

2020年ドバイ万博 BIE コスモス賞

受賞者は、“ナーンクセ肉食動物保護研究”プロジェクト(ナーンクセ財団(ナミビア共和国))

2020年ドバイ万博 BIE コスモス賞は、新型コロナウイルスの影響により 2021年10月1日から 2022年3月31日までの会期で開催されたドバイ万博にあわせて、「心をつなぎ、未来を創る」にちなんだ非営利的であり、また革新的でもある市民活動、プロジェクトを授賞対象として、全世界に公募したところ、34か国から68件の応募がありました。68件の応募に対して、BIEと当協会が共同で書類審査を行い、10件を授賞候補として決定しました。この10件のプロジェクトは、その概要がドバイ万博会場内で展示されました。



一次審査を通過した10件の候補から、BIEコスモス賞受賞者を決定するため2022年3月8日にオンラインで審査委員会が開催され、慎重な審議の結果、“ナーンクセ肉食動物保護研究”プロジェクトを提案したナーンクセ財団が受賞者として決定されました。

授賞式は2022年3月30日にドバイ万博会場のジュビリーパークで執り行われました。



今回受賞したプロジェクトは、野生の肉食動物を殺さずに家畜を生存させる、非殺傷型の家畜保護技術の推進を目指すものです。このプロジェクトの実現により、特にチーターなどの肉食動物の数が増える一方、農家の捕食による家畜の損失を減らすことが期待できます。

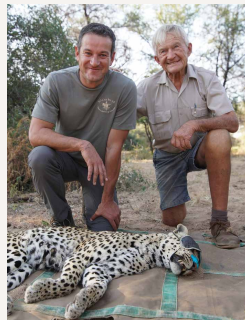
THE BIE-COSMOS PRIZE

N/A'AN KU SE FOUNDATION RAPID RESPONSE UNIT

1. THE REALITY

Namibia harbors almost 25% of the global cheetah population. Furthermore, this unique country is one of only a few in Africa that boasts six species of free-roaming carnivore. But, with more than 40% of Namibia's land use dedicated to commercial farming, conflict between man and wildlife is inevitable.

Farmers and landowners persecute carnivores including leopard, cheetah, and hyena in retaliation for livestock predation. At times, carnivores are persecuted before any livestock losses have occurred – "prevention better than cure" being a tragic farming motto, also supported.



2. THE GOAL

The N/a'an ku sé Carnivore Conservation Research Project (CCRP) works with local farmers to not only conserve Namibia's carnivore populations, but to also engage farmers with practical, cost-effective, and non-lethal tools to manage carnivores and protect livestock.

This promotes tolerance and peaceful coexistence - conserving carnivore populations and securing a farmer's livelihood, livestock: a Win-Win situation.

4. THE INNOVATION

The N/a'an ku sé CCRP freely offers practical advice and assistance to landowners, upon request, who have legitimate conflict concerns.

Our human-carnivore conflict mitigation research is ongoing and allows us to recommend and implement livestock protection techniques based on scientific evidence.

These include the use of thorn kraals, herders, livestock guardian animals such as dogs or donkeys, and bio-deterrents including lion scat placed at cheetah marking trees. These techniques aim to prevent potential losses; rather be proactive than reactive.

5. CONNECTING MINDS, CREATING THE FUTURE

By creating a culture of shared knowledge and trust, where conservationists and farmers can work together, not only do higher numbers of carnivores remain in the wild and retain their lives free from indiscriminate persecution, but the farming community, predominantly reliant on livestock for its survival, is also supported.

The project's success lies in building a trusting relationship with farmers: positive word of mouth leads to more landowners relying on our mitigation expertise; and ultimately far fewer carnivores lose their lives unnecessarily.

3. THE RESPONSE

Since 2008 the N/a'an ku sé Rapid Response Unit (RRU) has successfully employed an innovative method effective in mitigating human-carnivore conflict.

When a conflict call is received from a farmer who has captured a carnivore in a live-trap cage, the RRU responds within 24 hours. The team travels to the site, at times a journey of thousands of kilometers, where the animal is sedated by our veterinarian, given a thorough health check and fitted with a GPS tracking collar.

Ideally, the animal is released back into its existing territory. The resulting data from the GPS collar, as well as detailed information on the animal's movements and relevant behavioral interpretations, is shared with the farmer each day. In this way the farmer can modify his livestock management and protection methods. In rare instances where the farmer insists on the carnivore being removed from the area, the animal is instead relocated to a safe territory as far removed from conflict as possible. Bringing the animal into captivity is a last resort and avoided whenever possible.



The BIE-Cosmos Prize refers to a prize, born of a collaborative initiative between the Bureau International des Expositions (BIE) and the Expo '90 Foundation of Japan to encourage the participation of citizens in Expos. It recognises not-for-profit projects from citizens and groups working in fields related to the Expo theme.

At Expo 2020 Dubai, the Prize will award a not-for-profit project that contributes to the theme "Connecting Minds, Creating the Future" and one or more of its sub-themes, while inheriting Expo '90 Foundation's core value of the "Harmonious Coexistence between Nature and Humankind".