

SUMATRAN ORANGUTAN
CONSERVATION PROGRAMME

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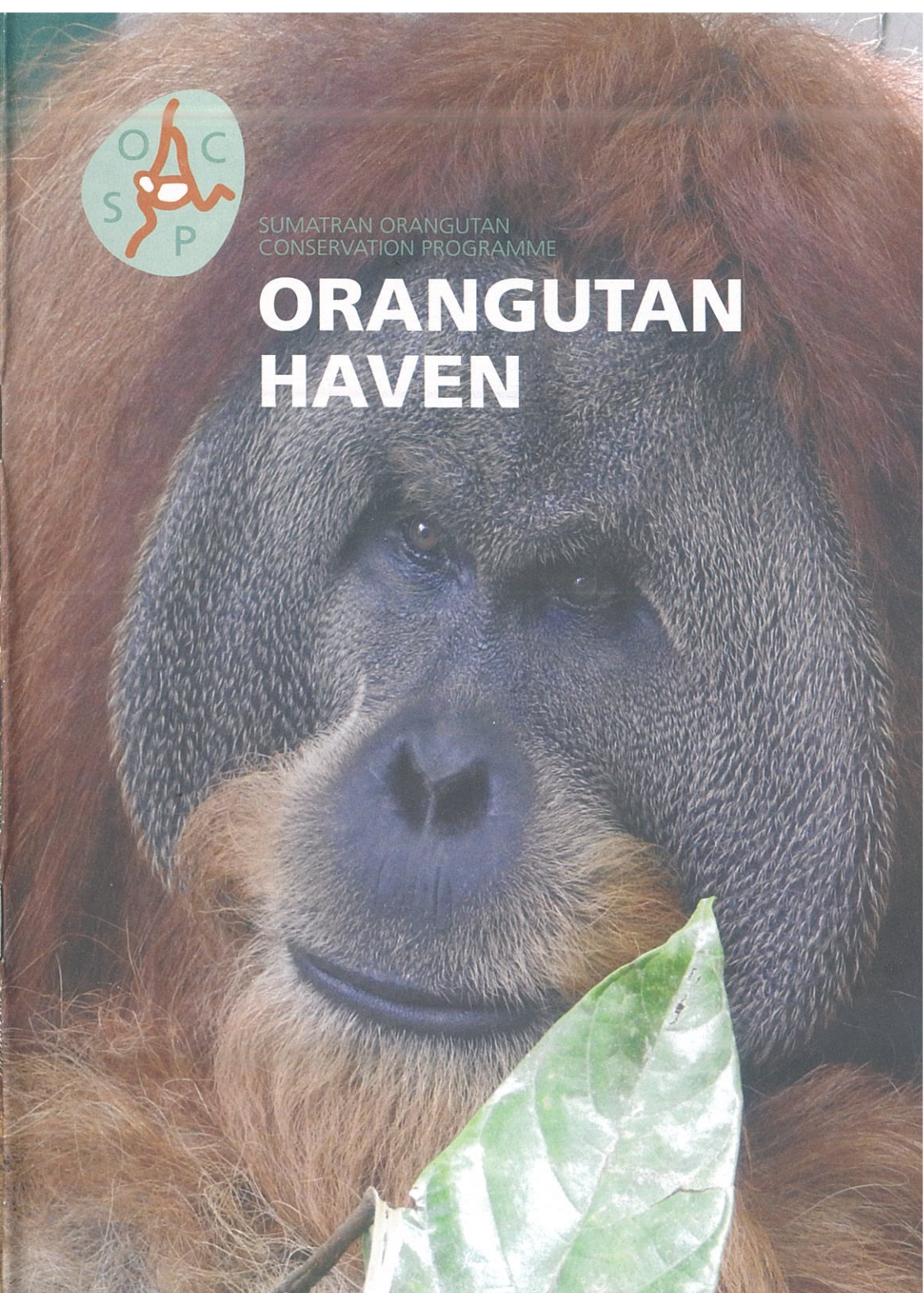
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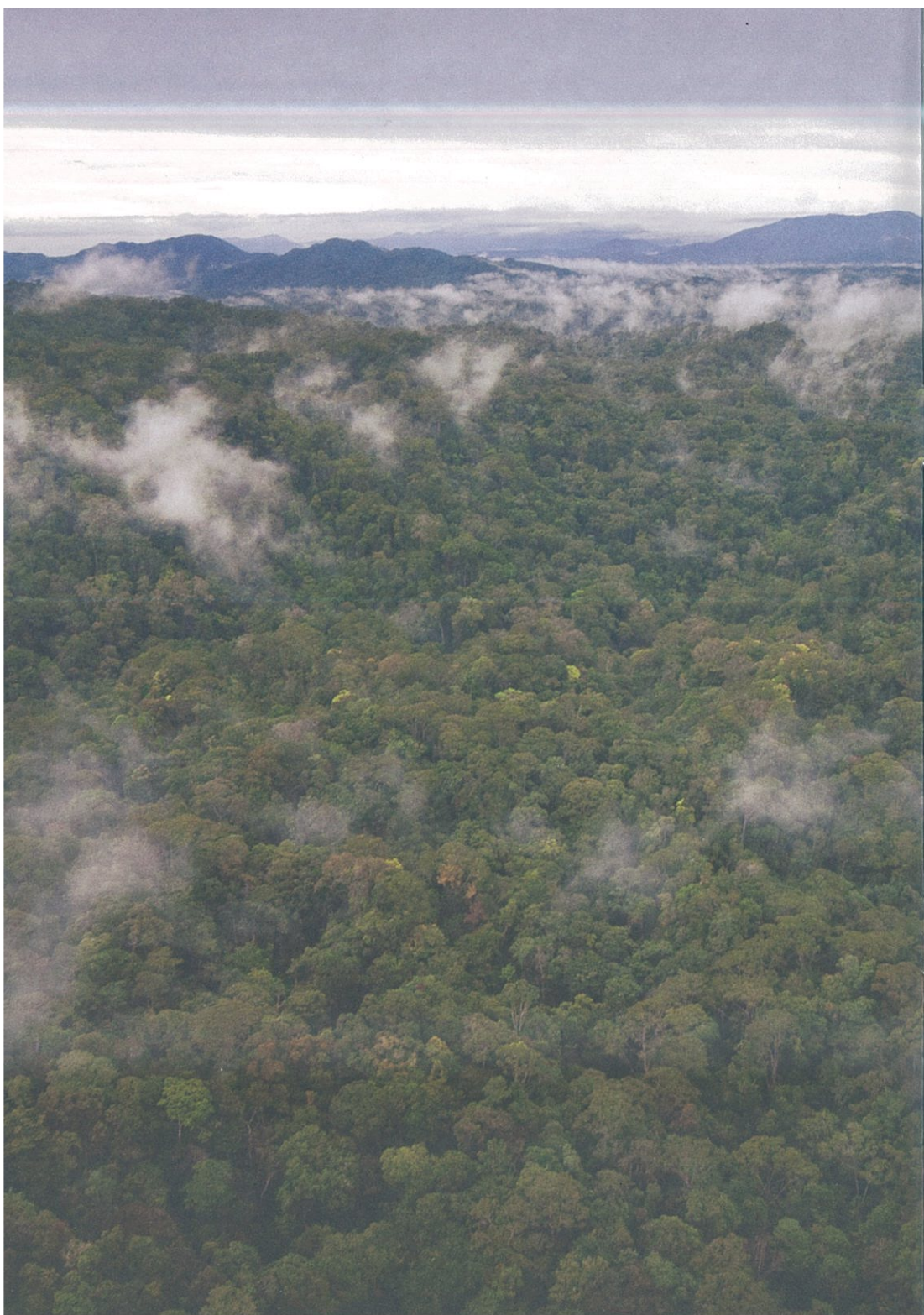
SOCp – IMPLEMENTING
PARTNERS:



SUMATRAN ORANGUTAN
CONSERVATION PROGRAMME

ORANGUTAN HAVEN





WHAT IS THE ORANGUTAN HAVEN?

A Unique Conservation and Education Resource

We believe the Orangutan Haven is the first project of its kind in the world, as it promotes nature conservation and sustainable development in a unique and highly innovative way.

Whilst initially focused on the orangutans themselves, what is today known as the «Orangutan Haven» has grown markedly in both size and scope. The lush wetland valley currently began developed into the orangutan islands as part of a package totalling over 48 ha in extent, most of it traditional mixed agroforest land.

A fantastic opportunity therefore exists to develop the whole site as a unique, comprehensive education resource for the entire region, promoting species and ecosystem conservation, animal welfare and sustainable development.

Conservation Ambassadors.....	4
Countering Wildlife Trade.....	7
Haven Highlights.....	9
A Prime Location.....	11
Work in Progress.....	12
Amazing Orangutans.....	19
Saving the Sumatran Orangutan.....	20
Who We Are.....	22
You Can Make It Happen!.....	23

CONSERVATION AMBASSADORS

Orangutans that Cannot Go Back to the Wild

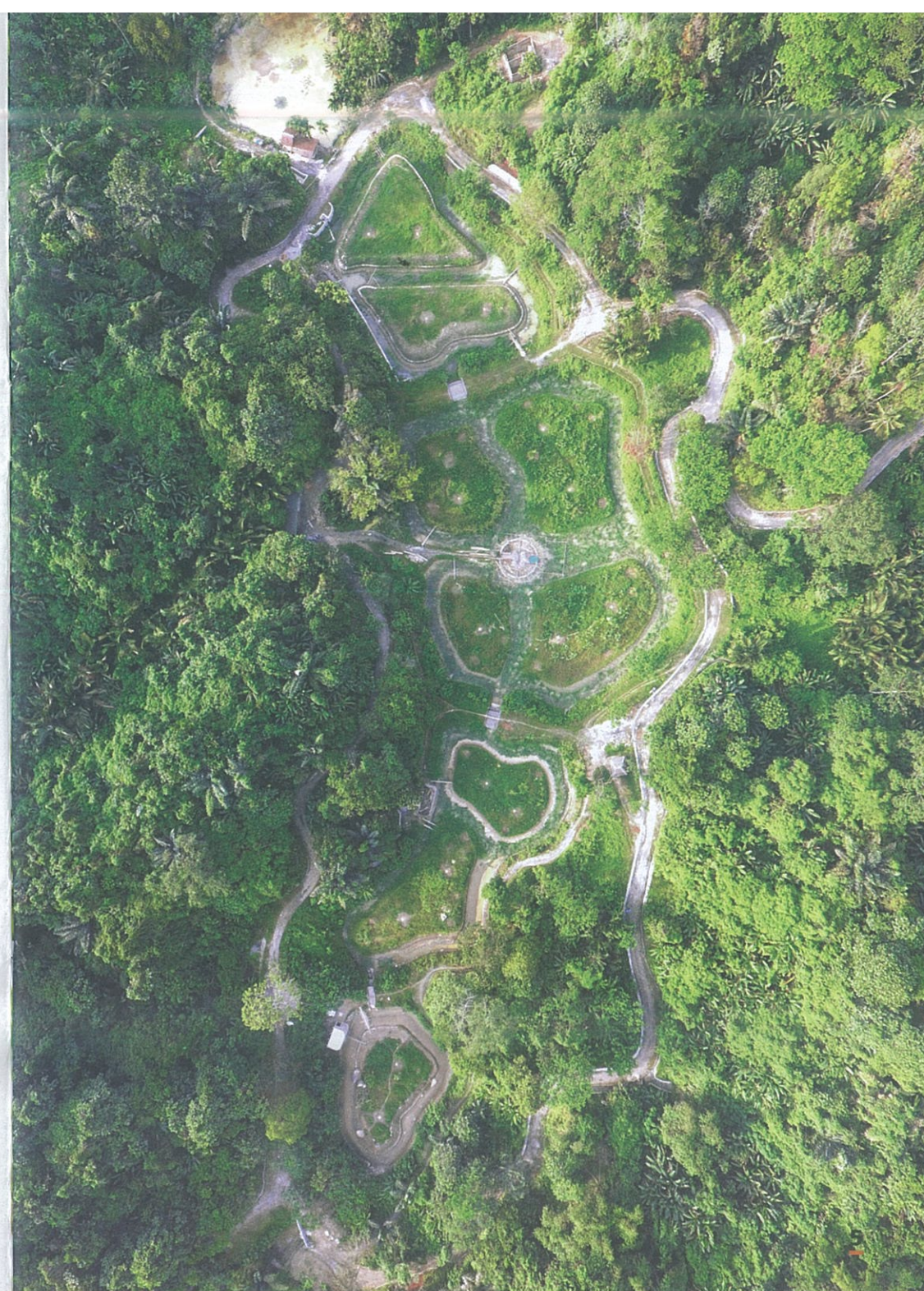
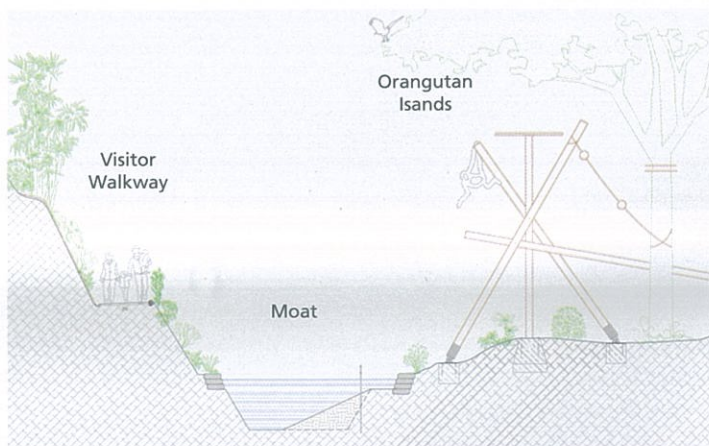
A few of the orangutans being cared for at the SOCP's¹ Orangutan Quarantine and Rehabilitation Centre cannot be released to the wild for health or disability reasons. Since they could live for another 50 years or more, the metal cages they currently live in are less than optimal for their long-term health and welfare. SOCP's Director, Dr. Ian Singleton, came up with the idea to build large naturalistic islands as a long-term refuge for them to live out their days in far better surroundings. The islands will be separated from each other by water moats and covered with climbing structures, ropes and natural vegetation. They will enable the orangutans to live a far more natural and enriched life, whilst still being afforded all the care they need. Visitors to the Haven will be able to see and learn about them from across the moats, with no visual barrier between them.

In this way, the orangutans will not only have a vastly improved environment and quality of life, they will also educate visitors, serving as conservation ambassadors for their wild counterparts. Despite no longer being wild themselves, they will continue to play an important role in the future survival of their species and their natural rainforest habitat.

¹ SOCP is a collaborative programme of the Indonesian Government, Sumatran Foundation for a Sustainable Ecosystem YEL and Swiss Foundation PanEco.

«The Orangutan Haven will provide a long-term refuge, optimal welfare and dignity for a few orangutans that can never be released to the wild. Since they could live to be more than 50 years old, there is a pressing need to provide them with a far more acceptable and natural home than the metal cages, in which they live today. Moreover, with their human-made fate being exposed to the public, they will play an active role in the conservation of their species.»

Drh. Citrakasih Nente,
Supervisor Quarantine
and Reintroduction,
SOCP



COUNTERING WILDLIFE TRADE

Saving Endangered Species

As in the rest of SE Asia, illegal trade in wildlife is booming in Medan and the rest of northern Sumatra, too!

The roads near the Orangutan Haven pass by many tiny cages holding wild animal species being offered for sale mostly as pets, delicacies or purported traditional medicines. Birds, fruit bats, slow loris and mouse deer are most commonly sold in the immediate vicinity.

Some Sumatran songbird species are already close to extinction due to the trade.

By encountering some of these species in a natural forest setting, visitors will begin to understand how intelligent they are, how complex their social lives are and the important ecological role they play in the natural environment. It is hoped that local demand for the wildlife trade will decrease significantly in the region over coming years as a result of the Haven's awareness programmes.

«I think if we can get people face to face with fruit bats, we could persuade at least half of them not to buy them again, so I'm hopeful that we can bring demand down by 50 per cent in five years. I think the only way to deal with this issue is through education.»

Dr. Ian Singleton,
Director SOCP



Fruit bats in small cage

Street sale of captive wild animals, p.6 above

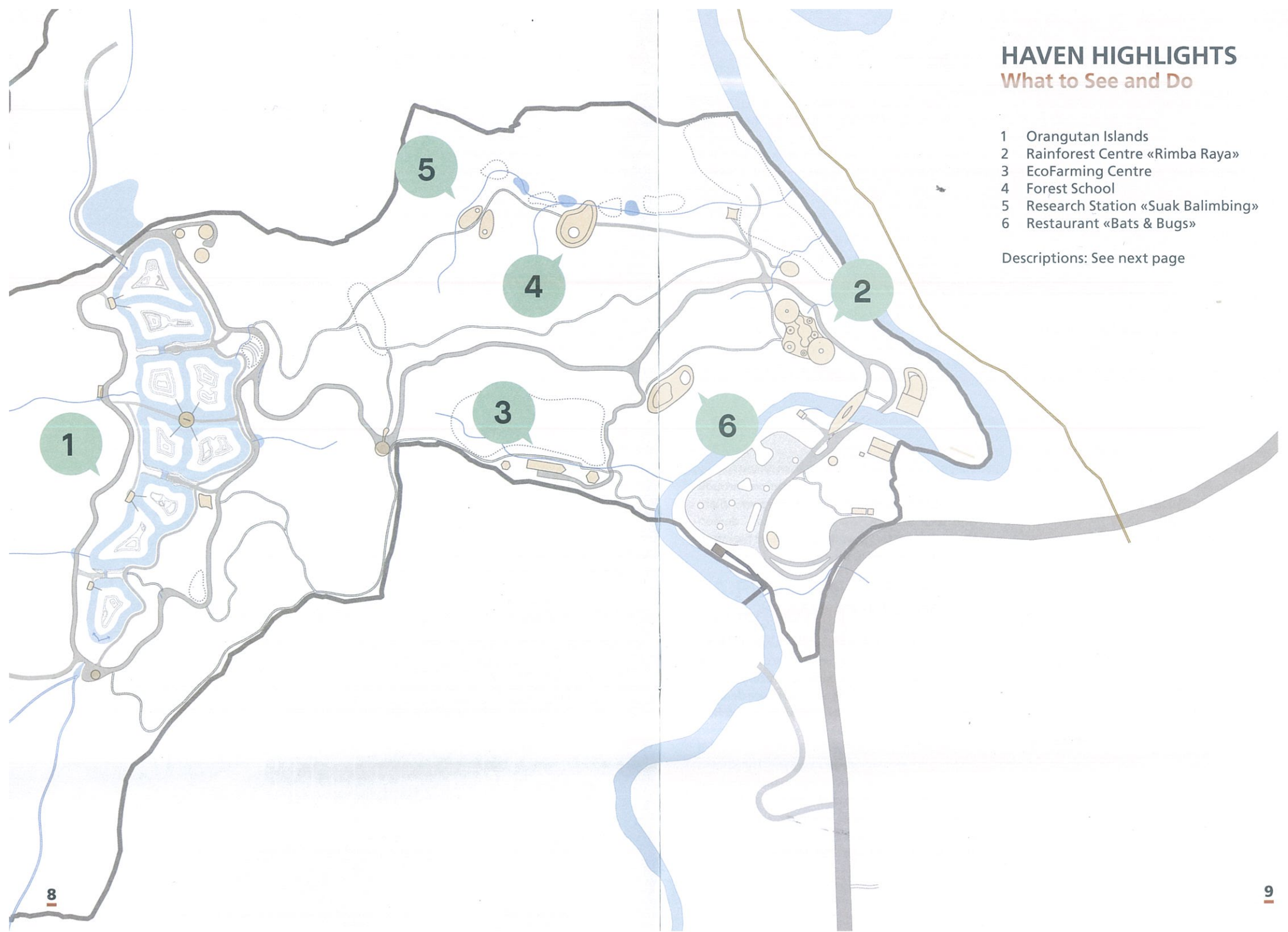
Alive flying foxes attached to motorcycle, p.6 below

HAVEN HIGHLIGHTS

What to See and Do

- 1 Orangutan Islands
- 2 Rainforest Centre «Rimba Raya»
- 3 EcoFarming Centre
- 4 Forest School
- 5 Research Station «Suak Balimbing»
- 6 Restaurant «Bats & Bugs»

Descriptions: See next page



HAVEN HIGHLIGHTS

What There Is to See and Do

1 Orangutan Islands – Where Fish Ponds Turned into Islands

Where visitors can come face to face with un-releasable orangutans that cannot go back to the wild. Learn about their fate and the plight of their wild relatives. The orangutans will be the primary icon for the entire Orangutan Haven.

2 Rainforest Centre «Rimba Raya» Interpreting Paradise on Earth

A stunning bamboo building with an innovative and interactive rainforest exhibition, where visitors will learn about this amazing tropical rainforest ecosystem, its unique biodiversity, its vital functions for our planet and the disastrous consequences of its destruction. The centre will also be the main base for all visitor services at the Haven.

3 EcoFarming Centre Superfood from Nature

The whole Haven site is a splendid example of traditional mixed agroforestry. The Haven's agricultural production has been certified since 2017 and produces a diverse harvest of organic fruits and vegetables. Tours and training courses will be tailored to visitors, schools and farmers wishing to learn more about organic farming.

4 Forest School Learning from Nature

The Forest School will provide classrooms, educational infrastructure and teaching materials on a diverse range of subjects for schools, universities and other groups, from all levels of society. A specialised Education Team will coach the teachers and conduct tours and guided nature walks.

5 Research Station «Suak Balimbing» To Discover Tropical Nature and Foster Science

A research facility built to resemble the famous Suak Balimbing Research Station on the West coast of Aceh. Used by students carrying out research projects at the Haven and a place where visitors can interact with students to learn about scientific field research and ecology in general.

6 Restaurant «Bats&Bugs» Enjoy Healthy Food

The restaurant will be an impressive structure built from sustainable materials and a major focal point of the Haven, where most visitors will stop to relax. Healthy, wholesome food will be served, featuring produce from the Haven's organic farm. The restaurant will be available for cooking classes, weddings and corporate events.

Green Technology To Safeguard our Environment

Alternative technologies in operation throughout the OUH, such as its micro hydropower plant and solar systems, will be showcased, demonstrating to visitors how they work and highlighting their potential in the region.

Bats and Birds Saving Threatened Species

A small number of fruit bats will be exhibited in a large netted valley to create awareness about their important role in the local ecosystem, the aim being to foster greater appreciation and sympathy for their plight, and to reduce demand for their trade. An on-site captive breeding facility is being created to aid the survival of a number of critically endangered Sumatran songbird species like the Sumatran Laughing Thrush and the Nias Hill Mynah, with a view to future reintroduction programmes to prevent their total extinction in the wild. These critically endangered birds and the fruit bats are seriously threatened by the wildlife trade.



Map of Indonesia
and Sumatra



A PRIME LOCATION

Where to Find Orangutan Haven

The Orangutan Haven lies just 30 minutes from the large city of Medan, the capital of North Sumatra province and its population of more than three million people. Access is via the main road linking Medan to the highland resort town of Berastagi and Lake Toba, a well-travelled route for both residents and tourists seeking recreation outside of the city.

WORK IN PROGRESS

Current Status of Orangutan Haven

The good news: work on developing the Orangutan Haven is progressing well.

The 30-metre-long bamboo bridge, completed in 2017 and easily visible from the Haven entrance, has already become a well-known local landmark.

Construction of the main artery road, which provides access to most of the site, has been challenging due to the steepness of the terrain and the region's heavy rainfall, which can cause erosion and landslides. It travels from the Haven entrance through key locations to the main island valley. Once construction of the islands is complete and there is less construction traffic, it will be surfaced with a mixture of paving blocks on steeper parts and gravel, to be accessible for electric golf buggies, so that even less 'agile' visitors can get around the site.

The unique and pioneering nature of the orangutan islands has also presented challenges, as no-one has ever attempted anything similar as far as we know, at least at this scale in this kind of environment. Thankfully they are finally now nearing completion, but they do still need some finishing touches before the orangutans can move in. Trees and bamboo have been planted and we are in the process of constructing large climbing frames of logs, bamboo and ropes for the orangutans to get high above the ground. Off-island holding 'houses' are now being built to hold the orangutans whilst keepers check on their health and clean and maintain the islands.

The keepers will get a 'keeper depot' where they can shower and change and where they will prepare the orangutan food several times a day.

A small veterinary clinic is now being built, for the rare occasions the orangutans may need intervention, and also as a treatment and quarantine area for bats and birds.

A micro-hydropower plant that utilizes the small river on the site is already fully operational. Once the entire Haven is completed, the plant will provide around 40% of all energy needs on site.

Bamboo Bridge
Picture above

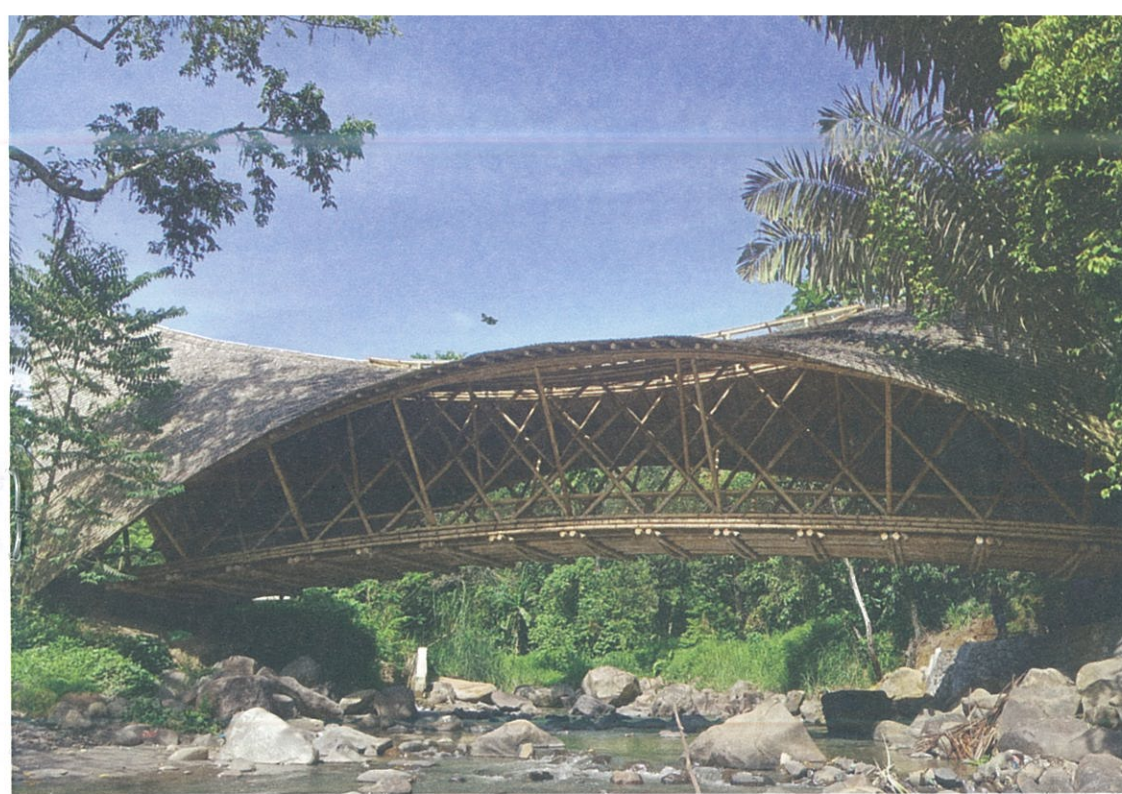
Main Artery Road
Picture below

Orangutan Islands
Pictures p.5, 11

Keeper Depot

Veterinary Clinic
Picture p.14, above

Micro-Hydropower Plant







Enough grant bamboo stems have been obtained. The stems have already been soaked in organic salts to protect them from insects and dried to preserve them, for the construction of green buildings like the spectacular bamboo bridge over the river that will be the main entrance for visitors.

Bamboo store house & workshop

Picture p.14 below, p.15

The EcoFarming Centre regularly supplies fruit and vegetables to the orangutans at the SOCP's nearby orangutan quarantine centre, where the Haven's future residents currently still reside, meaning they and other orangutans there already receive fine organic foods that the whole world covets!

EcoFarming Centre

Pictures p.16

The Rainforest Centre with Rainforest Exhibition, the Research Station, the Forest School and the EcoFarming Centre are all at the active planning stage, awaiting major fundraising success to allow their development.

Rainforest Centre

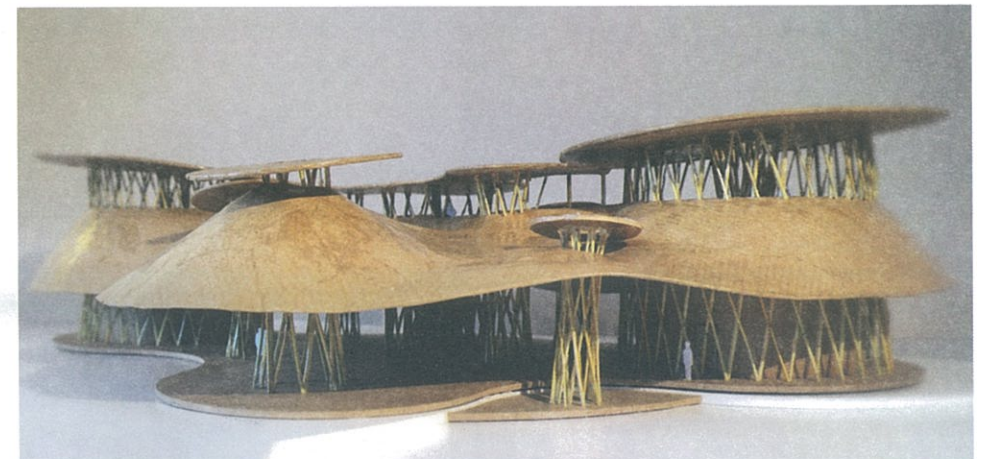
Picture below

**Research Station
Forest School**



Designs are being drawn up for a large netted flight enclosure for fruit bats that will allow visitors to see them flying high between the trees. Designs and funding for the Captive Breeding Aviaries for endangered songbird species are already in place with construction due to be completed by the end of 2019. Funds are still needed for its long-term operations.

**Captive Breeding
Aviaries**



Model of the Rainforest Centre bamboo building, mimicking a natural rainforest canopy

AMAZING ORANGUTAN

Our Red Relatives

Orangutans are very closely related to us: around 97% of their DNA is identical to ours!

There are two orangutan species in Sumatra, the Sumatran orangutan (*Pongo abelii*) and the newly described (in 2017) Tapanuli orangutan (*Pongo tapanuliensis*).


A third species, *Pongo pygmaeus*, lives on neighbouring Borneo.

Recent surveys by the SOCP found only around 14,000 wild Sumatran orangutans remaining, the majority of them in the world-famous Leuser Ecosystem, and less than 800 Tapanuli orangutans, in their last stronghold, the Batang Toru Forests. The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) lists all 3 orangutan species as Critically Endangered.

The Orangutans' tropical rainforest habitat is disappearing at an alarming rate due to deforestation and fragmentation, mostly due to oil palm plantations, logging concessions, drainage of peatlands, fires and roads that cut forest habitats into ever smaller units.

Orangutans are the heaviest arboreal (tree-living) creatures on earth. They also have the longest birth interval of any mammal, producing a single infant only once every 8 or 9 years. As they have their first infant at around 15 years of age, and can live to 50 or 60 years old in the wild, a mother orangutan may raise only 4 or 5 offspring in her lifetime.

Orangutan populations, like humans and chimpanzees, are well-known for having unique forms of culture. Orangutans in different areas have specific traditions and best «ways of doing things», which they have learnt from their mothers and peers. The Orangutans in the swamp forests on the west coast of Sumatra, for example, have developed the skills to make and use tools to obtain honey from bees' nests and to extract the seeds of the nutritious but extremely itchy *Neesia* fruits growing there.



«As far as I am aware, we are the only project actively establishing entirely new, genetically viable and self-sustaining wild populations of any great ape species, anywhere in the world.»

Dr. Ian Singleton, Director SOCP

SAVING THE SUMATRAN ORANGUTAN

Sumatran Orangutan Conservation Programme SOCP

The SOCP works on all aspects of Sumatran orangutan conservation including:

- Rescue, care and reintroduction of illegal pet orangutans back into their forest home to establish new, viable wild populations
- Surveys and monitoring of remaining wild populations
- Rainforest conservation
- Research on conservation and behavioural ecology of wild orangutans
- Conservation education and awareness

The SOCP is implemented by the Swiss-based PanEco Foundation and its Indonesian partner Yayasan Ekosistem Lestari (YEL, Sustainable Ecosystem Foundation) under a Memorandum of Understanding with the Indonesian Ministry of Environment and Forestry's Conservation Department (Ditjen KSDAE).

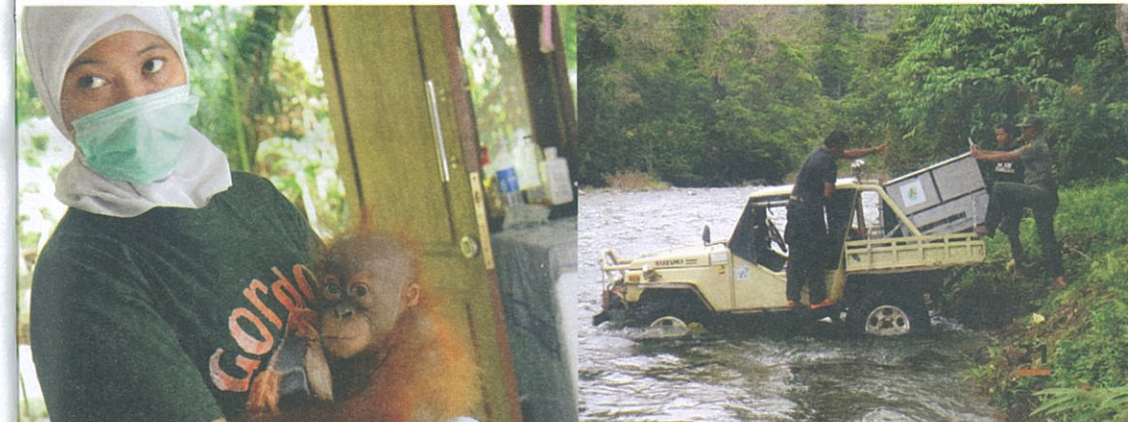
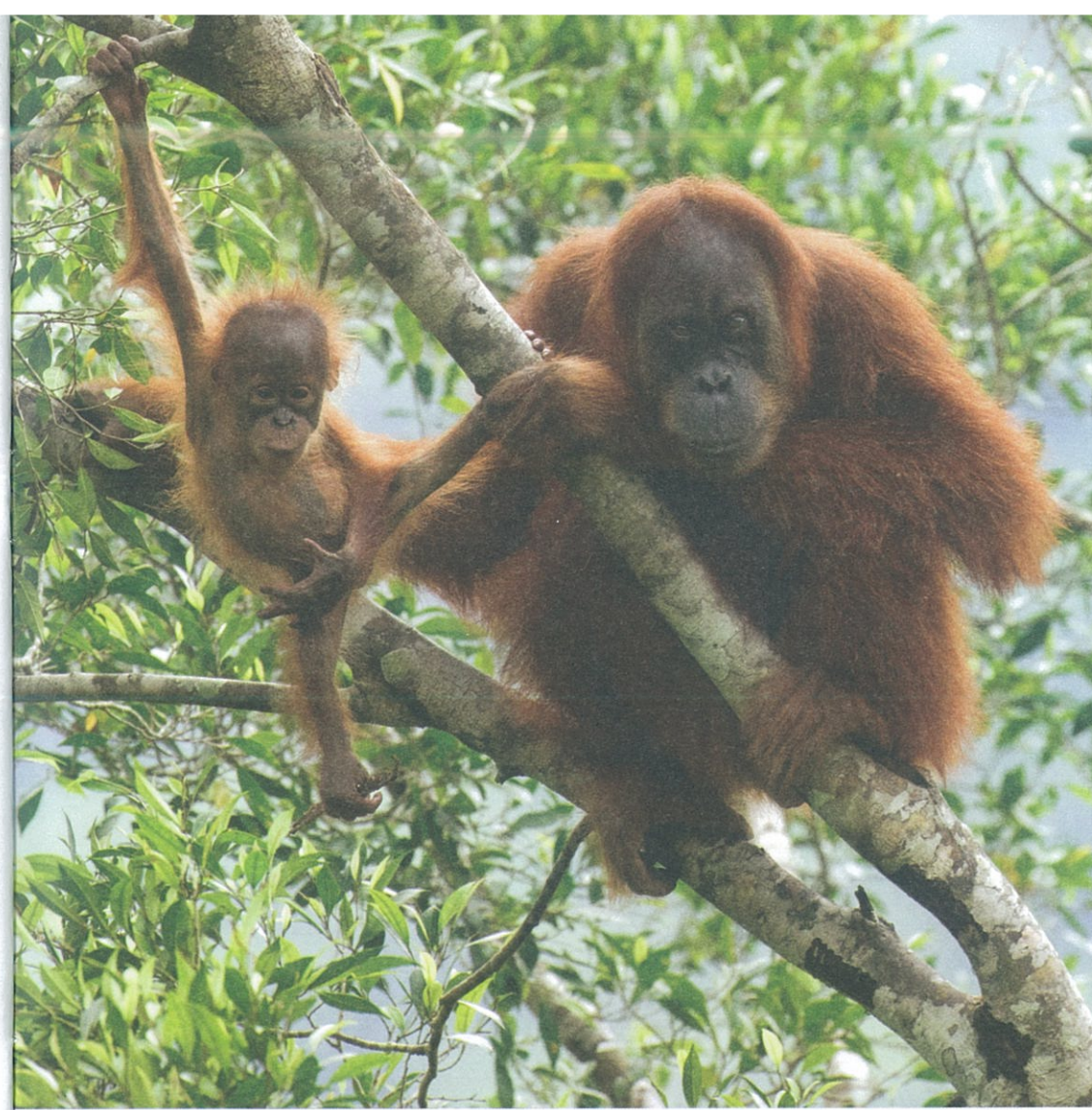
Since 2001, the SOCP has reintroduced almost 300 orangutans back to the wild in Sumatra, gradually creating two entirely new viable and self-sustaining wild populations on the island.



- Leuser Ecosystem
- Batang Toru Ecosystem
- Sumatran orangutan distribution

«From our surveys in 2014 we know there are only around 14,000 Sumatran orangutans left in the wild. That's worrying when you remember some of the big football stadiums out there can seat up to 100,000 people, meaning all the Sumatran orangutans in the world would fit easily in the seats at just one end, behind the goal!»

Matthew Nowak, Director Biodiversity Monitoring Unit SOCP



Orangutan keeper at the Quarantine and Rehabilitation Centre Batu M'belim

Transfer of orangutans to the Jantho Reintroduction Centre

WHO WE ARE

The Sumatran Orangutan Conservation Programme (SOCP) is a collaborative programme of the Swiss-based PanEco Foundation, its Indonesian partner Yayasan Ekosistem Lestari (YEL, Sustainable Ecosystem Foundation – focusing on nature conservation, organic farming and environmental education), and the Indonesian Government's Directorate General of Natural Resource and Ecosystems Conservation.



REGINA FREY, PRESIDENT OF PANECO FOUNDATION

Passionate about sustainable development and nature conservation, biologist and PanEco founder Regina has been working in Indonesia since 1973 to conserve and protect Sumatra's orangutans and their habitat.



SOFYAN TAN, DIRECTOR OF YEL

Sofyan Tan, a medical doctor dedicated to community development, has become an icon for multicultural education in Indonesia with his model school, 'Sultan Iskandar Muda' in Medan. He established YEL in 2000, today he is a member of Parliament in Jakarta.



IAN SINGLETON, DIRECTOR OF SOCP

A PhD in Orangutan Behaviour, Ian has spent the last 30 years working with the species in captivity, studying them in the wild and since 2001 as Director of the SOCP. Ian is the principle decision-maker for the development of the Orangutan Haven.



SUHERRY APRIANTO, OUH PROJECT LEADER

Suherry, a mechanical engineer, has been involved in community development programs in Sumatra for 25 years. He has worked with Ian and the SOCP since its inception in 2001. Today Suherry supervises all development of the Orangutan Haven.



GILBERT MURRER, OUH COORDINATOR

Gilbert is a young Austrian architect, dedicated to construction with sustainable materials, especially bamboo. He joined the team to assist Suherry coordinating the construction work at the Orangutan Haven.



DIANA KOSMANTO, OUH MANAGING DIRECTOR

Diana is a key person for the daily project management, requiring a highly diverse skill set. Diana oversees all administration and management issues related to developing the Orangutan Haven and will play a leading role in its future success.

YOU CAN MAKE IT HAPPEN! SUPPORT THE ORANGUTAN HAVEN – DONATE YOUR FUNDS AND FORCES

The Orangutan Haven will be unique in Indonesia, perhaps the world. It is highly innovative and pioneering, and something we anticipate will be replicated in other regions. If you would like to support us, there are a number of funding options available to help us develop our projects:

- Rainforest Centre «Rimba Raya» with Rainforest Exhibition
- Research Station «Suaq Balimbing»
- Forest School
- Flight Enclosure for Fruit Bats
- Restaurant «Bats & Bugs»
- Green Technology Development
- EcoFarming Centre
- Operational and Staff facilities

Make a donation and help Leuser and his friends move to their new habitat as soon as possible!

DONATIONS CAN BE MADE VIA

ONLINE:

- www.sumatranorangutan.org/donate
- www.paypal.me/socp

BANK TRANSFER:

YAYASAN EKOSISTEM LESTARI QQ SOCP

CIMB NIAGA: 8000 154 178

Swift Code: BNIAIDJA

Reference «SOCP-Orangutan Haven»

PAN ECO FOUNDATION

- Credit Suisse AG, Currency: EUR
IBAN : CH89 0483 5049 0097 1200 1, BIC / SWIFT: CRESCHZZ80A
- Credit Suisse AG, Currency: USD
IBAN: CH62 0483 5049 0097 1200 2, BIC / SWIFT: CRESCHZZ80A
Reference «SOCP-Orangutan Haven»

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