

Mandai Nature Impact Report
2025/2026



Protecting Southeast Asia's biodiversity

By inspiring conservation leadership

Our Year in Photos



← Dr Sonja Luz, CEO of Mandai Nature, and Nerissa Chao, Director of the Asian Species Action Partnership (ASAP) at the IUCN World Conservation Congress with partners from the session "Building resilience and powering conservation action from the ground up in Southeast Asia". Photo: Ting Wai Kit



← Dr Oz Pomp, Laboratory Head and Yeo Hui Li, Senior Research Officer from the biobanking team working alongside regional counterparts at the Vietnam National Biobanking Strategic Planning Workshop. Photo: Mandai Nature



↑ Staff and volunteers from Butterfly Circle during a biodiversity survey at Mandai Wildlife West, which uncovered 26 species of butterflies. Photo: Mandai Nature



↑ High school students in Sulawesi, Indonesia observing wildlife in the Tangkoko Nature Reserve during a youth camp organised by our partner Selamatkan Yaki, to nurture young conservation champions and strengthen locally-led action for wildlife protection. Photo: Selamatkan Yaki



↑ Dr Jessica Lee leading the Mandai Nature delegation at CITES CoP20, where she moderated two panel sessions highlighting the severe impact of wildlife trade on threatened songbird and hornbill populations. Photo: Ting Wai Kit



← Colleagues from Mandai Wildlife Group assisting field teams from Wildlife Conservation Society (Cambodia) to collect data that tracks released southern river terrapins along the Sre Ambel river in Cambodia. Photo: Mandai Wildlife Group



↑ Mandai Nature and Asian Species Action Partnership (ASAP) contributed insights and expertise to "Endangered Animals of Southeast Asia", a children's book featuring ten of the region's most threatened species. Photo: Armour Publishing



→ Carmen Choong, Manager for Local Biodiversity, presenting on human-macaque coexistence in the Mandai Wildlife Reserve, at the 33rd Southeast Asian Zoos and Aquariums Association (SEAZA) Conference. Photo: Mandai Nature

↑ Dr Jessica Lee, Head of Avian Conservation and Youth Programmes, hosting an interactive sharing on impacts of the illegal trade on wildlife in Southeast Asia, as part of the Philanthropy Asia Summit 2025 Impact Showcase at the Singapore Zoo. Photo: Temasek Trust



↑ Mandai Nature joined over 20 biodiversity groups at the annual Festival of Biodiversity in Singapore, interacting with visitors of all ages. Photo: Mandai Nature



← Participants placing bioacoustic devices to monitor gibbon vocalisations in their habitats as part of population surveys. Photo: SwaraOwa

ABOUT

Mandai Nature

Mandai Nature is a non-profit organisation dedicated to advancing biodiversity conservation in Asia, with a focus on averting species extinction in Southeast Asia. We drive impact by delivering conservation programmes at scale with partners, and by convening partnerships and alliances to achieve critical conservation outcomes.

Mandai Nature is the conservation arm of Mandai Wildlife Group, which manages the Mandai Wildlife Reserve – a wildlife and nature destination in Singapore home to five wildlife parks, indoor attractions and public spaces.

We apply holistic conservation approaches, working closely with the Group to achieve greater outcomes for species under its care and their counterparts in the wild.

Mandai Nature hosts the Asian Species Action Partnership (ASAP), the IUCN SSC Conservation Planning Specialist Group (CPSG) Southeast Asia Resource Centre, and the Center for Species Survival: Southeast Asia, established in collaboration with the IUCN Species Survival Commission.

OUR PURPOSE

A sustainable world where wildlife and people thrive together in healthy ecosystems

OUR VISION

Avert extinction of the most threatened species in Asia, especially in Southeast Asia

OUR MISSION

Develop and deliver wildlife conservation programmes at scale

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Photo: Mandai Wildlife Group

MESSAGE

Robin Hu

Chairman
Mandai Nature



Mandai Nature protects Southeast Asia's threatened species, restores its ecosystems, and benefits its communities. We do this by building science, capacity, and partnerships across the region. Five years after our founding, that mandate has moved from ambition to infrastructure.

On 30 March 2026, we marked this shift publicly for the first time. Our inaugural gala dinner, Wild at Heart, brought together 230 business leaders, philanthropists, and conservation advocates, many encountering Mandai Nature's work for the first time. We were deeply grateful for the presence and support of our Patron, President Tharman Shanmugaratnam, and Ms. Jane Ittogi. The evening raised over S\$500,000, which will receive match funding through the Tote Board Enhanced Fundraising Grant.

“What we have built is a foundation. What we build next, through the Academy, the Centre, and the partnerships now extending across the region, is the case for why that foundation matters.”

We thank our donors for their generosity toward wildlife and nature conservation, a cause that still needs a far broader base of support. Too often, the cost of species extinction, and the value of the science needed to prevent it, go unrecognised.

Building what conservation needs

The evening was also an occasion to introduce the Mandai Nature Academy, an integral part of Mandai Nature with a crucial role still ahead of it. Conservation in this region fails as often from a shortage of trained people and shared science as from a shortage of funding. The Academy exists to close that gap.

One pillar advances wildlife science: biobanking, conservation science, reproduction science, behavioural science, and disease research. Alongside it, capacity building bridges the space between that science and conservationists doing field work in habitats.

Mandai Wildlife Centre, which will officially open in mid-2026,

is a tangible expression of this same mandate. Purpose-built to care for rescued wildlife, the Centre will admit around 1,000 animals annually from across Singapore, providing veterinary care and rehabilitation until they are fit to return to the wild.

Creating a legacy for the future

The funds raised will support field conservation, the training of the next generation of conservationists, and the science behind every decision we make.

To the 230 guests who joined us, to our donors, and to every partner who has stood with us across five years, thank you. What we have built is a foundation. What we build next, through the Academy, the Centre, and the partnerships now extending across the region, is the case for why that foundation matters.

MESSAGE

Dr Sonja Luz

CEO
Mandai Nature



This year, Mandai Nature steps into a new chapter – one where strategy becomes structure, and intention becomes institution.

The biodiversity crisis across Southeast Asia has not eased. Species are disappearing faster than ever, funding continues to lag behind need, and the gap between what conservation demands and what it receives – in capacity, in systems, in sustained commitment – remains acute. But urgency alone is not enough. What this moment calls for is durability: the kind of science-grounded people-centred effort that outlasts any single programme cycle. This year, we began building that durability in earnest.

A new home for conservation science and knowledge

The launch of the Mandai Nature Academy is the most significant institutional milestone in our five-year journey. This platform gives lasting form to our commitment

“Biodiversity conservation is not fast. It is not easy. But it is consequential – and it is exactly the kind of work the world needs more of.”

to nature science, capacity building and advocacy. Through the Academy, we are investing in people who will shape the future of conservation by strengthening technical expertise, building tools, facilitating knowledge exchanges and connecting practitioners across borders and disciplines.

Our capacity-building efforts focus on young leaders, who will inherit the conservation decisions of coming decades; women, whose leadership in the conservation sector across the region remains underrepresented; and wildlife professionals, whose expertise is essential to species recovery at every stage. By equipping them with the knowledge, resilience and opportunities to lead, we are helping strengthen conservation ecosystems far beyond the projects we directly support.

Central to the Academy's work is our new Mandai Wildlife Centre. Beyond providing treatment and recovery for native wildlife, it will also serve as a training facility where practical veterinary and conservation skills are built and transferred.

At the same time, we have continued to ensure that Southeast Asia's conservation priorities are represented on the global stage. We were proud to have joined more than 1,400 leaders from the global conservation community at

the IUCN World Conservation Congress in October 2025 to shape priorities for species conservation, habitat restoration, livelihood support and sustainable development. Through discussions and exchanges with like-minded conservationists and practitioners, we had the opportunity to advocate for biodiversity investment in Southeast Asia, species translocation, nature-based solutions and highlight the importance of enabling effective action on the ground.

Looking ahead

The Academy, our wildlife centre, and our continued work across Southeast Asia represent a deepening of what we know is working – evidence-based, partnership-driven, and rooted in communities and people that make field conservation possible. Even as global biodiversity financing grows more restrained, Mandai Nature remains committed to this region: catalysing and enabling regional conservation action, building conservation science and capacity and convening partnerships to address critical conservation outcomes.

Biodiversity conservation is not fast. It is not easy. But it is consequential – and it is exactly the kind of work the world needs more of. We are in it for the long run, with every partner, every community and every species that depend on us.

Saving Species Across Southeast Asia



Myanmar

- Burmese roofed turtle
- Burmese star tortoise



Singapore

- Chestnut-winged babbler
- Coastal horseshoe crab
- Common palm civet
- Lesser dog-faced fruit bat
- Long-tailed macaque
- Multiple cephalopod species
- Multiple crab species
- Multiple shark and ray species
- Raffles' banded langur
- Reticulated swamp crab
- Short-tailed babbler
- Singapore freshwater crab
- Straw-headed bulbul



Lao PDR

- Asiatic black bear
- Saola
- Sun bear



Vietnam

- Vietnam pheasant



Cambodia

- Cantor's giant softshell turtle
- Red-headed vulture
- Sarus crane
- Siamese crocodile
- Southern river terrapin
- White-rumped vulture
- White-shouldered ibis



Malaysia

- Proboscis monkey



Philippines

- Gigante wrinkled ground frog
- Negros bleeding-heart
- Palawan forest turtle
- Philippine cockatoo
- Philippine eagle
- Philippine pangolin
- Philippine spotted deer
- Rufous-headed hornbill
- Tamaraw
- Visayan hornbill
- Visayan warty pig
- Walden's hornbill



Indonesia

- Anoa
- Babirusa
- Bali myna
- Barusan shama
- Black-winged myna
- Celebes crested macaque
- Greater green leafbird
- Helmeted hornbill
- Javan gibbon
- Javan green magpie

More than
40

CONSERVATION &
RESEARCH GRANTS

delivered by
partners across
Southeast Asia

Siamese crocodile

CAMBODIA
Photo: Phun Thorn/Wildlife Conservation Society (Cambodia)



More than
60

SPECIES

Targeted conservation
action for more than
60 threatened
Southeast Asian species



Negros bleeding-heart
PHILIPPINES
Photo: Mandai Wildlife Group



Singapore freshwater crab
SINGAPORE
Photo: Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum, National University of Singapore

- Javan warty pig
- Kloss' gibbon
- Komodo dragon
- Mentawai langur
- Multiple parrot species
- Multiple songbird species
- Pagai macaque
- Pig-tailed langur
- Rote snake-necked turtle
- Rufous-fronted laughingthrush

- Simeulue hill myna
- Siberut langur
- Siberut macaque
- Straw-headed bulbul
- Sumatran elephant
- Sumatran laughingthrush
- Sunda pangolin
- Yellow-crested cockatoo

For the full list of conservation projects supported by Mandai Nature, please refer to the Annex on Page 53.

Shaping the Future of Conservation

Photo: National Parks Board

Nurturing a “Wild at Heart” community

On 30 March 2026, Mandai Nature held its inaugural fundraising gala, Wild at Heart, at the Mandai Rainforest Resort by Banyan Tree. The event brought together over 200 guests from leading businesses, government agencies, and philanthropic organisations in a shared commitment to protect Southeast

Asia’s extraordinary biodiversity and strengthen capacity for the next generation of conservation leaders.

We were honoured to welcome Mr Tharman Shanmugaratnam, Patron of Mandai Nature and President of the Republic of Singapore and Ms Jane Ittogi as Guests-of-Honour.



From left: Mr Ho Kwon Ping, Co-founder and Executive Chairman, Banyan Group; Ms Ho Ching, Chairman, Temasek Trust; Mr Robin Hu, Chairman, Mandai Nature; Mr Tharman Shanmugaratnam, President of the Republic of Singapore and Patron of Mandai Nature; Ms Jane Ittogi; Dr Sonja Luz, CEO, Mandai Nature; Ms Claire Chiang, Co-founder, Banyan Group; and Mr Bennett Neo, Group CEO, Mandai Wildlife Group.

Photo: Ministry of Digital Development and Information

Dr Charlene Yeong taking questions from guests during a segment showcasing wildlife care and rehabilitation efforts under Mandai Nature Academy. Photo: Mandai Nature



From left: Dr Jessica Lee, Head, Avian Species and Youth Programmes, Shawne Goh, Senior Executive, and Nerissa Chao, Director, Asian Species Action Partnership, during a conversational segment highlighting the importance of mentorship for aspiring conservationists and capacity building programmes under the Academy. Photo: Mandai Nature

A key highlight of the evening was the introduction of the Mandai Nature Academy, an initiative created to equip conservationists with the knowledge, skills and tools needed to drive lasting impact in Singapore and the region.

Table sales, donations and a silent auction featuring exclusive conservation experiences helped raise over S\$500,000. These funds will be further matched by the Tote Board Enhanced Fundraising Grant.

Dr Charlene Yeong, Head, Mandai Wildlife Centre, introducing a Sunda pangolin under Mandai Wildlife Group’s care to President Tharman and Ms Ittogi during a pre-dinner tour to the Group’s Wildlife Health and Research Centre. Photo: Mandai Wildlife Group



Mandai Nature Academy bridges critical gaps in conservation capacity building, research, and tool development to empower effective

wildlife conservation in Singapore and the surrounding region. Guided by three key pillars, the Academy aims to nurture future conservation leaders and position Singapore as a regional centre of excellence for conservation:

- **Science & Research**
Driving biodiversity research to deliver actionable knowledge, innovative tools and measurable impact on the ground
- **Capacity Building**
Empowering and mentoring the next generation of conservation professionals while strengthening conservation expertise across Southeast Asia through structured programmes
- **Advocacy**
Streamlining biodiversity into everyone’s lives and business practices



Scan or click to view
Mandai Nature’s brand video

Building capacity in youth-led conservation

Youth play a pivotal role in the future of conservation. Under Mandai Nature Academy, we mentor and support various youth-led activities that build national, regional and global networks, and address key conservation challenges. These opportunities empower young conservationists to make meaningful contributions to wildlife conservation.

CITES Global Youth Summit



Guest-of-Honour President Tharmar Shanmugaratnam and Host Minister of State Alvin Tan with CGYN co-founders Ting Wai Kit and Steffi Tan, together with CITES representative Siiri Mäkelä and CGYN member Faith Tan, at the Opening Ceremony of the CITES Global Youth Summit.
Photo: Singapore Oceanarium

In May 2025, Singapore hosted the inaugural Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) Global Youth Summit, convening 76 youth delegates from 53 countries to strengthen global collaboration in addressing wildlife trade challenges.

Organised by the CITES Global Youth Network (CGYN), the five-day Summit aimed to empower emerging leaders from diverse backgrounds and catalyse collaborative solutions for tackling the illegal wildlife trade.



Guided by the Mandai Nature team, participants shared their post-workshop learnings around wildlife trade and conservation at the Singapore Zoo.
Photo: National Parks Board

developed projects focused on capacity-building, networking, collaboration and public awareness, and participated in an interactive "Race Against Extinction" workshop at the Singapore Zoo.

The delegates participated in a dynamic programme featuring "Human Library" dialogues with esteemed speakers from TRAFFIC, Wildlife Conservation Society and other leading organisations. They also took part in a simulated Conference of the Parties (CoP) session,

CITES Conference of the Parties (CoP)20

Mandai Nature supported a team of passionate young conservationists to represent the CITES Global Youth Network (CGYN) on the global stage at the 20th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES CoP20) in Samarkand, Uzbekistan. As one of the world's foremost forums for shaping international wildlife trade regulations, CITES CoP20 provided a vital platform for CGYN to advance youth participation in wildlife trade policy and action.



CGYN organised a side event at the CoP, sharing about the network's journey with conference attendees, and showcasing how international youth collaboration can generate impact in tackling the illegal wildlife trade.
Photo: Ting Wai Kit

At the conference, CGYN showcased its efforts in uniting international youth to collaborate on conservation initiatives and deliver measurable outcomes for wildlife. A significant milestone was achieved when the amendment to the CITES youth resolution was passed, with strong support from 43 parties and 8 observer organisations, including Mandai Nature. The amended youth resolution now formally recognises opportunities for youth participation, engagement and capacity building within the Convention.

"I was heartened to see members of the CITES Global Youth Network actively involved in the committee sessions and contributing to working groups, and I hope that the next CoP will see more youths showcasing themselves as powerful decision-makers, advocates and policy makers."

Alyssa Tan, CGYN member

World Wildlife Day Regional Youth Symposium 2026

More than 150 young conservationists from over 20 countries convened in Singapore for the World Wildlife Day Regional Youth Symposium 2026—an event to foster collaboration and networking among emerging leaders in conservation.

Focusing on the theme, "Exploring Intersections among Wildlife Trade, Wildlife Health and Wildlife Conservation", the Symposium encouraged



Dr Shangzhe Xie, Vice President, Veterinary Healthcare and Scientific Programmes, Mandai Wildlife Group, gave a sharing as part of a panel discussion on "Human-Wildlife Interfaces".
Photo: World Wildlife Day Regional Youth Symposium

participants to examine the interconnectedness of biodiversity protection, animal health and the illegal wildlife trade through panel discussions, project showcases and interactive workshops. Mandai Nature supported the participation of youth leaders from the CITES Global Youth Network's Asia chapter (CGYN Asia).

Together with Mandai Wildlife Group, Mandai Nature co-hosted a workshop at the Singapore Zoo, providing participants with an in-depth look at wildlife rehabilitation techniques, post-mortem procedures, and specialised care provided to reptiles and invertebrates confiscated from the illegal wildlife trade.



Mandai Nature and Mandai Wildlife Group lending expertise to a workshop on "Wildlife Conservation: Veterinary Care for Trafficked Wildlife", which gave participants insights into the "One Health" approach for wildlife conservation.
Photo: World Wildlife Day Regional Youth Symposium



NOW Leaders sharing and supporting each other.
Photo: ASAP

Investing in regional conservation leadership

Addressing biodiversity loss requires skilled conservationists who can design solutions, lead teams and drive change. Mandai Nature invests in building capacity, strengthening skills and supporting leadership development for those dedicated to protecting nature. By empowering both emerging professionals and experienced practitioners, we help conservation initiatives become more effective and resilient.

Championing women leaders in conservation

from eight Southeast Asian countries. NOW Leaders fosters a supportive community grounded in sharing experience, mentorship and peer learning.

The eight-month programme began with a week-long retreat in Lao PDR, providing participants with an opportunity to connect, exchange experiences and strengthen professional bonds.



The Asian Species Action Partnership's (ASAP) Network of Women (NOW) Leaders programme welcomed its third cohort this year, convening 15 women conservationists

Since 2024, members of the NOW Collective—an alumnae network of the NOW initiative—have continued to participate in regular sessions focused on guided learning and leadership, reflecting a continuation of their journey while expanding professional networks and peer support.



The 2025 NOW Leaders cohort. Photo: ASAP

Fostering regional knowledge exchange for conservation

Mandai Nature supported several knowledge exchange visits for Mandai Wildlife Group's Animal Care and Veterinary Healthcare colleagues to learn alongside our regional conservation partners. Through these exchanges, *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation efforts are strengthened as practical knowledge, techniques, and experiences are shared. Our colleagues not only provide insights from managing species under human care, but also gain first-hand experience working with partners who protect threatened species in their natural habitats. This reciprocal learning enhances the success of both *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation initiatives across the region.



Nur Farahdilla and Jonathan Pang, elephant keepers at Mandai Wildlife Group, visited elephant response units (ERUs) run by our partner Community for Nature Conservation Sumatra in Way Kambas National Park. They gained first-hand insights into how specially-trained elephants support conservation efforts in the national park and learnt about elephant husbandry and veterinary care for elephants in a field setting.
Photo: Community for Nature Conservation Sumatra

ABOUT

The NOW Leaders programme

NOW LEADERS

The Network of Women (NOW) Leaders is a flagship programme by the Asian Species Action Partnership (ASAP) dedicated to fostering leadership, resilience, and collaboration among women conservationists in Southeast Asia.



Scan for more about NOW Leaders programme



Dr Daniel Calvo, a veterinarian at Mandai Wildlife Group, joined Mandai Nature and our partner Philippine Eagle Foundation at a training workshop for frontliners in skills like raptor handling, first aid, tree-climbing and field research. The training aims to strengthen a nationwide network for field teams in the Philippines to protect the Philippine eagle and other threatened species.
Photo: Philippine Eagle Foundation

Singapore Conservation Impact Grant

Unraveling the cephalopod diversity and distribution in Singapore and Southeast Asia

Anya Roopa Gajanur, PhD student, Virginia Institute of Marine Science



Presenting findings on cephalopod diversity and distribution in Singapore and Southeast Asia at the 2025 Molluscan Forum.
Photo: Anya Roopa Gajanur

Octopuses, squids, and cuttlefishes – collectively known as cephalopods, play a crucial role in ocean ecosystems and fisheries. Despite their ecological and economic significance, there is limited knowledge of their diversity and biology in Southeast Asia, hindering effective conservation efforts and sustainable fisheries management.

This project documents the diversity and distribution of cephalopods in Singapore, and other Southeast Asian countries where they are economically significant. So far, more than 1,400 specimens collected from across the region and housed in several museums have

Collecting morphological data from a large cuttlefish bought from the fishing port in Singapore. Detailed measurements and observations help document species diversity and improve our understanding of fisheries targets and cephalopod diversity in Southeast Asia.
Photo: Anya Roopa Gajanur



Preserved octopus specimen collected from Singapore in the 1950s and deposited in the Yale Peabody Museum. Comparative examination of museum collections helped reveal previously overlooked species and refine regional biodiversity records.
Photo: Anya Roopa Gajanur



been examined, representing 15 families and 82 species. Nearly all are coastal or nearshore species, alongside several unique and rare deep-sea species.

The findings indicate that the cephalopod diversity in Singapore and surrounding waters is greater than previously understood. Upcoming fieldwork and data collection will continue to strengthen a more accurate local and regional checklist of species, helping to address knowledge gaps and support future research, conserve marine ecosystems and promote sustainable resource management.

Movement ecology and gut microbiome analysis of Singapore's common palm civets

Mandy Ang Mun Er, Student, Flinders University

Common palm civets play an important role in keeping Singapore's forests and green spaces healthy by spreading seeds as they move through the landscape. As these adaptable mammals are increasingly found in urban areas, understanding how city environments affect their health is important for their long-term conservation.

This study examined the gut bacteria of captive, urban and wild common palm civets in Singapore by analysing 72 faecal samples. Researchers also fitted some rehabilitated civets with lightweight tracking tags to better understand their movements after release, although limited tracking data meant that movement patterns could not be fully assessed.

The study found that where civets lived had the greatest influence on the types of gut bacteria they carried. Wild civets had more beneficial bacteria that help break down plant material, reflecting their natural diet. Urban civets



Common palm civets in Singapore.
Photo: Common Palm Civets of Singapore Facebook Group



Common palm civet scat collected during opportunistic faecal sampling. Variation in scat appearance, including colour, consistency and seed content reflects differences in diet, with intact seeds commonly observed.
Photo: Mandy Ang

generally remained healthy but showed greater variation in their gut bacteria, likely due to a wider range of food sources found in city environments. Captive civets also had healthy gut bacteria, consistent with the balanced diets they receive under human care.

As the first study of its kind in Singapore, this research provides an important benchmark for monitoring the health of common palm civets and supports future conservation efforts. It also helps ensure these animals can continue to play their vital role in maintaining healthy forest and urban ecosystems.

ABOUT

The Singapore Conservation Impact Grant

The Singapore Conservation Impact Grant, Mandai Nature's flagship local grant programme, provides S\$200,000 annually to support local biodiversity research and conservation projects. It aims to deepen understanding of Singapore's wildlife, build local conservation capacity, and contribute to the City in Nature goals of Biodiversity, Ecological Connectivity, and Biophilia.

Restoring Wildlife, Renewing Hope: Leading the way in rehabilitation in Singapore

As part of our science and research and capacity building pillars, Mandai Nature collaborates with Mandai Wildlife Group's (MWG) Veterinary Healthcare team to treat and rehabilitate native wildlife. Animals rescued by the National Parks Board (NParks) and Animal Concerns Research and Education Society (ACRES) are often found injured, stranded or separated from their families, and are admitted to the Wildlife Healthcare and Research Centre (WHRC) at the Mandai Wildlife Reserve for care and rehabilitation.

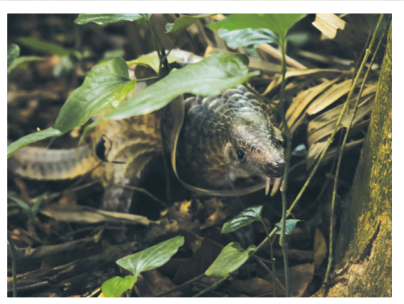
Rescued animals remain at the facility for medical care and physical therapy. Some undergo conditioning to develop or regain survival skills in preparation for their release back into the wild. For post-release monitoring, selected animals such as reticulated pythons and Sunda pangolins are tagged with microchips



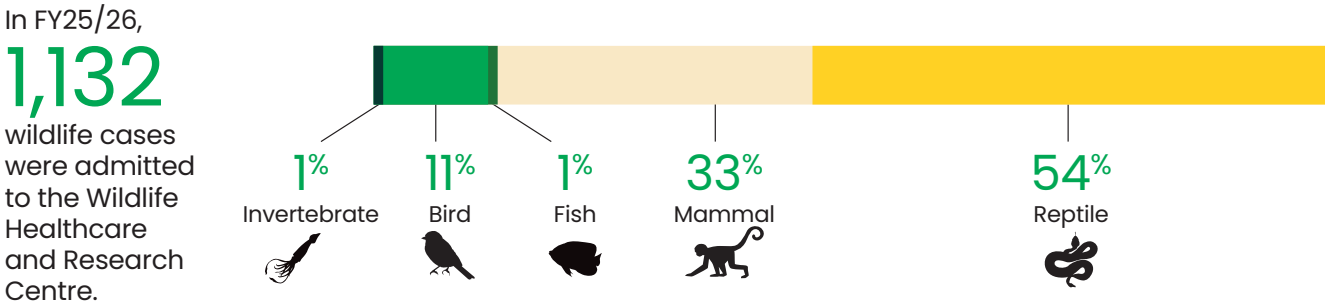
A rescued Sunda colugo being syringe-fed as part of its recovery process.
Photo: Mandai Wildlife Group

that help with identification of each animal.

Once they are assessed by the veterinary team to be ready, we work closely with NParks to safely return them to their natural habitats.



A juvenile Sunda pangolin being brought for walks behind the Wildlife Healthcare and Research Centre as part of rehabilitation and familiarisation with its natural habitat.
Photo: Mandai Wildlife Group



Building better care through every rescue

A pangolin's journey back to the wild



Photos: Mandai Wildlife Group

Every year, we treat and rehabilitate an average of 30 rescued Sunda pangolins. This young male individual arrived thin, dehydrated and with multiple injuries, including signs of significant trauma affecting its movement and coordination. The veterinary team provided intensive care including wound treatment, nutritional support and physiotherapy. After rehabilitation, the pangolin gradually made a full recovery, and was successfully released back into the wild.

Caring for a rare kingfisher



A wild juvenile blue-eared kingfisher was rescued by a member of the public after it had been attacked by crows. This endangered forest bird was admitted to our facility and upon examination, was found to have minor wounds and could not fly well. It responded to treatment, eventually regaining its mobility and strength, and was successfully released back to the forest.

A dedicated space to expand efforts

Mandai Wildlife Centre, set to open in mid-2026, will serve as a dedicated facility to assess, treat and rehabilitate native wildlife rescued from the Mandai Wildlife Reserve and across Singapore. In addition to treatment and rehabilitation, the Centre will advance wildlife research and training, serving as a resource hub for conservation professionals in Southeast Asia.



The opening of Mandai Wildlife Centre allows Mandai Nature to expand its rehabilitation capacity to include a broader range of native species.
Photo: Mandai Nature

Visitors to Rainforest Wild Adventure East can visit the Centre's viewing gallery to witness wildlife rehabilitation efforts first-hand.
Photo: Mandai Nature

What does it take to rehabilitate Singapore's native wildlife? Join Dr Charlene Yeong, Head, Mandai Wildlife Centre, as she goes on a night walk through the Mandai Wildlife Reserve to share insights into the nocturnal Sunda colugo and explain how Mandai Wildlife Centre will enhance care for such species.



View the video here



Tissue from an endangered species is placed in a growth medium, allowing the cells to grow and multiply in the dish, forming a primary culture.
Photo: Mandai Nature

Safeguarding Our Future: Strengthening Conservation Biobanking

Mandai Nature's biobanking programme provides a scientific foundation for conservation efforts under the Mandai Nature Academy, creating a vital genetic safety net for global biodiversity conservation. Our laboratory collects, stores and manages biological materials such as DNA, tissues, gametes and cells from animals, maintaining a growing

repository of over 4,000 biological samples from 146 threatened species.

In the past year, the team reached a major milestone by successfully banking live cells from 15 threatened bird species, including the critically endangered Bali myna. This marks the first successful banking of non-mammalian live cells in Singapore.

“This milestone demonstrates the potential of biobanking in securing the future of not just mammals, but birds and species from other taxonomic groups as well. It opens doors to new possibilities for conservation in Southeast Asia.”

Dr Oz Pomp
Laboratory Head, Mandai Nature

Mandai Nature aims to be a regional leader in capacity building for biobanking. Together with Mandai Wildlife Group and the IUCN SSC Animal Biobanking for Conservation Specialist Group, we co-organised the Asian Biobanking Workshop and Networking Forum, at the 33rd Southeast Asian Zoos and Aquariums Association (SEAZA) Conference. The programme included a tour of the biobanking



Above: Using pin feathers collected from birds, the team extracted cells from species like the critically endangered Vietnam pheasant at Bird Paradise.
Photo: Mandai Nature

facilities at the Mandai Wildlife Reserve, highlighting sample collection and processing techniques.

The team also collaborated with laboratories in Vietnam and Thailand, sharing insights from Mandai Nature's biobank and working with local teams to enhance practical knowledge around banking of avian primordial germ cells (PGCs).

Left: Yeo Hui Li, Senior Research Officer, demonstrating sample collection and processing techniques during a tour of the biobanking facilities at the Asian Biobanking Workshop & Networking Forum.
Photo: Mandai Nature



Scan or click to view the **Asian Biobanking Workshop and Networking Forum Report**

Fostering coexistence with Our Wild Neighbours

The Our Wild Neighbours (OWN) campaign had an eventful year, continuing to strengthen public awareness and promote coexistence with Singapore’s native wildlife.

In July 2025, OWN launched Singapore’s first-ever multilingual wildlife advisories, a collaborative effort with nature groups, community organisations and dedicated individuals. Available in eight languages (aside from English), the advisories were developed to educate both local and migrant communities in Singapore on how to respond safely and responsibly when encountering native wildlife.

OWN also organised the inaugural Human-Wildlife Coexistence Carnival, bringing together people of all ages for a day of interactive and



Dr Sonja Luz speaking to OWN partners, guests from nature groups and the migrant community at the launch of the translated advisories. Photo: Our Wild Neighbours

educational activities focused on sharing spaces with wildlife in Singapore. In support of these efforts, Keppel Care Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Keppel, pledged S\$300,000 over three years to support the OWN campaign and Mandai Nature’s local conservation efforts.



Dr Adrian Loo, Associate Professor and Deputy Director at the Centre for Nature-based Climate Solutions at the National University of Singapore and Dr Sonja Luz, CEO of Mandai Nature, with OWN Core Committee at the launch of the wildlife advisories. Photo: Our Wild Neighbours



Mr Ho Tong Yen, CEO of Keppel Care Foundation, presenting a cheque to Mr Robin Hu, Chairman of Mandai Nature, which was witnessed by Guest of Honour Mr Dinesh Vasu Dash, Minister of State, Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth and Ministry of Manpower, and Mayor of South East District. Photo: Keppel



Held on 6 September 2025 at HeartBeat@Bedok, the Human-Wildlife Coexistence Carnival saw booths from each of OWN’s partner organisations sharing fun and educational information about Singapore’s native wildlife. Photo: Keppel

ABOUT Our Wild Neighbours



Launched in 2022, Our Wild Neighbours (OWN) is a nationwide campaign uniting key stakeholders in a consolidated effort to raise awareness about Singapore’s native wildlife, promote human-wildlife coexistence, and spotlight rescue, rehabilitation and release efforts by various organisations in Singapore. OWN’s Core Committee comprises Mandai Nature, ACRES, National Parks Board and the Otter Working Group. OWN is supported by Keppel Care Foundation in partnership with Mandai Nature.

What should you do?

What should you do when encountering wildlife while out walking with your pet? What can you do to ensure your home and pond is safely secured from wildlife? Get useful advice on what to do when coming across some commonly seen “wild neighbours” in OWN’s wildlife advisories, which have been translated to the following languages:

- | | | |
|-----------|--------------|-----------|
| ■ Bengali | ■ Indonesian | ■ Tagalog |
| ■ Burmese | ■ Malay | ■ Tamil |
| ■ English | ■ Mandarin | ■ Thai |



Scan or click to read OWN’s wildlife advisories

Photo: Mandai Wildlife Group



Restoring habitats where Raffles' banded langurs thrive

For a decade, the citizen science programme under the Raffles' Banded Langur Working Group has built a network of dedicated volunteers committed to observing and sharing knowledge about Singapore's rarest primate.

The programme has expanded into active habitat restoration. In partnership with National Parks Board's OneMillionTrees movement, volunteers participated in four tree planting sessions in the past year at Lower Peirce and along Old Upper Thomson Road. In total, 64 citizen scientists planted 367 trees from 20 species, including corkwood, island lychee and green coffee trees. Each species was carefully selected to nourish and shelter the langurs, creating vital feeding grounds for them and supporting a thriving ecosystem for other wildlife as well.



An empty patch of land along Old Upper Thomson Road before the tree planting (above) and after volunteers planted 120 plants in January 2026 (below).
Photo: Dr Andie Ang



Volunteers from the Raffles' Banded Langur Working Group, Mandai Nature, National Parks Board and members of the public after one of the tree planting sessions.
Photo: Dr Andie Ang

ABOUT

The Raffles' Banded Langur Working Group



Raffles' Banded Langur Working Group

The Raffles' Banded Langur Working Group was formed in 2016 to drive a Species Action Plan for the critically endangered Raffles' banded langur, one of the world's 25 most endangered primates. Funded and managed by Mandai Nature, the action plan spans initiatives from population monitoring to habitat restoration and community engagement. Today, there are an estimated 80 langurs in Singapore, and recent studies have shown that its population is on an upward trajectory if conservation efforts continue.



Student teams competing in the 4th Biodiversity Race to photograph and document as many fauna species as possible across Singapore.
Photo: Nature Society Singapore



Left: Participating schools gathering to present their findings and reflections at a prize-giving ceremony for the 4th Biodiversity Race.
Photo: Nature Society Singapore

Since 2019, Mandai Nature has supported Nature Society Singapore's flagship citizen science and nature education programme, Every Singaporean a Naturalist (ESN). This programme offers opportunities for students, educators and the public to better understand, appreciate and contribute to biodiversity conservation.

This year, ESN organised the 4th Biodiversity Race, bringing together 46 teams of primary and secondary school students from across Singapore in a friendly interschool competition focused on biodiversity monitoring. In just three and a half hours, participants recorded more than 900 observations representing over 100 species!

Mr Leong Kwok Peng, President of Nature Society Singapore presenting a token of appreciation to **Dr Andie Ang, Head of Species Grants and Impact, Mandai Nature** at the 4th Biodiversity Race prize-giving ceremony.



To date, ESN has engaged

✓
65
schools

✓
More than 100
teachers

✓
Nearly 4,000
students

through environmental-related co-curricular activities (CCAs) and school programmes

Conservation in our backyard: the Mandai Wildlife Reserve

Situated adjacent to Singapore’s Central Catchment Nature Reserve, the Mandai Wildlife Reserve plays a vital role in advancing local biodiversity conservation. Our ecology team implements targeted actions that enhance natural habitats, strengthen ecological connectivity, and safeguard key native species found in the reserve.

Understanding and managing biodiversity



Biannual biodiversity surveys were conducted in May and October 2025 across the five wildlife parks within Mandai Wildlife Reserve and Mandai Rainforest Resort. These surveys documented reptiles, amphibians, birds and butterflies, providing critical insight into wildlife utilisation of the Mandai precinct. The initiative engaged 150 staff and volunteers, and recorded a total of 119 species, generating valuable data to guide biodiversity management and conservation efforts.

Additionally, 102 staff, contractors and vendors participated in biodiversity awareness training led by our ecologists, which included guidance on best practices when encountering wildlife in the parks.

A four-lined tree frog observed during a night herpetofauna survey in the Singapore Zoo. The species thrives in a variety of habitats from forest edges to semi-urban areas.
Photo: Carmen Choong

Helping wildlife move safely across the precinct

Wildlife monitoring on and around the Mandai Wildlife Bridge recorded more than 6,000 independent detections in the past year, documenting 26 native species through camera trap footage. Notable sightings included the forest wagtail and smooth-coated otter, highlighting the diversity of wildlife using the bridge. These ongoing monitoring efforts provide critical data on wildlife movement within the Mandai precinct and surrounding forest habitats, informing strategies to strengthen ecological connectivity across the landscape.



Twenty-five camera traps are installed on the Mandai Wildlife Bridge to monitor wildlife use of the bridge and surrounding forest habitats, and are regularly maintained by our ecology team.



A Sunda pangolin with its pup observed on the Mandai Wildlife Bridge. As vegetation on the bridge becomes more established, it facilitates movement of forest-dependent species and strengthens its role as a functioning ecological corridor.
Photos: Mandai Wildlife Group

Enhancing human-wildlife coexistence in Mandai

In collaboration with Mandai Wildlife Group, we have implemented measures to minimise unintended impacts on wildlife arising from daily operations and maintenance efforts. A primary focus has been the reduction of bird collisions with reflective glass surfaces through the installation of bird-safe films and decals. These interventions have yielded positive outcomes. Since their installation at high-risk locations, no collision incidents have been recorded.



Bird-safe stickers have been installed at the Zoo Learning Centre in Singapore Zoo.
Photo: Mandai Wildlife Group

Targeted efforts for Mandai’s focal native species

Home to a remarkable diversity of wildlife, the precinct has become a focal point for targeted conservation efforts. Special attention is given to native species that play vital ecological roles, hold significant conservation value and are particularly sensitive to disturbance. This year, our efforts have focused on the following species:

Straw-headed bulbul



This critically endangered species continues to find refuge within the Mandai Wildlife Reserve, which supports a meaningful proportion of Singapore’s population. Ongoing monitoring and research have improved understanding of habitat use, breeding ecology and potential threats, with two instances of successful breeding documented this year.

Sunda colugo



For the nocturnal Sunda colugo, long-term monitoring and habitat enhancement efforts continued, including the planting of native tree species to strengthen canopy connectivity and support safe movements across fragmented habitats. These efforts were guided by ecological connectivity modelling to identify key habitat gaps across the parks.

Stingless bee



Stingless bees play a vital but often overlooked role as native pollinators within the parks. Management actions for this species focused on safeguarding existing colonies, improving awareness of their ecological importance through educational signages in the Singapore Zoo and Night Safari, and supporting informed relocation decisions where needed.

Center for Species Survival Southeast Asia

**Integrating
Expertise and
Action for
Threatened
Species**

Elephant Response Units (ERUs), consisting of specially trained Sumatran elephants and their mahouts, patrol the 126,000-hectare Way Kambas National Park, helping monitor illegal activity and managing human-elephant conflicts. Photo: Community for Nature Conservation Sumatra



Builder

1 Using all the tools in our *ex situ* conservation toolbox

Creating greater impact for species conservation

Mandai Nature's regional investments integrate funding, conservation expertise, partnerships and field-based action to advance long-term conservation outcomes. These efforts focus on safeguarding Southeast Asia's most threatened species and habitats while supporting the livelihoods of communities.

3 Convening and participating in conservation partnerships

Convenor



Working hand in hand with Mandai Wildlife Group's animal care experts, we adopt a One Plan Approach in advancing conservation breeding programmes that blend science with hands-on fieldwork—revitalising wild populations of threatened species and securing their future in the wild.



Catalyst

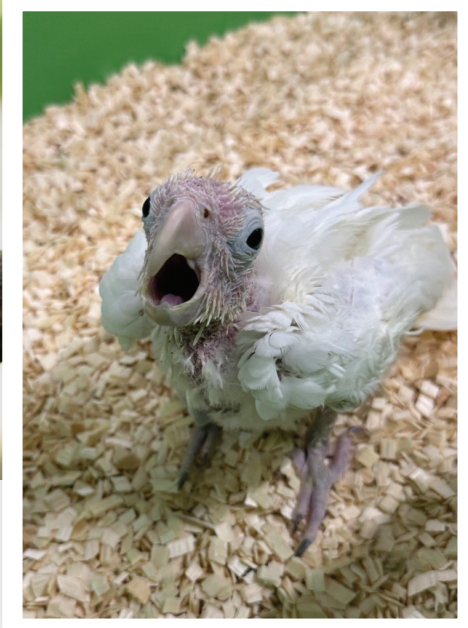
2 Catalysing conservation action

Funding and providing expertise for over 40 conservation programmes in the region, leading field efforts from wildlife monitoring and reforestation to sustainable farming.



Hosting the Asian Species Action Partnership (ASAP), a network of over 200 organisations committed to catalysing and accelerating conservation action for critically endangered species in Southeast Asia; and being an active member of regional alliances driving nature-based solutions and tackling illegal wildlife trade.





The chick at approximately two months old.
Photos: Mandai Wildlife Group

Growing hope for the Philippine Cockatoo

A significant *ex situ* conservation milestone for the critically endangered Philippine cockatoo was reached in October 2025, marked by the first successful hatching under a conservation breeding programme at Bird Paradise in Singapore. Now a healthy adult, this individual has joined five other Philippine cockatoos at the park's Winged Sanctuary with future plans for potential repatriation to its native Philippines.

This breeding initiative was developed in partnership with Katala Foundation Inc (KFI) and supported by the Philippines' Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR). The success represents a

“For nearly 30 years, we’ve worked to protect the Philippine cockatoo in its last wild strongholds. To see a chick hatched from birds we rescued and cared for nearly a decade ago is a deeply meaningful moment for our team. This success reinforces our work on the ground in Palawan and reflects what’s possible when *in situ* and *ex situ* efforts align.”

Indira Dayang Lacerna-Widdman

Co-founder and COO,
Katala Foundation Inc



Indira with a Philippine cockatoo.
Photo: Katala Foundation Inc



Mandai Nature facilitating a conservation planning workshop organised by DENR and KFI, aimed at establishing a coordinated national approach for the conservation of the Philippine cockatoo. Read more about our conservation planning activities on Pg 36-37. Photo: Katala Foundation Inc

major advancement in *ex situ* conservation for the species, which continues to face severe threats in the wild.

KFI leads *in situ* conservation efforts for the species in Palawan where its Philippine Cockatoo Conservation Programme (PCCP) has established four reserves and significantly advanced species recovery. Notably, on Rasa Island, the populations have increased from just 25 individuals in 1998 to more than 350 in 2021. For over a decade, Mandai Nature has supported PCCP through funding, veterinary collaborations and species management expertise, strengthening the impact of field conservation work in Palawan.

ABOUT The Philippine cockatoo

The Philippine cockatoo, or red-vented cockatoo, known locally as “katala”, is endemic to the Philippines. Once widespread throughout the country, poaching for the pet trade and habitat destruction has led to an 80 per cent decline in the wild population over the last 40 years. Today, this critically endangered bird is confined to the lowland, coastal and mangrove forests of the Palawan and Sulu archipelago.



Scan or click to read the article **Mandai Wildlife Group and Mandai Nature mark milestone in conservation breeding with first-ever Philippine cockatoo fledgling**

Building long-term strategies for conservation success

As the host of the IUCN SSC Conservation Planning Specialist Group (CPSG) Southeast Asia Resource Centre, Mandai Nature has convened diverse stakeholders spanning governments, conservation organisations, researchers, and community representatives to shape coordinated strategies for threatened species in the region.



6

workshops facilitated



284

stakeholders engaged



18

species impacted

Cambodia

Shaping a roadmap for Cambodia's key wildlife conservation centre

In June 2025, Mandai Nature and the Asian Species Action Partnership (ASAP) joined forces with Angkor Centre for Conservation of Biodiversity (ACCB) to help chart a bold, long-term roadmap for Cambodia's first wildlife conservation centre.

Together with Cambodian and regional partners, we facilitated a series of workshops to define ACCB's strategic priorities for the next five to ten years. These discussions centred on strengthening local capacity to maximise conservation outcomes for the 12 priority species under ACCB's care, including the giant ibis, elongated tortoise and Bengal florican.



Mandai Nature and Asian Species Action Partnership (ASAP) teams visiting ACCB's premises, which includes the first-ever breeding facility for the critically endangered Bengal florican. ACCB has been instrumental in protecting the species through an insurance population established at the centre. Photos: ACCB



Safeguarding the Javan Green Magpie

Amid escalating threats to the critically endangered Javan green magpie, Mandai Nature facilitated a landmark workshop in Java, Indonesia in October 2025. Over four days, 48 experts collaborated to identify core threats including poaching and illegal trade, habitat loss and fragmentation, and pesticide use. The workshop culminated in the development of 81 priority actions to guide conservation, address knowledge gaps and secure the species' future.



Conservation Action Plan for Javan Green Magpie (*Cissa thalassina*) 2026-2035



Roopali Raghavan and Isabelle Tan from Mandai Nature's conservation planning team co-facilitated the workshop organised jointly by various IUCN SSC Specialist Groups, CSSs, zoos, conservation organisations and academic institutions. Photo: IUCN SSC Indonesia Species Specialist Group

Left: Following the workshop, a Conservation Action Plan for the Javan Green Magpie was published in March 2026, setting out a vision and structured guide for conservation efforts.



Access the report: [Conservation Action Plan for Javan Green Magpie \(*Cissa thalassina*\) 2026-2035](#)

Indonesia

Coordinating action for Java's endangered warty pigs

In February 2026, Mandai Nature co-facilitated a Conservation Action Planning Workshop for the endangered Javan and Bawean warty pigs at Taman Safari Indonesia Prigen. This initiative brought together government agencies, researchers, zoological institutions, NGOs and conservation practitioners to develop a coordinated five-year strategy for both species.

Despite their ecological importance, Javan and Bawean warty pigs face increasing threats,



Listed as Endangered on the IUCN Red List, the Javan warty pig (pictured) and Bawean warty pig are found only on Java and Bawean islands respectively, and are often misunderstood by local communities. Photo: Bertie Ferns/ Yayasan Cikananga Konservasi Terpadu

including hunting, human-wildlife conflict, habitat loss and the looming threat of African swine fever. The workshop addressed these challenges by strengthening collaborative management, advancing conservation breeding, supporting research and promoting community-based conservation to stabilise and restore wild populations.

Guided by IUCN SSC Conservation Planning Specialist Group Principles and Steps, the workshop demonstrated the importance for robust partnerships and well-defined strategies for achieving effective conservation outcomes.



Organisers from the Indonesian Zoos and Aquariums Association, Taman Safari Indonesia, Chester Zoo, Kolner Zoo, IUCN Wild Pig Specialist Group and Mandai Nature with participants. Photo: Taman Safari Indonesia

Indonesia

Outcomes across species, habitats and communities

Across the region, our supported projects have collectively delivered measurable conservation outcomes, made possible through continuous funding and in-kind support for our field partners — from safeguarding the most threatened wildlife and restoring degraded habitats to helping communities by strengthening biodiversity-friendly livelihoods and community stewardship.

OUTCOMES CONTRIBUTING TO:

Recovery or stabilisation of threatened species

4,318

ANIMALS
BRED

4,318 animals were bred or held as part of insurance populations established by our field partners. Of these, over 300 were released into native habitats or specially protected zones.

407

TRAPS
REMOVED

407 traps, including snares and fishing nets, were removed as part of anti-poaching efforts conducted through regular ranger patrols.

2,079

INDIVIDUALS
EQUIPPED

2,079 individuals were equipped with conservation skills and knowledge, through specialised field training, capacity-building programmes and learning opportunities.

645

SPECIES
PROTECTED

645 species were protected through active patrols or legislation change.

Photo: Free the Bears

OUTCOMES CONTRIBUTING TO:

Protection and restoration of critical ecosystems

6,208

HECTARES
CONNECTED

6,208 hectares of forests restored to connect habitats or established corridors.



151,039

HECTARES
PROTECTED

151,039 hectares of key habitats remain protected through on-ground patrols and community-based ranger programmes.

1,080

FARMERS
TRAINED

1,080 farmers received training in sustainable, biodiversity-friendly land-use practices.



116,671

SEEDLINGS
PLANTED

A total of 116,671 seedlings were planted as part of forest restoration or enhancement initiatives.

OUTCOMES CONTRIBUTING TO:

Social and economic benefits for local communities

376,775

KG OF CROPS
PRODUCED

376,775kg of wildlife-friendly crops produced through pesticide-free and conservation-linked farming practices.

942

ACTIVITIES
DELIVERED

942 conservation education and awareness activities delivered including school outreach programmes, public engagements, surveys and youth initiatives – reaching 451,936 individuals.

146,547

LIVELIHOODS
SUPPORTED

146,547 livelihoods supported from conservation activities including sustainable agriculture, habitat restoration, wildlife protection and reduced human-wildlife conflict.

The Barusan shama, a highly prized songbird in the market, has been driven to the brink of extinction due to extensive trapping. Photo: Ecosystem Impact Foundation

Indonesia

Impact story: Barusan shama takes flight on Simeulue Island

Once thought to be extinct in the wild, the Barusan shama has taken a significant step towards recovery. This year, the first chick successfully fledged on its native Simeulue island in Indonesia, marking a major milestone for efforts to restore the species in the wild. The bird will soon be released onto surrounding islands under the protection of dedicated community rangers.

Led by our partner Ecosystem Impact Foundation, with guidance from the IUCN SSC Asian Songbird Trade Specialist Group, the breeding and reintroduction project integrates conservation science with community stewardship. Local community rangers play a vital role in monitoring and protecting released birds, increasing their chances of survival in the wild.

Endemic to the Barusan or West Sumatran archipelago, the Barusan shama has suffered severe declines due to habitat loss and the illegal songbird trade. Mandai Nature's support has enabled the construction of specialised aviaries, ranger programmes, habitat protection and providing avian conservation expertise, helping to build a secure future for the species.

The Barusan shama chick pictured in April 2025. Photo: Ecosystem Impact Foundation



An educational programme for Simeulue island's students organised by Ecosystem Impact Foundation to get students to observe the island's native wildlife. Photo: Ecosystem Impact Foundation

ABOUT

The project



Ecosystem Impact Foundation works to keep the wild landscapes of Bangkaru and Simeulue islands in Sumatra, Indonesia, which serve as critical refuges for critically endangered sea turtles and some of the world's rarest bird species. Since 2020, Mandai Nature has supported Ecosystem Impact Foundation's conservation breeding programme for the Simeulue hill myna and Barusan shama, with the goal of re-establishing wild populations. Alongside this, the team also runs bird education conservation programmes in Simeulue schools, helping to foster long-term community support for protecting the islands' unique wildlife.

Myanmar

Impact story: Bringing the Burmese roofed turtle back from the brink

The critically endangered Burmese roofed turtle had all but disappeared from its historical ranges of Myanmar's river systems. But with sustained conservation breeding and other protection efforts, one of the world's most threatened freshwater turtles is no longer considered at immediate risk of extinction.

Wildlife Conservation Society and Turtle Survival Alliance have been steadily establishing and growing four insurance populations across Myanmar, at Yangon Zoo, Mandalay Zoo, Htamanthi Wildlife Sanctuary and Lawkanandar Wildlife Sanctuary. Nearly 250 hatchlings were hatched last year, adding to a growing population of young turtles being head-started until they are ready to survive in the wild. The field team also constructed a facility



at Lawkanandar Wildlife Sanctuary to strengthen these efforts, providing a dedicated space for juveniles during this stage of development.

Today, there is population of 1,992 Burmese roofed turtles under human care in these insurance populations, with

Local community members releasing turtles into a secured pond in the Chindwin river.
Photo: Myanmar Biodiversity Fund



A Burmese roofed turtle hatchling. The species was pushed to the brink of extinction by a combination of overharvesting for food, collection of eggs, wildlife trade and loss of nesting habitats.
Photo: Myo Min Win

the numbers expected to exceed 2,400 at the end of the current nesting season.

Mandai Wildlife Group also holds the only insurance population of the turtles outside Myanmar, with hopes to breed and repatriate them in the future.

While challenges remain before the species can once again thrive in its natural river systems, each successful nesting season brings the Burmese roofed turtle one step closer to recovery.



The Wildlife Conservation Society field team working on replenishing sandbanks for turtle nesting at Lawkanandar Wildlife Sanctuary.
Photo: Myanmar Biodiversity Fund

ABOUT

The project



Wildlife Conservation Society and Turtle Survival Alliance have been involved in long-term conservation efforts to restore the Burmese roofed turtle and other endangered turtles endemic to Myanmar. Since 2023, Mandai Nature has supported these efforts, which focus on improving husbandry and captive breeding success, translocating head-started turtles to the Chindwin river and securing remaining wild populations through monitoring, egg collection and head-starting juvenile turtles.

Asian Species Action Partnership



Hosted by Mandai Nature, the Asian Species Action Partnership (ASAP) is a network of organisations dedicated to conserving critically endangered land and freshwater vertebrate species in Southeast Asia.

ASAP's approach comprises these key goals to safeguard species at risk of extinction:

- Amplifying funding and knowledge
- Investing in people
- Strengthening local organisations

Amplifying funding and knowledge

This year, ASAP's four funds awarded more than S\$400,000 in targeted grants, providing a powerful lifeline for partners. These grants facilitate early-stage investment in projects, pilot innovative approaches and strengthen both emerging and established organisations – critical for building local leadership and enabling effective locally led conservation.

Each fund is designed to respond to different partner needs, from urgent action and innovation, to strengthening capacity and long-term species recovery. In total, 20 ASAP species were directly protected through these grants.

ASAP'S HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2025

✓
**More than
S\$400,000**
awarded
in grants

✓
20
ASAP species
directly conserved
through grants

✓
51
ASAP partners
supported through
grants, training
and direct support

✓
114
hours
of training
delivered



The BISA Indonesia team at an organisational development workshop. BISA Indonesia is an Indonesia-based conservation organisation dedicated to conserving endemic Indonesian wildlife like the Javan blue flycatcher. Photo: BISA Indonesia



The Indonesian Herpetofauna Foundation received a Continuation Fund grant to conduct further research to continue developing techniques needed for conservation breeding of the bleeding toad. Less than 250 individuals remain, across two national parks in West Java, Indonesia. Photo: Restu Dwikelana

Investing in people

ASAP's Network of Women (NOW) is a transformative initiative that empowers women conservationists across Southeast Asia. In 2025, NOW expanded its community, welcoming the third cohort to NOW Leaders and seeing its NOW Collective grow to 41 members.

Read more about ASAP's NOW Leaders on page 16.

Strengthening local organisations

ASAP launched an organisational development programme in collaboration with selected partners, co-creating tailored plans to strengthen priority areas identified by each organisation.

BISA Indonesia is the first organisation to join this programme. With support from Menjadi, ASAP facilitated a series of workshops to shape BISA Indonesia's strategic framework and organisational priorities. The first phase resulted in the development of BISA Indonesia's Strategic Plan 2026–2030, which will guide its actions and long-term planning.



Scan or
click to read
**ASAP's
Annual Report**



Advancing regional Nature-based Solutions through data and partnerships

To support climate resilience and biodiversity conservation across Southeast Asia, Version 2 of the Nature-based Solutions (NbS) Tool was launched through a two-part online series, “Advancing Data-driven Nature-based Solutions in Southeast Asia”.

The enhanced platform features expanded geospatial datasets, improved usability and updated insights on deforestation trends and ecosystem services, enabling users to better identify areas where NbS can deliver the greatest benefits for biodiversity, climate mitigation and communities.

Mandai Nature contributed to the tool’s continuous development as part of the Southeast Asia Climate and Nature-based Solutions (SCeNe) coalition, a regional alliance focused on accelerating credible and science-based NbS. With more ongoing projects in the pipeline, the SCeNe coalition is well positioned to further strengthen regional capacity and drive impactful conservation action across Southeast Asia.

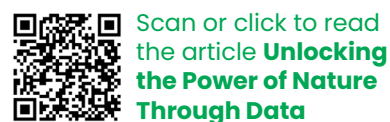
As part of this effort, Mandai Nature joined SCeNe coalition partners to visit field sites in Kibongcong, the Philippines, home to the critically endangered Philippine eagle. Working closely with local partners and communities, the team assessed degraded forests and explored how an ecosystem restoration based effort could support biodiversity, livelihoods and long-term climate resilience in the area.



Stakeholders are being equipped with the skills and tools needed for effective landscape planning. Photo: Annisa Nindyarini/WRI Indonesia



Prashant Mahajan, Head of Ecosystems and Climate Change, in Kibongcong with SCeNe coalition partners to explore how NbS could support this habitat. Photo: Memora for WRI Indonesia/SCeNe Coalition



Scan or click to read the article **Unlocking the Power of Nature Through Data**



NbS programmes promote sustainable land use practices across production landscapes. Photo: Mushafur Imam/Hutan Kita Institute

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President of the Republic of Singapore

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Simon Stuart
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A Rocha International
Chief Scientific Advisor,
Synchronicity Earth



Hans Vriens
DIRECTOR
Founder and Managing Partner,
Vriens & Partners Pte Ltd

STRATEGIC ADVISORY PANEL

The Strategic Advisory Panel provides CEO's office with strategic counsel on priorities, opportunities and approaches to strengthen Mandai Nature's programmes.

Dr William Duckworth
Wildlife surveyor
Asian Species Action Partnership (ASAP) Species Advisor

Caroline Lees
Chair, IUCN SSC Conservation Planning Specialist Group

Dr Shawn Lum
Senior Lecturer, Asian School of the Environment, Nanyang Technological University

Kavita Prakash-Mani
Founder, Dragonfly Advisory,
Former CEO, Mandai Nature

Surin Sukswan
Biodiversity consultant and trainer,
Co-Founder, Sunda Shelves Bookshop

Sejal Worah
Programme Director, WWF India

SINGAPORE ADVISORY PANEL

The Singapore Advisory Panel provides scientific assessment of proposals submitted under the Singapore Conservation Impact Grant.

Associate Professor Danwei Huang
Deputy Head, Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum, National University of Singapore
Associate Professor, Department of Biological Sciences, National University of Singapore

Associate Professor Janice Lee
Associate Professor, Asian School of the Environment, Nanyang Technological University

Dr Norman Lim
Lecturer, Natural Sciences and Science Education, National Institute of Education, Nanyang Technological University

Dr Shawn Lum
Senior Lecturer, Asian School of the Environment, Nanyang Technological University

Dr Denise Tan
Senior Scientist, Head of Vector Surveillance & Ecology Branch, National Environment Agency

Dr Karenne Tun
Group Director, National Biodiversity Centre, National Parks Board

Dr Shangzhe Xie
Vice President, Veterinary Healthcare & Scientific Programmes, Mandai Wildlife Group

Associate Professor Darren Yeo
Head, Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum, National University of Singapore
Associate Professor, Department of Biological Sciences, National University of Singapore

BIOBANKING SCIENTIFIC AND RESEARCH PROGRAMME ADVISORY PANEL

The Biobanking Scientific and Research Programme Advisory Panel provides ethical and scientific oversight of Mandai Nature's biobanking programme to ensure collection, use and management of biological samples are conducted responsibly and in accordance with established standards.

Professor Leo Tan
Advisory Panel Chairman

Dr Cheng Wen-Haur
Deputy CEO and Chief Life Sciences Officer, Mandai Wildlife Group

Dr Pierre Comizzoli
Scientist, Smithsonian's National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute

Dr Stanley Lai, SC
Head of Intellectual Property, CoHead Cybersecurity and Data Protection Practice Partner, Allen & Gledhill

Professor Barbara de Mori
Director, Ethics Laboratory for Veterinary Medicine, Conservation and Animal Welfare, University of Padua

Professor Ng Soon Chye
Medical Director, Sincere Medical Specialist Centre

Dr Manabu Onuma
Deputy Director, National Institute for Environmental Studies

Dr Boripat Sririaroonrat
Researcher, Faculty of Environment and Resource Studies, Mahidol University

OUR SUPPORTERS

With the steadfast support of our partners and donors, Mandai Nature is able to advance its mission and deliver meaningful conservation outcomes. We extend our gratitude for their generosity, trust and shared commitment to protecting nature and wildlife for generations to come.



MANDAI NATURE GALA DINNER

We also extend our heartfelt appreciation to the individuals and organisations whose generosity and support made our inaugural fundraising gala possible.

FRIEND OF NATURE PARTNER

ESTATE OF KHOO TECK PUAT

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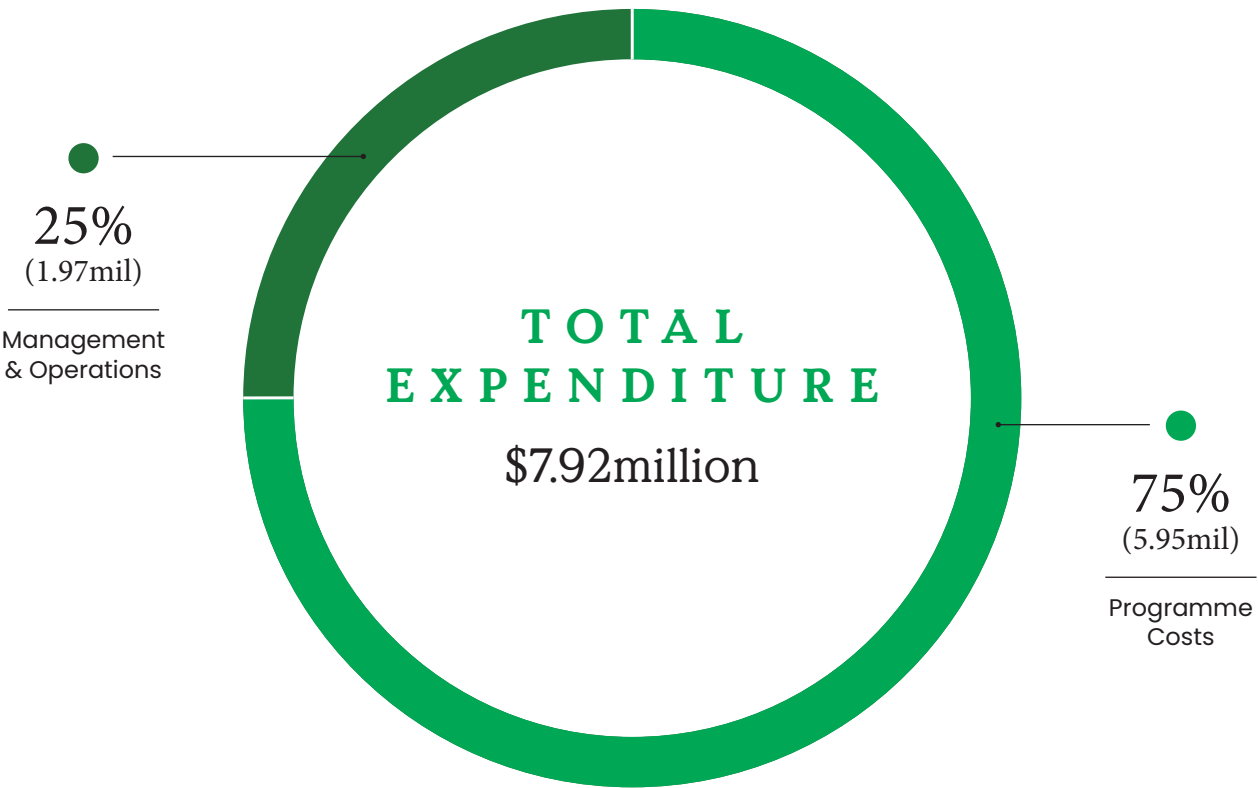
Sandra Tsao



GALA SUPPORTERS



Mandai Nature



ANNEX A List of Conservation Projects Supported in FY25/26

No.	Project Name	Country	Species	Taxon Group	Partner Organisation
FIELD GRANTS					
1	Advancing conservation of lower Mekong wetlands at Anlung Pring, Cambodia: towards a Sarus Crane safe landscape	Cambodia	Sarus Crane	Bird	BirdLife International (Asia) Limited
2	Climate-resilient sustainable agriculture to improve livelihoods and biodiversity habitat quality at Anlung Pring Protected Landscape	Cambodia	Sarus Crane	Bird	Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust
3	Assessing the priority habitats and distribution for breeding populations of Red headed Vultures in the Eastern Plains Landscape	Cambodia	Red-headed vulture	Bird	BirdLife International (Asia) Limited
4	Restoration of the Critically Endangered Southern River Terrapin and Siamese Crocodile populations	Cambodia	Siamese crocodile, Southern river terrapin	Reptile	Wildlife Conservation Society Cambodia
5	Sustainable Operation of the Elephant Response Unit (ERU) Tegal Yoso And Braja Harjosari as part of the Way Kambas National Park ERU Program for Habitat Protection And HEC Mitigation	Indonesia	Sumatran elephant	Mammal	Community for Sumatra Nature Conservation / Komunitas untuk Hutan Sumatera
6	Project Kopi Owa 2025–2026: Javan Gibbon Conservation in Central Java, Indonesia	Indonesia	Javan gibbon	Mammal	Yayasan Swaraowa
7	Strengthening Yaki Protection through Community Engagement and Awareness Campaigns in South Minahasa	Indonesia	Celebes crested macaque	Mammal	Yayasan Kinatouan Pelestarian Alam Sulawesi
8	An integrated project to combat climate change and songbird trade in West Kalimantan, Indonesia	Indonesia	Multi taxa	Multi taxa	Yayasan Planet Indonesia
9	Nantu Forest Conservation Programme, Sulawesi, Indonesia	Indonesia	Multi taxa	Multi taxa	Yayasan Adudu Nantu International
10	Conservation of the Critically Endangered Rote Snake-Necked Turtle	Indonesia	Rote snake-necked turtle	Reptile	Wildlife Conservation Society – Indonesia Program
11	Primate Conservation Education and Sustainable Livelihoods in South Pagai Mentawai Islands Indonesia	Indonesia	Multiple primate species	Mammal	Universitas Andalas
12	Saving Simeulue’s Critically Endangered Songbirds from the Brink of Extinction	Indonesia	Barusan shama, Simeulue hill myna	Bird	Yayasan Ecosystem Impact
13	Begawan Gita: Bali Starling Conservation in the Melinggih Kelod Village by Begawan Foundation	Indonesia	Bali starling	Bird	Yayasan Begawan
14	Saving Indonesia’s Wild Bird Populations	Indonesia	Multiple bird species	Bird	Yayasan Terbang Indonesia
15	Parrot Conservation Action in Maluku	Indonesia	Multiple bird species	Bird	Perkumpulan Konservasi Kakatua Indonesia

ANNEX A List of Conservation Projects Supported in FY25/26 (Continued)

No.	Project Name	Country	Species	Taxon Group	Partner Organisation
FIELD GRANTS					
16	Partner support of Cikananga Wildlife Center and its conservation activities	Indonesia	Multi taxa	Bird	Yayasan Cikananga Konservasi Terpadu
17	Disrupting illegal trade in bears and wildlife in Lao PDR	Lao PDR	Multiple species	Mammal	Free the Bears Ltd
18	Saving Saola: Innovative Conservation in the Annamite Mountains	Lao PDR	Multi taxa	Mammal (primary), Multi taxa	Saola Foundation
19	Re-evaluation of the population dynamics and status of the proboscis monkey (<i>Nasalis larvatus</i>)	Malaysia	Proboscis monkey	Mammal	Wildlife Research Center, Kyoto University
20	On the Road to Recovery: <i>In-</i> and <i>Ex-Situ</i> Conservation of <i>Batagur trivittata</i> in Myanmar	Myanmar	Burmese roofed turtle	Reptile	Wildlife Conservation Society
21	Recovering Burmese Star Tortoise (<i>Geochelone platynota</i>) populations at two wildlife sanctuaries in central Myanmar	Myanmar	Burmese star tortoise	Reptile	Wildlife Conservation Society
22	The West Visayas Species Recovery Project	Philippines	Multi taxa	Multi taxa	Talarak Foundation Inc
23	Building a sustainable bio-cultural landscape for the Taobuid and the Tamaraw in Mts Iglit-Baco Natural Park, Mindoro, Philippines (year 2)	Philippines	Tamaraw	Mammal	d'Aboville Foundation and Demo Farm Inc
24	Safeguarding critically endangered endemics in Palawan – Phase 3	Philippines	Philippine pangolin & Palawan forest turtle	Mammal, Reptile	Katala Foundation Inc
25	Caring for Gigantes Wrinkled Frog at Wildlife in Need (WIN)	Philippines	Gigante wrinkled ground frog	Amphibian	Synchronicity Earth
26	Philippine Eagle Wildlife Loan Agreement	Philippines	Philippine eagle	Bird	Philippine Eagle Foundation
27	Tackling cross border bird trade: Indonesian parrots in the Philippines	Philippines	Multiple bird species	Bird	BirdLife International (Asia) Limited
28	Saving the Critically Endangered Vietnam Pheasant <i>Lophura edwardsi</i>	Vietnam	Vietnam pheasant	Bird	VinaConserv
29	Strengthening the Conservation of Hornbills	Regional	Multiple hornbill species	Bird	Mabula Ground Hornbill Project
30	Annual volunteer contribution (2024) to the EAZA Komodo Dragon (EEP) Field Conservation Programme: Komodo Survival Programme	Global	Komodo dragon	Reptile	EAZA EEP
31	Okapi Conservation Project – Greatest Needs (EEP)	Global	Okapi	Mammal	Wildlife Conservation Global
32	Support for Tasmanian Devils Conservation and Veterinary Operations (EEP)	Global	Tasmanian devil	Mammal	Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania

ANNEX A List of Conservation Projects Supported in FY25/26 (Continued)

No.	Project Name	Country	Species	Taxon Group	Partner Organisation
PARTNERSHIP SUPPORT					
1	Shaping ACCB's long-term strategy	Cambodia	Multi taxa	Multi taxa	Angkor Centre for Conservation of Biodiversity
2	IUCN SSC ASTSG In-person Meeting	Indonesia	Multi taxa	Multi taxa	Yayasan Planet Indonesia
3	Safeguarding Southeast Asia's wildlife from illegal and unregulated trade	Malaysia	Multi taxa	Multi taxa	TRAFFIC International Southeast Asia
4	World Wildlife Day Regional Youth Symposium 2024	Singapore	N/A	N/A	Garden City Fund
5	Every Singaporean a Naturalist (ESN)	Singapore	Multi taxa	Multi taxa	Nature Society Singapore
6	Outreach Activities for Our Wild Neighbours (OWN) Campaign	Singapore	Multi taxa	Multi taxa	Animal Concerns Research and Education Society
7	October Big Day 2025	Singapore	Multi bird species	Bird	Bird Society of Singapore
8	Improving Captive Animal Welfare in Southeast Asia through SEAZA Auditor Training and Accreditation	Thailand	Multi taxa	Multi taxa	Wild Welfare
9	Action for ASAP freshwater fishes/SOAL/ IUCN ASAP Freshwater Fish Programme Manager	Regional	ASAP fishes	Fish	SOAL
10	Support for IUCN SSC ASTSG Secretariat	Regional	Multi bird species	Bird	IUCN SSC Asian Songbird Trade Specialist Group
11	Safeguarding Southeast Asia's wildlife from illegal and unregulated trade	Regional	Multi taxa	Multi taxa	TRAFFIC International Southeast Asia
12	Escalating Profile, Resources, and Engagement for Effective Conservation Translocations	Global	Multi taxa	Multi taxa	Panthera Corporation
13	Guideline for responsible translocation of displaced organisms	Global	Multi taxa	Multi taxa	Wildlife Impact
14	Species360 Conservation Science Alliance Demographic Data Analytics	Global	Multi taxa	Multi taxa	Species360
15	Species360 Species Conservation Toolkit Initiative	Global	Multi taxa	Multi taxa	Species360
16	IUCN Chair Support 2025	Global	Multi taxa	Multi taxa	IUCN SSC
17	IUCN Membership 2025	Global	Multi taxa	Multi taxa	IUCN SSC
18	Amphibian Ark 2026	Global	Multiple amphibian species	Amphibian	Amphibian Ark
19	Support for IUCN Hornbill Specialist Group	Global	Multiple bird species	Bird	IUCN Hornbill Specialist Group
20	Saving Species of Southeast Asia Phase 1	Global	Multi taxa	Multi taxa	Species360

ANNEX A List of Conservation Projects Supported in FY25/26 (Continued)

No.	Project Name	Country	Species	Taxon Group	Partner Organisation
SINGAPORE GRANTS					
1	Investigating the life history and ecology of threatened songbirds in Singapore	Singapore	Straw-headed bulbul; Chestnut-winged babbler; Short-tailed babbler	Bird	Sin Yong Chee Keita
2	Population ecology and captive breeding for conservation of the coastal horseshoe crab (<i>Tachypleus gigas</i>) in Singapore	Singapore	Coastal horseshoe crab	Arthropod	Republic Polytechnic
3	Fishing sharks and rays in Singapore: recreational angler attitudes towards conservation and management of an imperilled group of organisms	Singapore	Multiple sharks and rays	Fish	National University of Singapore
4	Conservation genomics of critically endangered and endemic freshwater crabs in Singapore	Singapore	Multiple crab species	Arthropod	National University of Singapore
5	Flying syringes – Using mosquitos to surveil 'zoo'-notic disease reservoirs in Mandai	Singapore	Multiple species	Arthropod	National University of Singapore
6	Vocal Communication in Long-Tailed Macaques & the Impact of Anthropogenic Noise	Singapore	Long-tailed macaque	Mammal	Sim Yue Ling
7	Deterring Bat Roosting in Singapore Residences: Mitigation Strategies and Public Perception	Singapore	Lesser dog-faced fruit bat	Mammal	Republic Polytechnic
8	Movement Ecology and Gut Microbiome Analysis of Singapore's Common Palm Civets	Singapore	Common palm civet	Mammal	Mandy Ang
9	Research, outreach and conservation activities in respect of the Raffles' banded langur in Singapore (2025–2026)	Singapore	Raffles banded langur	Mammal	Law Jia Bao
10	Unraveling the Cephalopod diversity and distribution in Singapore and Southeast Asia	Singapore	Multi taxa	Mollusc	Anya Roopa Gajanur

ANNEX B List of Research Publications

Journal Publications

Adhireksan Z, Sharma D, Bao Q, Lee PL, Padavattan S, Davey GE, Hansen JC, Davey CA, 2026. Linker histones consolidate heterogenous nucleosome fiber contacts by linking together multiple nucleosomes. *Nat Commun.*, doi: 10.1038/s41467-026-69842-x.

Tan CJ, Yeong C, 2025. Biodiversity Record: Mating behaviour of a pair of Sunda colugo. *Nature in Singapore*, 18: e2025049.

Tan CJ, Ng RJR, Yeong C, 2025. Biodiversity Record: Apparent predation of Sunda colugo by common palm civet. *Nature in Singapore*, 18: e2025053.

Anagnostou, M., Ng, C.B.Y., Cepeda, R., Lee, J.G.H., Loo, A.H.B., Ng, P.X.K., Sitjar, K., Tan, H.M.S., Tang, Y.J. and Ting, W.K., 2025. Global youth as catalysts for legal and sustainable wildlife trade solutions. *Frontiers in Conservation Science*, 6, p.1553549.

Chong, S.M., Yeong, C.Y.F., Ahmad, A.A. and Heng, Y., 2026. Squamous cell carcinoma in a captive Sunda pangolin (*Manis javanica*): clinical management and pathological findings. *Journal of Veterinary Medical Science*, pp.25–0504.

Ahmad, A.A., Douay, G., Heng, Y., Mathew, A., Luz, S., Ng, Q.Y., Wahab, N.S. and Chin, C.W., 2025. Echocardiographic evaluation of captive Bornean (*Pongo pygmaeus*), Sumatran (*Pongo abelii*) and hybrid orangutans (*Pongo* species). *Journal of Zoo and Wildlife Medicine*, 56(2), pp.248–257.

Books and Guidelines

Sherman, J., Menon, V., Kock, R., King, T., Luz, S., Ashraf N.V.K., Soorae, P., Moehrenschlager, A. (2025). *Guidelines on responsible translocation of displaced organisms*. Gland, Switzerland: IUCN.



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ON THE COVER

Mandai Nature with researchers from the Freshwater and Invasion Biology Lab and Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum, National University of Singapore, assessing aquatic fauna at Night Safari in the Mandai Wildlife Reserve. Photo: National University of Singapore