the FFN Friends have been donating to our foundation for more than three years.



Donations

Besides our steady sponsors, Future For Nature receives independent donations through the website. More than €2000,- has been donated this way in 2021.

NEW PARTNERS

In 2021 Future For Nature has created partnerships with two new organisations.

We are proud to say that the Fred Foundation has become an FFN Major Donor. The Fred Foundation is dedicated to empowering people, improving health and well-being, expanding consciousness, and promoting care for nature and our planet.



The Otterfonds has gracefully joined forces with us to help support the FFN Family and their collaborative projects. 'Stichting Otter Fonds' supports charities through subsidies or otherwise in The Netherlands or abroad.

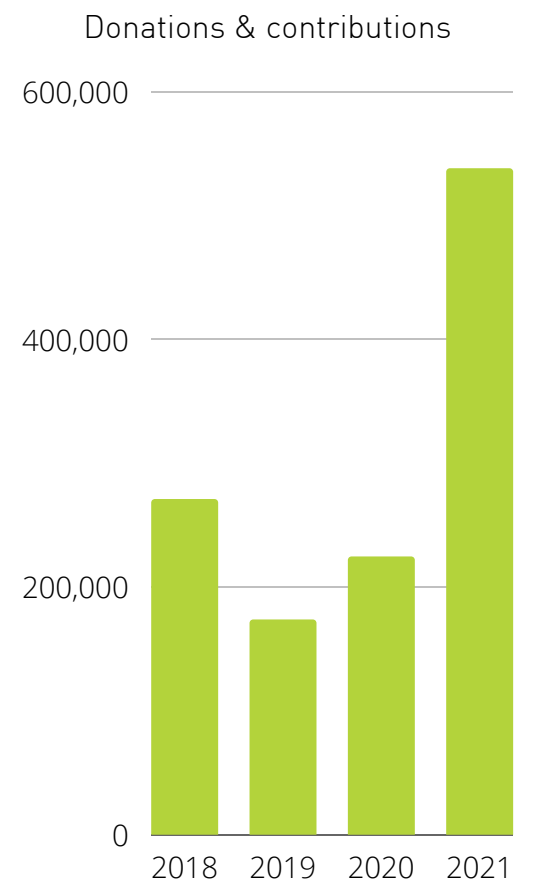
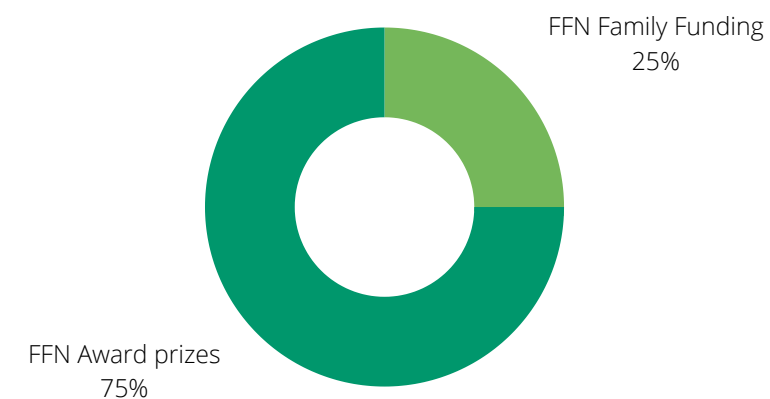
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Time to grow

To support the foundation's ambition to develop and grow as well as provide the new FFN Family Funding and prepare for the oncoming 15th anniversary, Future For Nature successfully increased its fundraising in 2021.

For the full financial accounts, please see the 'Jaarrekening 2021' on our website.

Supporting our Family of winners



2022 FFN AWARD PROSPECTS



**ALL KINDS OF
DIFFERENT
SPECIES**

During the summer of 2021, the application for the 2022 Future For Nature Awards were open. A total of 267 people from more than 65 countries applied.

The National Selection Committee carefully reviewed them all and selected nine dedicated, young conservationists as the 2022 nominees.

After approval from the board, the nominee applications were passed on to our International Selection Committee and a social media campaign to promote the 2022 FFN Award Nominees and their work commenced!



National Selection Committee

- Hans De longh
- Herman Rijksen
- Kees Lankester
- Margje Voeten
- Pita Verweij
- Gabriella Fredriksson

International Selection Committee

- Saba Douglas-Hamilton (chair)
- Annette Lanjouw
- Brian Huntley
- John Mackinnon
- Masha Vorontsova
- Patricia Medici
- Simon Stuart
- Vivek Menon



“Future For Nature puts its trust in young people to make a difference!”
- Hana Raza, FFN winner 2017



FFN BOARD

As of January 2021



Marlies van Wijhe
Chairman



Alex van Hooff
Vice Chairman



Claudius van de Vijver
Treasurer



Willem Ferwerda
General boardmember



Rob van den Dool
General boardmember

Honorary members of the board are Niels Halbersma, Herman Rijksen en Hemmo Muntingh.
In 2021 board meeting were held on February 15, April 1, June 1, July 7, November 2 and December 7.

FFN OFFICE



Rascha Nuijten
Director



Marloes Leeftang
Coordinator FFN



Fleur Damen
Coordinator FFN Academy

In January 2021 Onnika van Oosterbosch left the team as coordinator.

THANK YOU TO

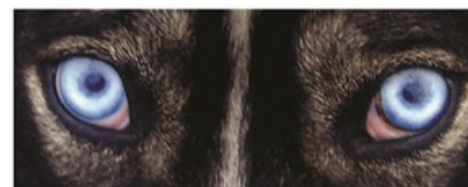
Our volunteers

Mira Meijer, Mathijs Megens, Françoise Winkels, Lotte Uijtendaal, Linda Bloch, Jeroen Pouwels, Hilmar Derksen and Monica Vidal.

In 2021 we said goodbye to volunteers
Gaella Walravan, Iris de Groot and Kayleigh Verleun.
Thank you for your time, skills and dedication!

Our sponsors

AFRICA'S
EDEN



FONDATION SEGRÉ



ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

The Foundation aims to protect endangered animal and plant species
(as laid down in the Articles of Association on 9 December 2008).

The Foundation undertakes to accomplish its aim by:

- a. Establishing and presenting the Future For Nature Awards
- b. Targeting the Awards at young conservationists (up to 35 years) who make a crucial contribution to the protection of endangered animal and plant species.

The address of the Foundation is:
Antoon Van Hooffplein 1
6816 SH Arnhem
the Netherlands
phone +31 26 353 7207
info@futurefornature.org

The Foundation's tax identification code is 8056.52.383.
The Foundation has ANBI-recognized status.

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