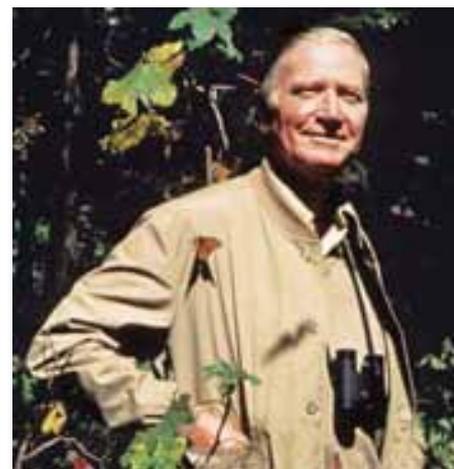




EFN News

Building the Future of Conservation Celebrating 15 years of success

I believe the most important thing we can do for conservation worldwide is to invest in the training of men and women to manage their own natural resources.
 – **Russell E. Train**



In 1994, as Russell E. Train, a WWF-US founding trustee, past president, and former chairman of the board, became the organization's chairman emeritus, WWF launched the Russell E. Train Education for Nature Program (EFN) to honor this visionary leader's lifelong commitment to conservation and to helping people protect and manage their own natural resources. By providing individuals and institutions with financial support for higher education and short-term training, EFN strives to develop a well-qualified, highly-trained corps of conservationists in Africa, Asia, and Latin America with the necessary skills and knowledge to take on conservation challenges in their home countries. Fifteen years on, EFN counts many successes among its grantees, including the first woman conservation officer in Nepal, the author of Tanzania's national environmental education curriculum, and the discoverers of new species of orchids, insects, fish, frogs, geckos, and birds previously unknown to science. This special issue of *EFN News* tells but a few of these numerous successes.



Left to right: Nasser Olwero, Kenya; Shaun Martin, EFN director; Mia Siscawati, Indonesia; Russell E. Train; Suzana Padua, Brazil; Manh Cuong Nguyen, Vietnam.

EFN is a fitting tribute to Russ Train, whose vision has always included local people playing the lead role in biodiversity conservation in their home countries. For more than 50 years, he has been a transformative figure in conservation and environmental protection. In 1961, he founded the African Wildlife Leadership Foundation (now the African Wildlife Foundation). Later that same year, Russ Train helped establish WWF in the United States. Shortly after, he helped found the College of African Wildlife Management in Mweka, Tanzania, as well as its sister institution, Ecole de Faune, in Garoua, Cameroon.

Environmental advisor to several US presidents, Russ Train has served with distinction in positions both in and out of government, including president of the Conservation Foundation, undersecretary of the US Department of Interior, first chair of the US Council on Environmental Quality, the second administrator of the US Environmental Protection Agency, and of course, president and chairman of WWF-US. He is also considered the father of UNESCO's World Heritage program, having developed the concept and promoting its establishment. In 1991, in recognition of his many contributions to conservation, Russ Train received the Presidential Medal of Freedom, one of many awards he received over the years.

It has been said of Mr. Train that "a generation of people in the field of conservation learned not just from the skills and intelligence of Russ Train, but also from his philosophy, integrity, and moral perspective." Through Education for Nature, his legacy lives on. Today, with EFN support, the world can claim 150 new PhDs and more than 250 people with master's degrees in conservation-related fields. EFN has helped some 400 mid-career conservation professionals attend short-term training courses in a wide variety of fields and has supported local organizations to conduct 260 on-the-ground training workshops that have collectively involved more than 17,000 people, including park guards, fishers and farmers, small business owners, teachers, and students. In a field largely dominated by men in so many countries, EFN is proud that 40 percent of its grantees are women.

With Russ Train as inspiration, the generous support of our many donors, and the hard work and dedication of EFN grantees, the future of conservation looks bright.

To learn more about the Russell E. Train Education for Nature Program, please contact:

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 Fax: +1 202 887-5293
 Email: efn@wwfus.org
 Website: worldwildlife.org/efn



EFN Grantees find new species...



Carlos Molina

CARLOS ISRAEL MOLINA ARZABE, BOLIVIA

Mercury and other heavy metal contamination in aquatic animals is a growing problem that has implications for humans. In order to understand its effects on people, one must first understand the extent of contamination and its impact on the health of aquatic species. Carlos Molina recognized this threat to the health of local communities in the Amazon. In 2007, with support from Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, EFN granted Carlos a Russell E. Train Fellowship to complete his doctoral research on heavy metal contamination in aquatic biota in several rivers in the Amazon. While conducting research in Manuripi National Reserve in Bolivia, Carlos discovered a new caddisfly, family *Leptoceridae*, genus *Oecetis*.

Leptoceridae are indicators of water quality and important to aquatic food chains. Carlos named this species in honor of Russ Train because of the important role his Train Fellowship played in his discovery of the species. Carlos is now completing his research and will publish his findings on the new caddisfly. He plans to continue his work in the Amazon to find the most effective methods to prevent pollutants from endangering aquatic species and local communities.



new caddisfly, genus *Oecetis*

NGO VAN TRI, VIETNAM

Finding sufficient funds for research is a constant struggle for many conservationists. Ngo Van Tri exemplifies the hard work and perseverance of scientists conducting important research on biodiversity despite very limited financial resources. While working for Fauna and Flora International's Indochina Program, Tri happened upon a gecko during one of his trips to the field. Intrigued, he left his job to fully commit himself to researching and documenting geckos in his native Vietnam. With no external financial support, Tri used his own funds to continue his work for several years. He is now a scientist at the Institute of Tropical Biology in Ho Chi Minh City. In 2004, he received a professional development grant from EFN to attend 20th Annual Meeting of the Society of Conservation Biology. Since then, he has discovered more than 10 new gecko species and a new pit viper (*Cryptelytrops honsonensis*). To many, he is known as the "Gecko King," and his numerous tales of the danger he encountered during his fieldwork demonstrates his dedication to conservation in Vietnam. While spending hundreds of hours in the most remote forests of Vietnam, Ngo Van Tri has suffered from malaria at least 10 times and sustained three life-threatening injuries, all in the name of science and conservation. Tri's discoveries appeared in the scientific journals *ZooTaxa* and *Herpetologica*, and include a species he named in honor of Russell E. Train. Recently, EFN awarded a second grant to Tri to support his research and provide funding to help publish work on his most recent discoveries.



Gekko russelltrainii



Ngo Van Tri

More Grantee Discoveries...

WILLIAM NAURAY HUARI, PERU

While conducting his doctoral research in the cloud forests of southern Peru, William discovered ten new orchid species. (see page 11)



Telepogon antisuyuensis

CARMELA ESPAÑOLA, PHILIPPINES

As a researcher on the Babuyan Island Expedition Team, Carmela discovered an unidentified bird, later named the Calayan rail, a new species currently on the IUCN Red List



Gallirallus calayanensis

This remarkable discovery belongs to EFN as much as it does to me. If not for the

training and education I got through my Train Fellowship, I wouldn't have been in a position to discover the Calayan rail. - Carmela Espanola

DIEGO FRANCISCO CISNEROS-HEREDIA, ECUADOR

One of Diego's many accomplishments is the discovery of a new species of glass frog (*Anura: Centrolenidae*) in the Andean foothills of Ecuador and Peru while conducting his master's research on the distribution of glass frogs in the Amazon.



Cochranella amellee

WILFREDO MATAMOROS, HONDURAS

Sorting through a sampling of fish from the Honduran highlands, Wilfredo discovered a new species of freshwater fish endemic to the Uluá and Nacaome rivers. (Currently under review by the *Journal of Fish Biology*)



Wilfredo Matamoros

EFN Supporters

WWF gratefully acknowledges the significant support made by the individual, foundation, corporate, and government donors listed below. Their contributions are the cornerstone of EFN's success in building the future of conservation.

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ROBIN ACHAH, CAMEROON

In the western highlands of Cameroon, many communities depend on agroforestry for their livelihoods. Robin Achah works with these communities and trains them how to use forest restoration techniques to protect the resources that support much of the economy in the area. In 2008, Robin applied for a professional development grant from EFN



Robin Achah

to attend the Earthcorps Environmental Restoration training program in the United States to enhance her understanding of effective training

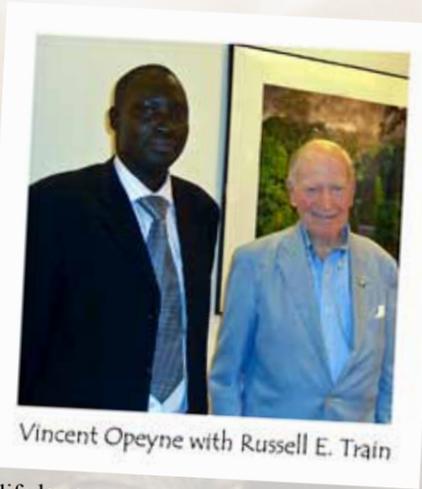
methods and the latest agroforestry techniques. Since receiving her grant, Robin has trained 112 farming groups on new agroforestry techniques, distributed more than 2 million seeds for replanting, demonstrated pre-treatment methods for seedlings, and transplanted over 10,000 seedlings from nurseries to local farms. She was recently promoted to project manager for the Environmental and Rural Development Foundation's forest landscape restoration project, and plans to continue her invaluable work restoring degraded landscapes with local communities in Cameroon.

Through the support EFN gave me, I gained a lot of skills that have allowed me to achieve so much. This has enabled me to move one step up the ladder in my career.

Robin Achah

VINCENT OPYENE, KENYA

The decline in Africa's wildlife population due to human activity is proceeding at an unprecedented rate. Unless this process is held in check, the damage to biodiversity will be grave and irreversible. The problem is largely one of law enforcement. There is a need for much more vigorous anti-poaching efforts. When Vincent Opyene received an EFN professional development grant in 2004, he was working for the Uganda Wildlife Authority as the warden for law enforcement. His grant helped him complete a post-graduate diploma in legal practice at the Law Development Centre in Kampala, enabling him to more effectively prosecute wildlife cases in the Ugandan courts. Three years after completing his diploma, the Uganda Wildlife Authority recognized Vincent for his outstanding work and promoted him to Senior Warden Prosecutor. Around the same time in 2008, he received a US Fish and Wildlife Service Mentor Fellowship to conduct an assessment of the legal regime and institutional governance of illegal bushmeat use in Uganda and Tanzania. In order to complete a similar assessment in Kenya, EFN awarded Vincent a second EFN professional development grant. Based on his assessments, Vincent is currently developing a manual for wildlife law enforcers, including prosecutors, magistrates, and the police force in Uganda. He also works with the Mara Conservancy and Serengeti National Park to train rangers on wildlife laws.



Vincent Opyene with Russell E. Train

COLLEGE OF AFRICAN WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AT MWEKA, TANZANIA

In the early 1960's, Russell E. Train, along with several colleagues from Washington DC, founded the African Wildlife Leadership Foundation (AWLF) to fulfill his vision of giving Africans the tools and knowledge to manage their own natural resources. In 1962, AWLF, in collaboration with the Government of Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, Cameroon and Malawi, Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and USAID, launched the College of African Wildlife Management (CAWM) at Mweka in Tanzania, the first training school for wildlife and park department personnel in Africa. Since 1994, EFN has sponsored many African conservationists to complete short courses and diplomas in wildlife management at the school. Mary Mushi from Tanzania, attended a short course on community participation and, shortly after completing the course, was selected by the local government authority to head habitat and land degradation projects in Kishapu District, Shinyanga region. Before receiving a scholarship to attend CAWM in 2004, Samuel Lekimaroro worked for the Kenya Wildlife Service as a park ranger. After receiving his diploma, he became an instructor at the Kenya Wildlife Service Training School. He is now teaching his colleagues and other partner organizations about conservation and natural resource management. Ali Juma Ali, another EFN grantee at CAWM, began work for Jozani Chwaka Bay National Park Zanzibar as Community Conservation Warden after completing his degree. He facilitates participatory resource management and conservation education programs in communities around the Park. He is one of many EFN grantees working to provide local communities the tools to conserve and manage their natural resources. He recently completed a graduate certificate in endangered species management at the Kent University, UK. EFN has also funded the Deputy Principal for Academics, Research, and Consultancy at the CAWM, Mr. Freddy Manongi, to undertake his doctoral degree in religion and ecology at the University of Wales at Bangor, United Kingdom. Completion of his PhD will enable Mr. Manongi to incorporate religiosity in wildlife management and sustainable development practises in sub Saharan Africa. The success of these grantees highlights the importance of building local capacity in Africa and realizing Mr. Train's vision.

Notes from the Field Africa

MARY KIVARIA, TANZANIA



Mary Kivaria

When Mary Kivaria applied for a Train Fellowship in 1997, there had been no research conducted on the impacts that environmental education (EE) had on the sustainable use of natural resources after students left school. At South Bank University in the UK, Mary's fellowship allowed her to conduct research on the relationship between EE and self-reliance activities in secondary schools in Tanzania. In 2001, after receiving her degree, the Ministry of Education in Tanzania assigned her to establish an EE unit to integrate environmental concepts into all school subjects in the pre-primary, primary, secondary, and teacher training curricula. She is still managing this lofty task, training teachers and students on the importance of environmental protection and how they can use this knowledge to improve their communities. She is currently developing a plan to green Tanzania's schools and is working with the government on poverty reduction techniques through EE training. She was recently elected the Chair of the International Year of the Planet Earth Public Awareness Committee. In 2005, she received an alumni grant from EFN to attend the Third World Environmental Education Congress. Despite funding constraints and limited EE capacity in Tanzania, Mary continues her work to advance education and sustainability to improve livelihoods in Tanzania.

This new appointment (to the Ministry of Education in Tanzania) was the result of my completing the MSc course... Many thanks to the WWF EFN Program for their financial assistance and support during my studies and also their continued follow up in the implementation of promoting environmental conservation. **Mary Kivaria**

VINCENT MEDJIBE, CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Logging is a serious threat to biodiversity in the lowland forests of the northwest Congo Basin. Understanding tree disbursement patterns in these forests is essential to implementing effective management plans for the region. In 2002, Vincent Medjibe won a Train Fellowship to pursue a master's degree in forestry at Yale University and to conduct research on this topic in Dzanga-Sangha Forest Reserve. Upon completion in 2004, Vincent began working with Wildlife Conservation Society as a forest ecology researcher to design and implement forest management plans and to train project researchers on computer techniques, forestry research, data management and analysis, and report writing in the Central African Republic. Vincent is currently pursuing a doctoral degree in interdisciplinary ecology at the University of Florida and received an alumni grant in 2008 to help complete his research on various forest management methods. His study compares conventional logging methods with reduced-impact logging and assesses the effects of untrained versus trained forest crews and their impact on carbon balance and forest structure before, during, and after logging. This study will have important implications for logging contracts and forest management in the Congo Basin.

ENVIROVET TRAINING

The Envirovet Summer Institute at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign aims to create a cadre of scientists able to implement an efficient approach to ecosystem repair that also enables improvements in wildlife, domestic animal, human, and economic health. Since 2001, EFN has sponsored more than a dozen wildlife veterinarians to attend this program. Dr. Innocent B. Rwego of Uganda, who attended Envirovet in 2003, has since completed his master's and doctoral degrees from Makerere University in Uganda. His research examined the ecology of bacterial transmission among humans, livestock and apes in and around Bwindi Impenetrable and Kibale National Parks. He recently presented his findings as a keynote speaker at the EcoHealth Symposium in Mexico. He is now a lecturer for the Department of Zoology at Makerere University. In 2005, Dr. Isaac Lekooloo from Kenya attended Envirovet with a grant from EFN. Prior to the program, he worked as a volunteer veterinarian for the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS). He is now the KWS Capture Warden in charge of wildlife captures and translocation. In 2006, he coordinated the successful capture and translocation of 1060 impalas and 771 zebras to restock Meru National Park. Currently, Isaac is pursuing a master's degree in veterinary epidemiology and economics at the University of Nairobi. EFN's support for Envirovet trainees has given many deserving conservationists the opportunity to learn new techniques and create a network of likeminded practitioners worldwide.

I am very much indebted to the WWF EFN program that sponsored me to attend Envirovet in 2003. Since 2003, my life has never been the same. Thanks to EFN Program. **Innocent Rwego; Lecturer in the Department of Zoology, Makerere University**



Innocent Rwego

*Celebrating
15 years
of EFN*

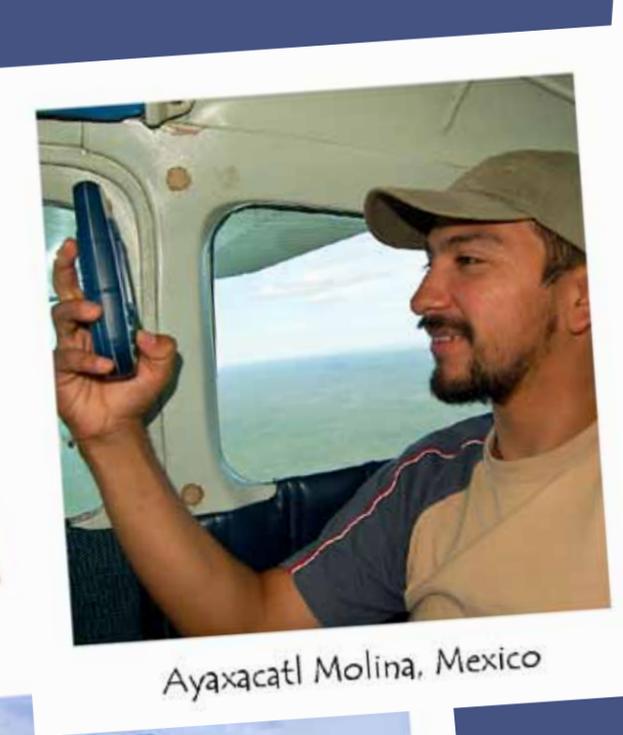
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Ayaxacatl Molina, Mexico



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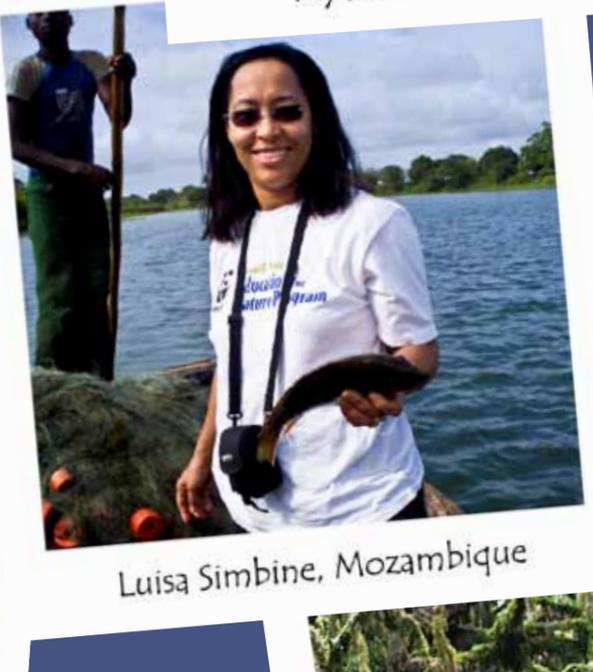
Dol Raj Thanet, Nepal



Shakil Visram, Kenya



Fainess Lumbwe, Zambia



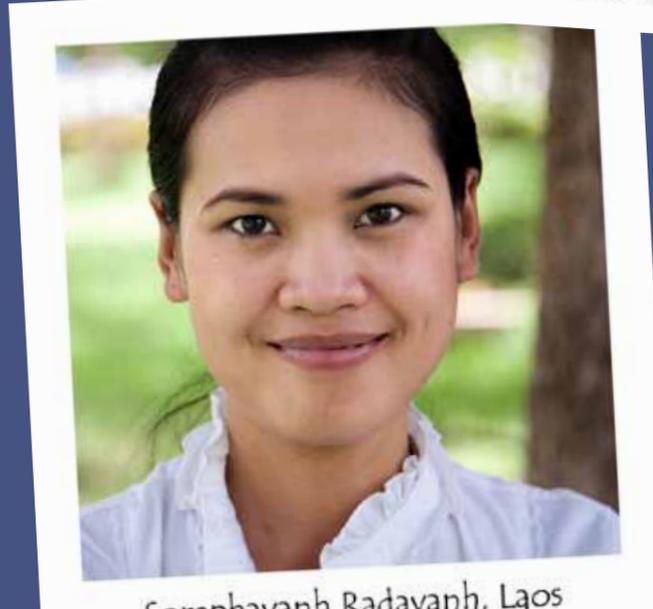
Luisa Simbine, Mozambique



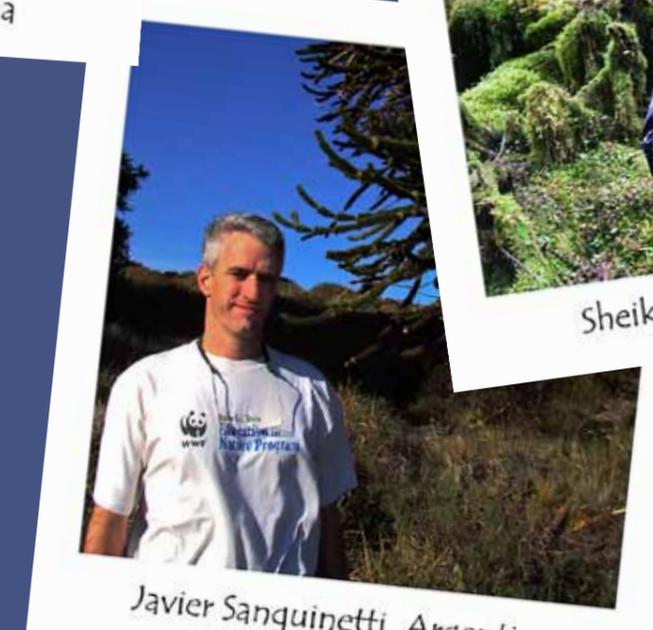
Roger Ngoufo, Cameroon



Mauro San Vicente, Mexico



Somphavanh Radavanh, Laos



Javier Sanguinetti, Argentina



Sheika Aragundi, Ecuador



Rina Susanti, Indonesia

My Search for the Snow Leopard

by Bishnu P Devkota, Russell E Train Fellow, 2007
MS forestry, Institute of Forestry, Nepal

In May, 2009 I visited Shey Phoksundo National Park to conduct my thesis research on the relationships between prey density and diet of the snow leopard in Nepal. After the necessary arrangements for my fieldwork and travel, I left park headquarters accompanied by a porter and a field assistant, both necessary for any journey into this difficult terrain and climate. It took two days to reach the beautiful Phoksundo Lake with its magnificent view. Near the lake was a small settlement with 47 households called Rigmo. This village is where I began my research.

During the first few days, I divided the study area into transects and took samples of snow leopard scat to determine the number of individuals present. On day 7, just as it began to snow,



Bishnu at Shey Pass - Dec 2007

we reached the Shey Monastery, a sacred holy place in Nepal. The day was very cold. I climbed the roof of the house where we were staying to photograph the landscape. Birds sat calmly in the trees, the dog of the house lay in silence, and horses searched for snow-free areas to graze. I observed two tourists walking with no guide, unaware of the route they were following, and with apparently no consideration of the cold weather. "They will have problems when they get to the peak," uttered a local monk who was accompanying me and who seemed very interested in my research.

The monk invited me to lunch and as we ate, we overheard two ladies speaking in a Tibetan language. One of them uttered "sabo," which means snow leopard. I learned that snow leopards had just attacked two goats in the pasture. I took my binoculars and camera and hurried to reach the spot. I saw three girls dragging the goats, one of which was bleeding. "We drove the snow leopard away and saved the goats," they told me. As

we scanned the area in search of this elusive creature, we asked where the goats were attacked and the direction the snow leopard had escaped.

We waited patiently, though the wind was blowing and we were trembling with cold. After five hours had passed, still on the ridge that was 4725 meters above sea level, the sun started to set and snow began to fall, forcing us to return to the monastery for the night. We had not seen the snow leopard and we returned to the village feeling hungry, tired, and disappointed.

The next morning was clear, the sunlight falling on the snow-covered mountain peaks giving them a glorious silver glow. "Sir, there are fresh snow leopard tracks," said Laxmi Lal Thapa, a game scout in Shey Phoksundo National Park. As I approached, I could see the fresh marks. The snow leopard had moved in the opposite direction we were following, making it unlikely we would ever get to see this beautiful animal. Our supplies were running low and we would not be able to continue our journey. We moved ahead to the next village, continuing to collect data under the scorching sunlight. It turned out to be the longest day of my field work thus far. We trekked more than 12 hours from the Shey Monastery to village of Vijer. During the journey the porter injured his leg. We were forced to leave some of our supplies hoping that we could retrieve them when returning to the monastery the following day.

While taking a break along our route to Vijer, I noticed something moving on the other side of the hill about 300 meters away. Looking through my binoculars, I saw something—an animal with a long tail. I magnified the view and there it was; the animal I was looking for the queen of the Himalayas, the snow leopard. I was so excited thinking, "Can I be this lucky?" I quickly found my camera and started taking as many photographs as I could. The leopard was so far away so I had to zoom the camera lens to its full extent. It continued to move farther away, and then it stopped and turned to stare at me. The snow leopard has a very strong sense of smell and was able to detect my location. It sat down, ready to run if necessary. I tried to move closer, going down the ridge and crossing a stream to get to the other side of the hill. As I reached the other side, I could not find the snow leopard. I sat down alone, scanning the whole area with binoculars. I sat in there for 3 hours, hoping to see the snow leopard once more, but to no avail.

Even though I did not spot the cat again, I was very happy satisfied with the ten photographs I managed to take. This had been the third time I walked this difficult and exhausting route. But now I felt refreshed and re-energized having finally seen the snow leopard. This shy animal is rarely seen by humans, and now I am among the few lucky people to witness its grace and beauty. This time, my search for the snow leopard was a success. It was truly one of the most memorable experiences of my life.



Snow leopard - Bishnu Devkota, Nepal 2009

Notes from the Field Asia

ILA SHRESTHA, NEPAL

Every year people in rural Nepal collect large quantities of medicinal plants in an unsustainable manner, which has negative impacts on local habitats. Ila Shrestha, a former Russell E. Train Fellow, conducted an ethnobotanical study in Langtang National Park in Nepal as part of her doctoral research to address these concerns by documenting the medicinal plants within the park used by the Tamang communities. She is the first woman to conduct such research with these communities. As a Nepalese woman working in very remote areas, she experienced many difficult and dangerous moments in her research including encounters with poachers, landslides, and severe weather conditions. But her perseverance paid off. Ila documented 14 species of medicinal plants that had never before been recorded in Langtang National Park. Based on her findings, Godavari Botanical Garden and the National Herbarium Plant and Laboratories are now cultivating some of these plants for continued research. Not limiting her activities to research, Ila educates local communities about the importance of conserving and cultivating medicinal plants and makes sure that women are integrated into all these activities. She is currently a professor of botany at Tribhuvan University and continues her research on medicinal plants with indigenous communities in Nepal.



Ila Shrestha

PHAIVANH PHIAPALATH, LAOS

When Russell E. Train Fellow Phaivanh Phiapalath completes his doctoral studies at Thailand's Suranaree University of Technology, he will become Laos' first primatologist. Beginning his career at the Department of Forestry in Laos in 1995, and later working with the Wildlife Conservation Society, the World Bank, and IUCN Lao PDR, Phaivanh realized that Laos lacked the necessary skills and knowledge to create sustainable livelihood development programs. His doctoral research on the distribution, abundance and behavioral ecology of red-shanked douc langurs in Hin Namno National Protected Area highlighted the impact that local communities have on natural resources and wildlife in the area. After he completed his research, Phaivanh began working with IUCN and local communities to develop a comprehensive management plan for Hin Namno. Committed as ever to building capacity for conservation, Phaivanh hopes to launch an initiative that will build a corps of young Lao conservation professionals, create a network to encourage communication between conservationists, and assist the Lao government in creating an effective protected area management system.



Phaivanh Phiapalath

SANTI NURUL KAMILAH, INDONESIA

In 2003, Santi received a Train Fellowship to attain a master's degree in biology and biodiversity at Andalas University in Indonesia. Her dream was to study bat ecology and document their distribution and habitat in West Sumatra. Her master's thesis looked at the diversity of bat fauna between highlands and swamps in Rimbo Panti Nature Reserve, Sumatra. Before her research, there had been very limited documentation on bats in West Sumatra. The severe environmental degradation of the area threatened the existence of some bat species before science could document them. During her research, Santi documented at least three sightings of bat species never before recorded in Sumatra. Earlier this year, she became a lecturer in biology conservation at Bengkulu University, Indonesia, allowing her to continue working in conservation and serve as an advocate for bats and biodiversity in Indonesia.

A deep thanks to WWF for giving me the chance to pursue my master's program. I am standing here because of you, and with the master's degree, I got the job that I had always hoped for. Once again I am so thankful for all the help given to me by EFN. Santi Nurul Kamilah



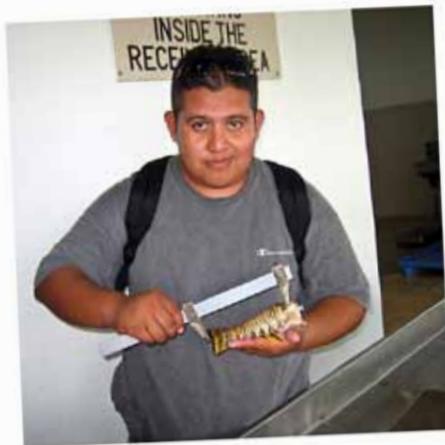
Santi

ADRIEL ENRIQUE CASTAÑEDA, BELIZE

In Belize, the continued demand on fisheries and the resources they provide is essential to continued economic development. However, there is very limited knowledge about the management of biological, social, and economic factors to make the fishing industry sustainable.

With this challenge in mind, Adriel Enrique Castañeda applied for and received a Train Fellowship in 2007, and is now pursuing a master's degree in natural resources and rural development at El Colegio de la Frontera Sur in Mexico. His research looks at the bioeconomic analysis of lobster in Belize. While completing his degree, he is also serving as a consultant for WWF under the USAID Conservation of Central American Watersheds Project Initiative. He will complete the final analysis of his research, which will aid in the development of better fisheries practices in the region.

I'm very happy and thankful to EFN for believing in me and for continuing to promote environmental conservation and awareness.
Adriel Enrique Castañeda



Adriel Castañeda

JANICE MONICA BOLLERS, GUYANA

Guyana's significant deposits of gold and bauxite have made the country a target for mining companies. Currently 70 percent of the country is covered by forests and as mining increases, these areas are at risk for deforestation and water pollution. Janice Bollers wanted to investigate how previously mined areas in Guyana could be successfully reforested and restored. She received a Train Fellowship in 2006 to attend the University of Wales Bangor, where she completed her master's degree in environmental forestry in 2008. After returning to Guyana, she worked for the Guyana Geology and Mines Commission as a senior environmental officer, and then in 2009, joined WWF Guyana as a forestry officer. She trains communities on sustainable logging practices and develops forest regeneration plans for former mine sites. Her work has been invaluable in understanding the best practices in reducing impacts of mining and reclaiming mined areas for sustainable use by local communities.

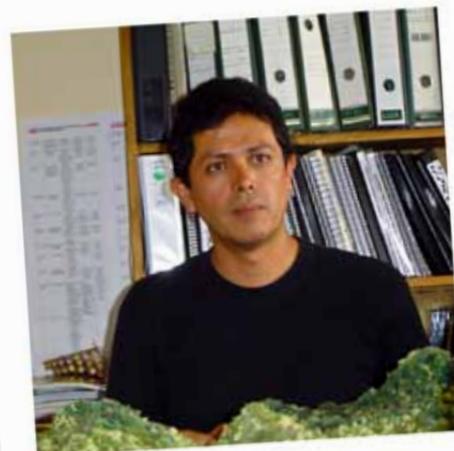


Janice Bollers

ALEJANDRO JUÁREZ AGUILAR, MEXICO

Environmental education is an integral part of any conservation strategy. Recognizing the importance of environmental education (EE) in community action plans, Alejandro Juárez Aguilar wanted to research the concepts and values necessary to create an EE strategy for urban communities in Mexico. He received a Russell E. Train Fellowship in 2000 to complete his master's degree in environmental education. His research focussed on integrating communities into environmental strategies. His findings resulted in a strategy for basic education on consumption and waste control in communities in Guadalajara, Mexico. Since graduating in 2000, he has managed more than 40 community projects and is currently the director of Corazón de la Tierra, a civic organization that designs and implements sustainable development projects that help restore and protect forests, wetlands, rivers, and lakes. In 2007, the Ibaraki prefectural government in Japan awarded him the Ibaraki-Kasumigaura Prize for his work on a conservation action plan for the Lerma-Chapala Basin. Alejandro also manages the sustainable development program for the Condiro-Canales Mountain Range, which is educating eight villages in the area on conservation and management techniques.

I received the Russell E. Train award back in 2000 and it helped me to finish my MS in environmental education, which was quite essential for the development of my professional activities. **Alejandro Juárez**



Alejandro Juárez

Notes from the Field Latin America

WILLIAM NAURAY HUARI, PERU

The richness of the Peruvian Amazon is not only evident in the diverse number of animal species but also the flora that characterizes this region. In 2005, William Nauray co-authored a field guide to the orchids of Machu Picchu, which documented more than 40 species. Shortly after, he won a Russell E. Train Fellowship, sponsored

by Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, to complete a doctoral degree from Universidad de Girona in Spain. William studied the systematic sand biogeography of a specific species of orchid, *Telipogon kunth*. Throughout his research, William and a team of researchers discovered 10 new species of orchids. He received a grade of distinction at the University of Girona for his thesis project and his research continues to be published in peer-reviewed science journals including *Novon* (published by the Missouri Botanical Garden) and *Anales del Jardín Botánico de Madrid*. In 2002, the orchid *Stanhopea naurayi*, originally collected by Alfredo Manrique, was named in honor of William and his work.

I want to thank EFN for the Russell E. Train Fellowship to fund my graduate studies in Spain and to carry out research in Peru... Without it, we would not have been able to design and conduct our orchid research. This initiative has enabled me to learn more about the importance of conservation in the eastern Andes of Peru. **William Nauray Hauri**



William Nauray and field team

IPÊ, BRAZIL

Brazil's Instituto de Pesquisas Ecológicas (IPÊ) has long been a force for conservation education, and EFN is proud to have played a role in the professional development and training of the staff of this dynamic and successful organization. Results of this partnership can be seen throughout IPÊ and throughout Brazil. Suzana Padua, IPÊ co-founder and current president, received a Russell E. Train Fellowship in 2000 to complete her doctoral studies in environmental education at Universidade de Brasilia. Since completing her PhD, Suzana helped IPÊ develop a series of training courses which, in 2008, evolved into a master's degree program at the newly established Escola Superior de Conservação Ambiental e Sustentabilidade (ESCAS). It is Brazil's first accredited master's program in ecology and sustainability administered by a non-governmental organization. Suzana, along with EFN alumni Eduardo Ditt (Train Fellow, 2004), Cristiana Martins (EFN Professional Development Grantee, 2004) and Maria das Graças de Souza (EFN Professional Development Grantee, 2004), now serve as faculty at ESCAS. EFN is now supporting Peruvian Train Fellow Natividad Quillahuaman to pursue her master's degree at the school. IPÊ's unique teaching style merges theory with practice in an interdisciplinary approach, not common at other learning institutions in Brazil. EFN has also helped IPÊ train local communities. In 2004, IPÊ received a conservation workshop grant from EFN to conduct an "eco-negotiations" training for the many and diverse stakeholders in the Pontal do Paranapanema region of São Paulo State. The workshop gave participants the skills to collaboratively address and find solutions to local conservation problems such as forest fragmentation. The quality of IPÊ's work and the achievements of its staff are reflected in the numerous awards that Suzana, her colleagues, and IPÊ have won in recent years, including the Whitley Gold Award, the Conde Nast Traveler Environmental Award, and the Efficiency Award, which recognizes the 50 best administered organizations in Brazil.

It is with pride that we share these achievements with an institution that has helped us get to where we are. Thank you EFN! **Suzana Padua, president and co-founder, IPÊ**



Suzana Padua

The Power of the T-shirt



Hemanta Kafley, Nepal

Russell E. Train Fellows receive an EFN t-shirt during the first year of their studies. Hemanta Kafley, a current Train Fellow from Nepal studying at Oxford University has found that wearing his EFN t-shirt has been great for networking. He says: “When I wear my EFN t-shirt to conferences and workshops, people come up to me to ask about EFN and my relationship with WWF. I get the opportunity to talk with them about my Train Fellowship and my research interests. So, it’s really beneficial for me to wear my t-shirt in official programs here.”



Are you on facebook?

If you received a grant from EFN – a scholarship or fellowship, a Professional Development Grant, or a Conservation Workshop Grant—we invite you to join the EFN Grantees Facebook group. Group members receive information from EFN on new scholarship and grant opportunities, upcoming conferences, and training courses. And it’s a great way to meet other EFN grantees working in conservation around the world. ***Go to www.facebook.com to sign up. It’s free!***



Russell E. Train
**Education for
Nature Program**