

# Wild Chimpanzee Foundation



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## WCF Secretariat\* Geneva

\*Foundation registered in Geneva on October 31st 2000  
under the no CH-660-2177000-7

### Let's act now!

So that the chimpanzees can sleep quietly ...



## Action Plan

The WCF's aim is to protect wild chimpanzee populations and their habitat. Its program can be summarised in five main points:

- to develop an international network of schools to increase awareness among young people of tropical forest and chimpanzee conservation (foster exchange by Internet, and encourage the sponsorship of chimpanzee communities).
- to diminish Human – Chimpanzee conflicts. Villagers near a national park are very often ignorant of the reasons why they should protect the forest and the wild animals. We want to educate local people through participation in conservation and education activities, such as the performance of theatre plays and films, the organisation of „green classes“, and the data collection of forest and fauna observations. We help to initiate and develop eco-tourism projects and support micro-projects as alternatives to poaching
- to identify viable chimpanzee populations in fairly well preserved forest habitats (with the help of biomonitoring, satellite picture analysis and controls in the field) also in sites not yet protected by legal status. In these regions, initiate concrete conservation actions and long-term research projects involving the local populations.
- to diminish poaching and, with the help of the local governments, launch a campaign demanding a moratorium on the hunting and use of wild chimpanzees.
- to integrate environmental issues in the development policy of the concerned countries.

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## Chimpanzees are endangered - please help to protect them!



The chimpanzee is the closest living relative to human beings, and the link to our own prehistory and evolution. The tropical rain forest, the chimpanzees' habitat, is disappearing with alarming speed, and chimpanzees and gorillas are being slaughtered by human hunters and their diseases. Will we just watch as forests and chimpanzees vanish forever?

## We can act, now!

## Chimpanzees, like all of the great apes, face multiple threats:

- **Habitat Loss:** the destruction of the primary rain forest, for the exportation of precious woods or for cash crop plantations like coffee and cocoa, leading to daily reduction of chimpanzee habitat.
- **Poaching:** chimpanzees are killed for meat sold on local markets and sometimes even for meat exports. Their bones and various organs are used in traditional medicine.



- **Exploitation:** unfortunately, there is still a market for live chimpanzee babies as pets. Apes are also hunted for „souvenirs“: for example, the hands and feet of great apes can be bought as ashtrays. ...
- **Diseases:** common human diseases, transmitted through human contact, are fatal to chimpanzees: flue, poliomyelitis, measles, pneumonia, to name a few. The chimpanzees die because they lack resistance.

## What are we able to do?

**Inform yourself** about the behaviour of these fascinating great apes!

**Did you know, for instance, that chimpanzees ...?**

- live in complex social structures
- make and regularly use tools in feeding contexts
- make peace after a fight
- adopt orphans ... who can sometimes die from grief over the loss of their mother even when adopted ...



## Support one of the WCF's projects

in Côte d'Ivoire, Liberia, Guinea and Sierra Leone  
Such as this proposition:

**THEATRE** and a **NEWSLETTER**

- Africans are remarkable actors and it is by this means that we inform them about the life and peril of wild chimpanzee populations. The plays are created by Africans, for Africans. A group of actors are performing then in the villages near forests which still contain chimpanzee populations. Then, local schools or amateur groups are trained to take over the plays and to perform them regularly.
- Simultaneously, we distribute Newsletters in comic-style in the villages near potential sites, dealing with problems related to forest and chimpanzee conservation, the necessity of cohabitation between human and chimpanzee populations, and the great impoverishment of our planet, should chimpanzees disappear forever from the tropical forests. Discussion rounds are animated by the WCF-team.
- Independent evaluations of the WCF activities are done by sociologists of local universities.



### Are you interested?

Would you like to support such actions financially?  
Would you like to become a member of the Wild Chimpanzee Foundation?

**Please contact us under - [wcf@wildchimps.org](mailto:wcf@wildchimps.org)**

Should you like to send a donation, please do so to the WCF-bank account:

**Wild Chimpanzee Foundation - Crédit Suisse Zürich**

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