



**ORANGUTAN
OUTREACH**

redapes.org

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Orangutan Outreach is to protect orangutans in their native forests of Borneo and Sumatra while providing care for orphaned and displaced orangutans until they can be returned to their natural environment. If they cannot be released, we will do everything in our power to ensure they have a life of dignity and the best possible long-term care.

VISION STATEMENT

Orangutan Outreach envisions a world in which wild orangutans are fully protected and allowed to live freely and undisturbed in their natural forest habitats in Borneo and Sumatra. We further propose that any orangutan who is unable to live in his or her rainforest home will receive compassionate care in a sanctuary for the duration of their life.



CORE BELIEFS

- Orangutans are intelligent, sentient beings who experience a wide range of emotions.
- Orangutans are meant to live freely and undisturbed in the rainforests of Borneo and Sumatra.
- Orangutans are worthy of protection simply for their beauty and grace.
- Orangutans are vital to the health of the rainforest ecosystem and therefore must be protected.
- Rainforests are vital to the health of the planet and therefore must be protected.
- Orangutans in professional human care must be treated with compassion, dignity, and respect.
- Orangutan conservation is only successful when it prioritizes community involvement.
- Successful in-situ conservation efforts are intricately tied to meeting the needs of local communities.

ACTIONS

- Collaborate with ethical, like-minded individuals, groups, and organizations throughout the world.
- Collaborate with orangutan conservation organizations throughout Indonesia, especially those with a focus on orangutan rehabilitation and protection.
- Support accredited wildlife sanctuaries in Indonesia, Malaysia and the United States that provide excellent long-term care for orangutans.
- Raise public awareness of orangutan conservation issues.
- Raise funds for non-government organizations in Borneo and Sumatra that are working to protect orangutans and the rainforests.

Since our founding in 2007, Orangutan Outreach has firmly established itself as the premier orangutan charity operating in the United States. We have shown ourselves to be ethical and dependable in championing orangutan conservation in both Indonesian Borneo and Sumatra. With a small team and minimal overhead, Orangutan Outreach is able to provide significant financial support to our Indonesian partners.



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LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends, Colleagues, and Fellow Conservationists,

Welcome to the 2024 Orangutan Outreach Annual Report. As I reflect on the past year, I am filled with gratitude and a renewed sense of urgency. The challenges facing orangutans in Borneo and Sumatra are immense, yet the dedication of our global community has manifested into tangible progress on the ground.

The mission of Orangutan Outreach is clear and unwavering: to protect orangutans from extinction, rescue and rehabilitate those in peril, and safeguard their vital rainforest habitat so that they will have a home in years to come.

This is not a piecemeal endeavor; it is a holistic approach that recognizes no species exists in isolation. Orangutans, humans, and the intricate ecosystems of the rainforest are all intrinsically linked together.

**In 2024, our work has
been defined by impact:**

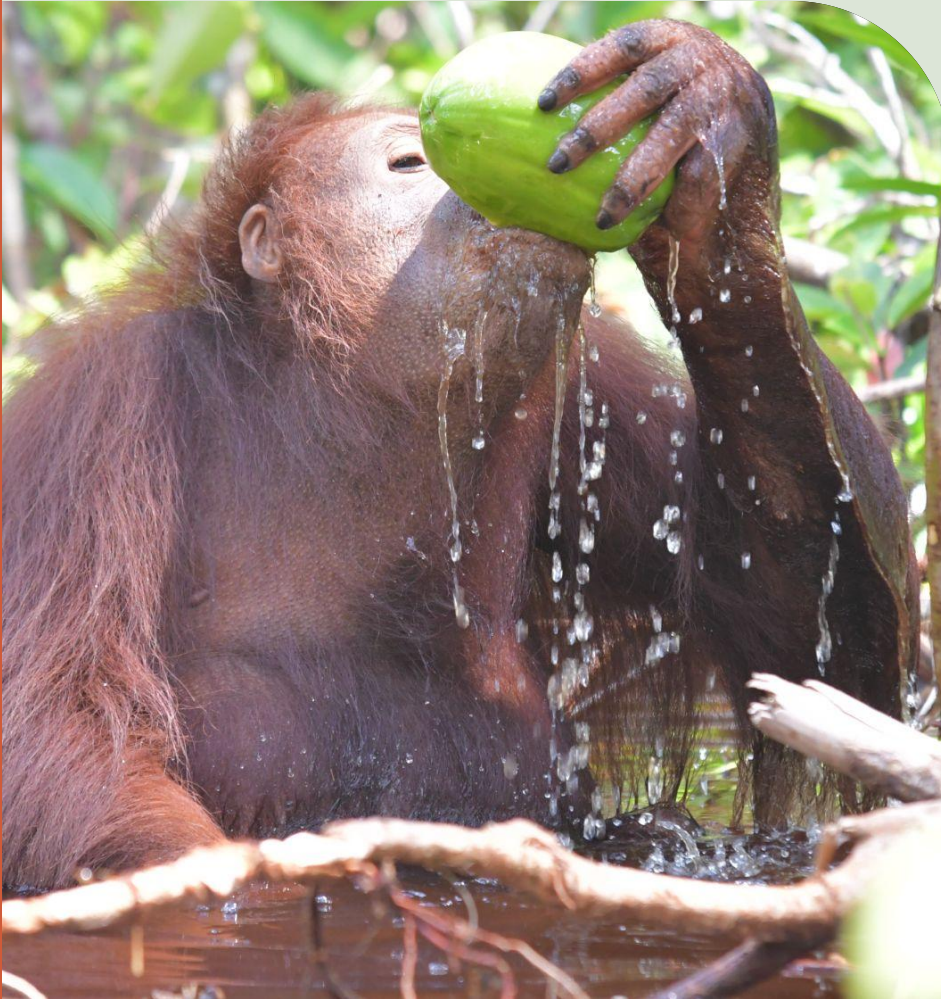
- **Rescue and Rehabilitation:** Together with our partners we have provided critical care and a second chance at life for numerous displaced individuals. From initial triage at our partner centers to the essential "forest school" training that prepares the orphaned orangutans for independence, every step is designed to equip them with the skills needed to survive in the wild.
- **Habitat Protection:** We have intensified our efforts to combat the root causes of habitat loss—primarily unsustainable palm oil production, coal mining and illegal logging. Protecting the rainforest is a dual imperative: it ensures the long-term survival of orangutans and plays a critical role in the global carbon and water cycles that support all life on Earth.
- **Community Engagement:** True conservation success is rooted in the participation of local communities. We support our local partners' endeavors to nurture alliances with diverse teams and partners to expand our impact, supporting sustainable livelihoods that reduce dependency on exploitative industries. Empowering indigenous communities is key to ensuring that protected habitats remain viable and safe for wildlife in the long term.
- **Global Awareness:** We continue to raise a global voice online and off, leveraging our platform to inform the world about the urgent threats these magnificent creatures face.

The dedication of our partners, the tireless, heroic work of on-the-ground staff, and the invaluable contributions of *YOU*, our supporters, have made these achievements possible. It is *YOUR* passion for nature that fuels our mission, keeps the flicker of optimism alive, and allows us to be a consistent force for orangutan conservation.

As we look ahead to 2025, the need for vigilance and action remains paramount. The story of orangutan conservation is still being written, and with your continued support, we can and will ensure a future where these intelligent, sentient beings thrive in their natural forest homes.

Thank you for standing with us.

For the orangutans,
Richard Zimmerman
Executive Director, Orangutan Outreach

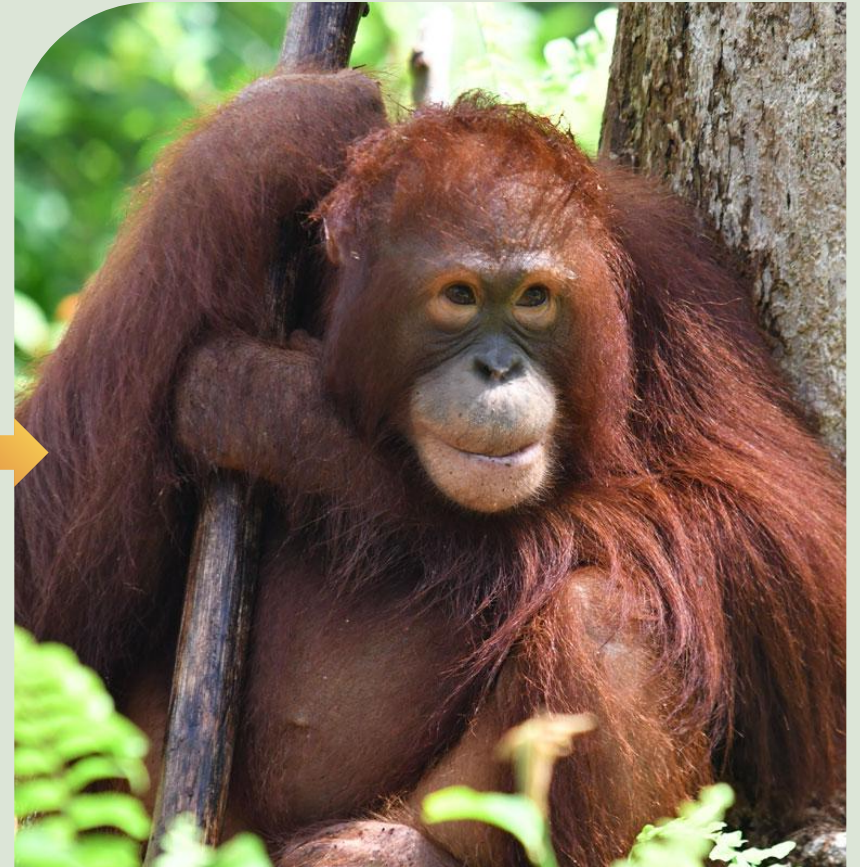


2024 IMPACT SUMMARY

Orangutan Outreach was proud to support the work of five orangutan conservation organizations in Indonesia in 2024 by providing over a half a million US dollars for operational activities and projects. The five recipients, the Sumatran Orangutan Conservation Program (SOCP), Borneo Orangutan Survival Foundation (BOSF), International Animal Rescue Indonesia (YIARI), Borneo Nature Foundation (BNF) and Conservation Action Network Indonesia (CAN), contributed to orangutan conservation across two islands and five provinces in Indonesia, creating real and lasting impact.

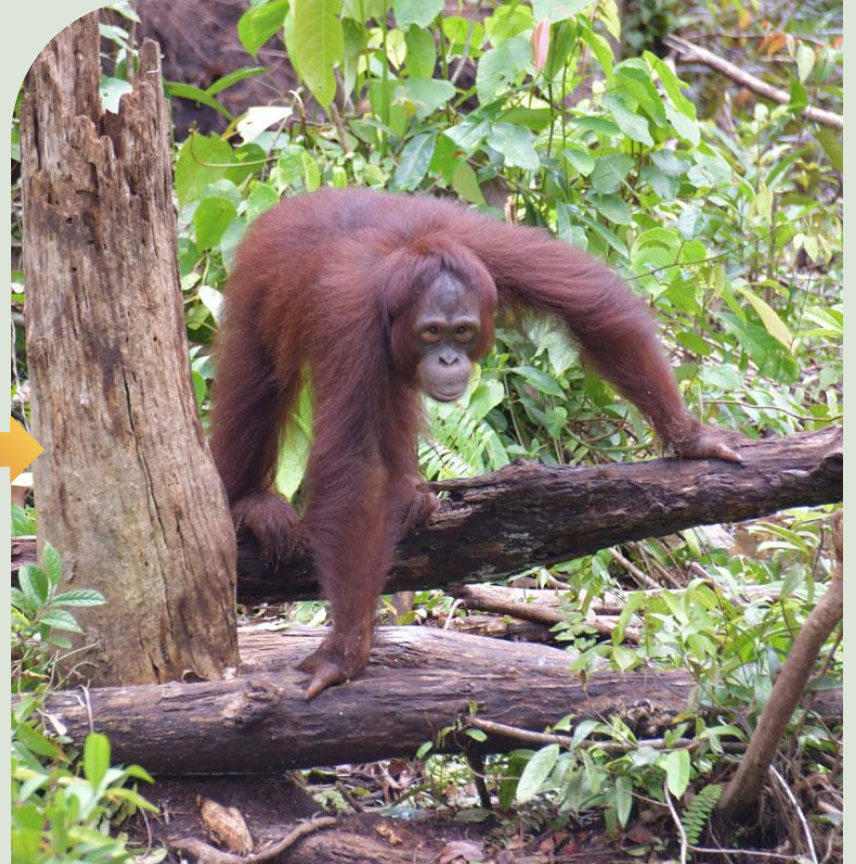
The financial support for these activities came from the generous donations of our Orangutan Outreach community. We assure that our supporters stay well informed of our efforts and the work of our partners in Indonesia. Orangutan Outreach provides updates via 6 social media outlets, monthly e-newsletters, and email communication. The ongoing projects, challenges, and successes in the world of orangutan conservation are shared with thousands of people each day. Due to our commitment to inform, our loyal supporters answer the call to action when asked. Many Orangutan Outreach supporters symbolically adopt orangutans or provide monthly donations. In 2024 we saw wonderful engagement with our yearly campaigns such as *Missing Orangutan Mothers (MOM)*, and generous support of our emergency fundraiser for landslide relief at the SOCP Quarantine Center.

Orangutan Outreach translates the holistic work of orangutan conservation into the 5 “R”s of Red Ape Relief: Rescues, Rehabilitation, Releases, Retirement, and Reforestation. Tremendous work was completed in each area during 2024. Beginning with the important task of rescues, the partners of Orangutan Outreach rescued a total of 24 orangutans in 2024, with 7 of them entering rehabilitation and 17 being directly translocated into safe forests.



At the four rehabilitation centers supported by Orangutan Outreach, over 300 orangutans received daily care, enrichment, and instruction. Furthermore, we continued to improve the rehabilitation programs with the construction of a new forest school and new employee housing for BOSF's Nyaru Menteng Center. At the SOCP rehabilitation center, we jumped into action when a tragic landslide hit so we could provide relief funding as the teams acted to save orangutans and secure the site.

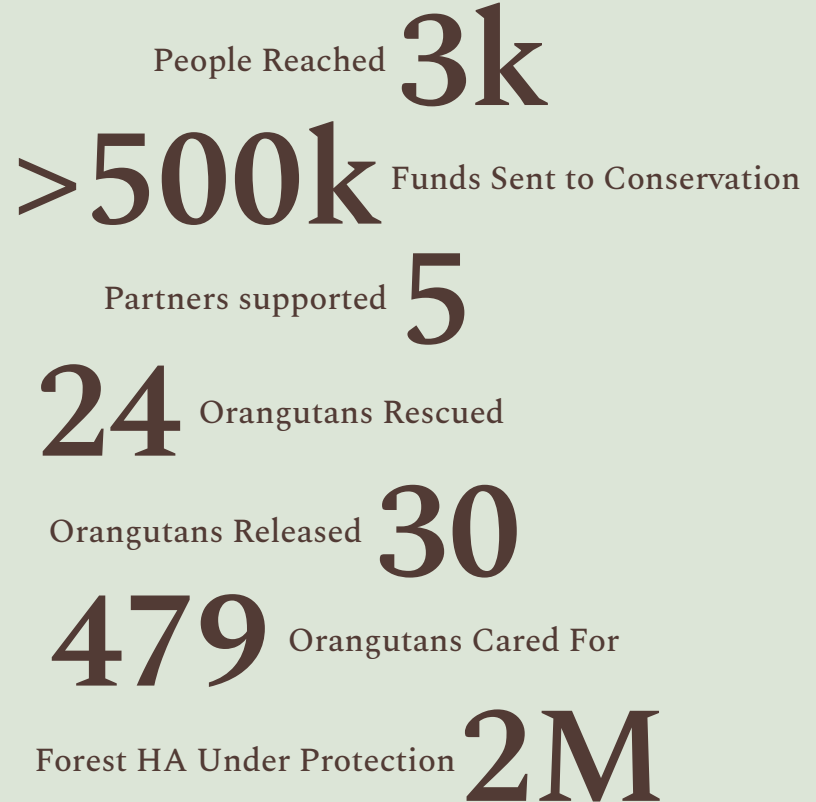
We celebrated the releases of 27 orangutans into safe forests as they had completed their rehabilitation programs and returned to their true home. Our partners have released nearly 800 orangutans over the years and in 2024, their post-release monitoring teams tracked and observed 116 of these free orangutans and recorded 5 births of new babies in the wild!



Back at the centers, more than 150 unreleaseable orangutans received daily care in retirement. We celebrated as all of the SOCP unreleaseable orangutans were finally homed at the new Orangutan Haven. We continued communication with YIARI during ongoing construction of a forested enclosure for their unreleaseable orangutans. We also continued our financial support of construction of new island homes at BOSF Nyaru Menteng, making progress with the land of the two islands being filled and new trees being planted.

Finally, we are proud of the reforestation efforts of our partners. Combined, they protected about two million hectares of rainforest where in many places they undertook initiatives to track and research orangutan behavior and biology. They also worked to restore a further 400 ha of forest that had been cleared by human activities or fire. Orangutan Outreach continued our 3-year project with BOSF of replanting 28 hectares in the Mawas Conservation Area, and we supported BNF's construction of dams to block destructive canals in Sebangau National Park.

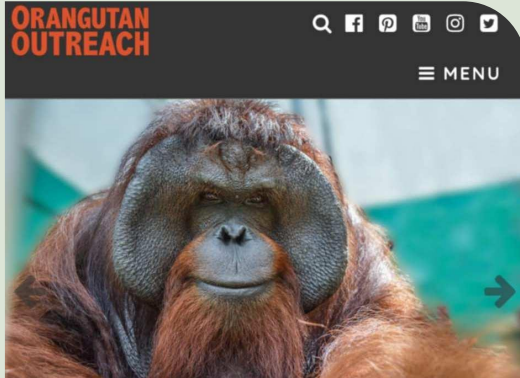
We are so excited to share with you how we were able to help so many orangutans by working together. To dive even deeper into their stories, the numbers, and the impact, we invite you to keep reading!



RAISING AWARENESS



Orangutan Outreach utilizes various means to raise awareness and engage with our community on the plight of wild orangutans and ongoing conservation efforts:



Orangutan Outreach Website

Our website redapes.org offers a wealth of information and resources related to orangutans, orangutan conservation, and the work of Orangutan Outreach and our partner organizations in Indonesia. We include information on how to support our efforts, help orangutans, and get involved. In 2024, the Orangutan Outreach website had 48K active users across 7 countries.



E-Newsletters

We keep our supporters informed about the efforts of Orangutan Outreach and of our partners with regular e-newsletters. In 2024, we sent 14 newsletters reaching over 8500 people with each edition. Stories of heartwarming rescues to exciting releases are shared along with updates on emergency appeals and campaigns. We highlight distinctive projects and resilient orangutans to red ape lovers to raise awareness of challenges orangutans are facing and how they can help.



Social Media

In 2024, we connected with over 80K followers via our 2 Facebook pages and Facebook group, as well as with 13K followers on Instagram and 55K on Twitter/X. We also have 30K subscribers who enjoy our YouTube channel. Photos and videos across our social media platforms grab attention and touching stories engage our audiences. Each comment is read and all questions are answered by the Orangutan Outreach team.

LIVE ON INSTAGRAM - AUGUST 19TH
AT 1 PM ET/GMT-4

RED APES:
A CONSERVATION CONVERSATION

IN HONOR OF INTERNATIONAL ORANGUTAN DAY

WITH RICHARD ZIMMERMAN
(FOUNDER OF ORANGUTAN OUTREACH)
&
GERRY ELLIS
(FOUNDER OF GLOBIO)

@APESLIKEUS

Interviews

The Orangutan Outreach Executive Director and Outreach Coordinator provide frequent interviews for publications and podcasts which reach a wide audience. Our knowledge of the orangutan world has been incorporated into articles, blogs, websites, and even books. We have also been interviewed by students in primary school and high school, as well as university undergraduate and graduate students. The information we provide has assisted students with speeches, essays, and special projects.

Let's Talk About Orangutans!





Debbie Clemens
Outreach Coordinator
deb@redapes.org

Presentations

Our Outreach Coordinator provides both in-person and online presentations at the requests of schools and universities, zoos, and community organizations. Discussion topics include orangutan ecology, orangutan conservation efforts, and threats to wild orangutans.



**Missing
Orangutan
Mothers**

Sunday, May 12, 2024

Campaigns

Each year, Orangutan Outreach participates in awareness campaigns surrounding International Orangutan Day, Orangutan Caring Week, and our signature campaign, Missing Orangutan Mothers (MOM) which has run annually for 17 years. In 2024, Orangutan Outreach also organized an emergency fundraising campaign for Landslide Relief for the Sumatran Orangutan Conservation Program.



Adoption Program

Funds from the symbolic adoptions help ensure that the orangutans have everything they need during their rehabilitation until they can be safely released back into the forest. If the orangutan can't be released, the adoption funds help cover the costs of lifetime sanctuary care. Funds from the symbolic adoption of wild orangutans are allocated to reforestation programs. In 2024, Orangutan Outreach included 18 orangutans in our adoption program, supporting 4 partner organizations in Indonesia.

2024 HIGHLIGHTS



Our Outreach Coordinator was interviewed to create a 3-part series on the “In Our Backyard” Podcast, produced by the Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League (BREDL). The series offered insights into orangutan conservation, the work of Orangutan Outreach and our partners in Indonesia, and a discussion on palm oil and additional factors in deforestation in Borneo and Sumatra. More information and listening options are available on our website.



Over 100 third grade students were engaged by our Outreach Coordinator with our “Let’s Talk About Orangutans” presentation. These interactive learning opportunities focused on orangutan facts, behaviors and conservation. Students were motivated to hold fundraisers and provide donations for orangutan conservation efforts. They became empowered understanding that any person of any age can make a positive difference in the lives of wild orangutans living thousands of miles away.

RED APE RELIEF

All three orangutan species are Critically Endangered. Reversing this decline requires collaboration and holistic solutions to address the many threats they face. We call our comprehensive approach, Red Ape Relief. This strategy consists of five equally important facets, all of which rely on the crucial work of our partners in Indonesia and global support.



RESCUES

When orangutans are displaced from their forest homes or poached for the illegal wildlife trade, we support their rescue. For wild and healthy adults, this means ensuring our partners can safely move them to secure forests. For injured individuals or young orphans, this means transporting them to a rehabilitation center, where their journey back to the wild begins anew.

REHABILITATION

If a rescued orangutan is young and not yet able to live alone, they need to learn vital survival skills. At a rehabilitation center, alongside other orphans and under the care of human surrogate mothers and veterinarians, they progress through forest school and pre-release training. This process can take ten years before they are ready to return to their forest home.



REFORESTATION

Orangutans cannot survive without their forest homes. To ensure wild orangutans remain undisturbed and that rehabilitated individuals have a secure future, we support work to protect intact rainforests and reforest cleared land. By partnering with local organizations and communities, we ensure these activities benefit both wildlife and humans, safeguarding their shared future.

RETIREMENT

Tragically, not all rescued orangutans are fit to return to the wild. Physical disabilities, infectious diseases, or behavioral abnormalities can prevent them from surviving independently. Still, we believe these individuals are entitled to a life of comfort and dignity. We support the development of sanctuary enclosures in Indonesia, allowing them to live as freely as possible.

RELEASES

The long reintroduction process culminates with the release of orangutans back into safe forests. We support their journeys as they reclaim their rightful place in their complex tropical ecosystems. After the cages are opened, our partners' post-release monitoring teams step in. They live in the forest year-round, recording data and standing by for emergencies. Most orangutans thrive, successfully reproducing and establishing new populations.

OUR PARTNERS & PROJECTS

As an US-based 501(c)(3) organization, we recognize that the most effective implementers of orangutan conservation projects are their human neighbors in Indonesia. Orangutan Outreach is proud to partner with and support a number of Indonesian-run non-profit organizations. Together, we work to support projects that help orangutans, indigenous peoples, and other wildlife in the forests of Borneo and Sumatra.





Borneo Orangutan Survival Foundation (BOSF) - Yayasan Penyelamatan Orangutan Borneo
Working Locations: Central & East Kalimantan, Indonesia (Borneo)

Orangutan Rescue, Rehabilitation, & Release; Orangutan Sanctuary & Welfare; Forest Protection & Restoration
 Community Development & Sustainable Livelihoods - Working Together Since 2007



International Animal Rescue Indonesia (YIARI) - Yayasan Inisiasi Alam Rehabilitasi Indonesia
Working Locations: West Kalimantan, Indonesia (Borneo)

Orangutan Rescue, Rehabilitation, & Release; Biodiversity Conservation & Research; Forest Protection & Restoration
 Community Development & Sustainable Livelihoods - Working Together Since 2009



Sumatran Orangutan Conservation Programme (SOCP) & Orangutan Haven - Yayasan Ekosistem Lestari
Working Locations: Aceh & North Sumatra, Indonesia (Sumatra)

Orangutan Rescue, Rehabilitation, & Release; Orangutan Sanctuary & Welfare; Forest Protection & Research
 Community Development & Sustainable Livelihoods - Working Together since 2012



Borneo Nature Foundation (BNF) - Yayasan Borneo Nature Indonesia
Working Locations: Central Kalimantan, Indonesia (Borneo)

Forest Protection & Restoration; Biodiversity Conservation & Monitoring; Education & Research;
 Community Development & Sustainable Livelihoods - Working Together Since 2013



And together with **Conservation Action Network Indonesia (CAN)**, Orangutan Outreach has been supporting the emergency rescue of orangutans in East Kalimantan, Indonesia (Borneo) since 2021.

Red Ape Relief

RESCUES

For much of history, orangutans and humans have lived peacefully side-by-side, but rapid human development has disrupted this balance. Our high demands have resulted in the clearing of forests, leaving orangutans searching for food and safe homes. Orangutans are also targeted for the illegal pet trade, as people mistakenly think that the wide-eyed infants would make good pets.

All three orangutan species are protected under Indonesian law and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), yet many remain at risk. Orangutan Outreach proudly supports our partners—SOCP, YIARI, and BOSF—who collaborate with the Indonesian government to rescue these vulnerable individuals. When teams respond, veterinarians assess if the orangutan requires long-term rehabilitation or can be moved directly to a secure forest.

In 2024, our partners welcomed seven new orangutans to their rehabilitation centers following rescue operations.* At BOSF's Samboja Lestari and Nyaru Menteng Rehabilitation Centers, each accepted young orangutans requiring rehabilitation. YIARI also welcomed two new orangutans at their orangutan rescue, rehabilitation, and conservation center in Ketapang. Meanwhile, in Sumatra, SOCP's Quarantine Station accepted three orangutans, one very young juvenile without a mother and two adults in need of urgent veterinary care.

These emergency rescue missions are costly, estimated at about \$300 per orangutan. This is to cover the costs of the responding teams from the rehabilitation center and from the government, as well as the materials, such as medical sedatives, needed to save these orangutans' lives.



Rescue teams sometimes find healthy adult orangutans who are under threat, having lost their homes to development or fleeing from forest fires. These orangutans do not need long-term physical or behavioral rehabilitation, only a safe forest, so they are moved to secure forests in a process called translocation.

In 2024, Orangutan Outreach supported four organizations who successfully translocated 17 orangutans. SOCP translocated four individuals in Sumatra, including a mother and child. Over in Borneo, YIARI moved two orangutans to a national park in West Kalimantan and BOSF relocated three adults in Central Kalimantan. The largest operations were carried out by CAN, moving eight orangutans from a mining area to a protection forest in East Kalimantan.

<h2>AGE</h2> <p>.....</p> <p>4 babies & young, 3 adults</p>	<h2>SEX</h2> <p>.....</p> <p>4 males, 3 females</p>
<h2>STATUS</h2> <p>.....</p> <p>4 physically injured, 3 needing behavioral rehabilitation</p>	<h2>INJURIES</h2> <p>.....</p> <p>broken bones, open wounds, dehydration, electrical burns</p>

Translocating healthy orangutans directly to new forests conserves precious resources and minimizes the time orangutans spend in human care, thereby lowering the risk of long-term behavioral changes. Orangutans belong in the wild, and our goal is to keep them there.

*All orangutan rescues are carried out under the direction of and in cooperation with the government of the Republic of Indonesia, specifically the Ministry of Forestry (KLHK) and regional Natural Resources Conservation Agency (BKSDA).

Orangutan Spotlight

MEET SELFIE

On August 12, 2024 a call came into BOSF about a baby orangutan being kept as a pet in a local hunter's home. Together with a government rescue team, they travelled to the village to retrieve the 7-month-old little girl, who they named Selfie.



Upon arriving at BOSF's Nyaru Menteng Rehabilitation Center, Selfie received a full medical examination and started a three month quarantine to ensure she was healthy. Since then, she has joined other orangutans her age in the nursery group where they are rediscovering forest life together. Selfie still shows some signs of anxiety and trauma from her time in captivity, but her human surrogate mothers are taking extra time to nurture and comfort her so she can one day grow into a confident and free wild orangutan!





CAN BORNEO

Founded in 2019, by Paulinus Kristianto, Conservation Action Network (CAN) is an Indonesian non-profit that focuses on the rescue of animals in danger so that they can be moved to safe habitats. Over their five years of operations, they have helped hundreds of gibbons, monkeys, slow lorises, sun bears, birds, and, of course, orangutans.

In 2024, most of their rescue efforts were focused on an area being opened for mining, which was displacing orangutans. CAN partnered with the Indonesian government and other non-profit organizations to act quickly and save orangutans from this desolate landscape, where they were often found picking at grasses since they were so desperate for food.

Over the course of the year, Orangutan Outreach supported CAN in rescuing eight orangutans. Luckily, all of them were in good physical condition and exhibiting wild behaviours. After a quick assessment, each one was moved to the Wehea Protection Forest, a 22,000 hectare oasis for orangutans, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and countless other species.

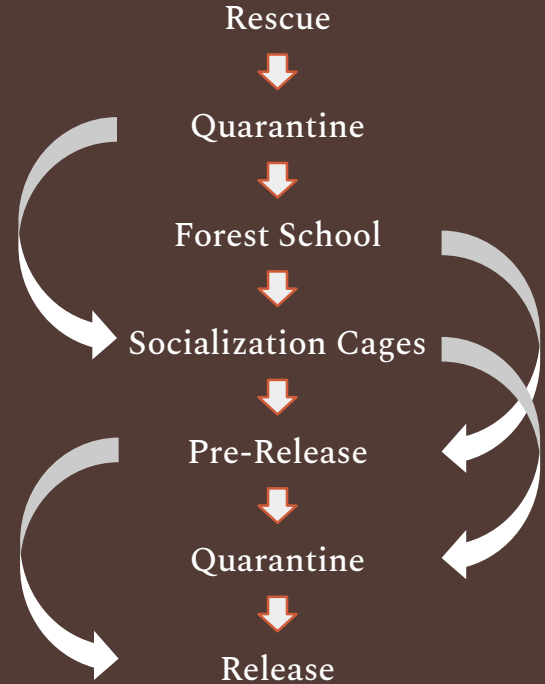
Red Ape Relief

REHABILITATION

For the young and injured orangutans rescued by Orangutan Outreach's Partners, YIARI, BOSF, and SOCP, rehabilitation stands between them and their return to the wild. It starts with a medically required quarantine period, during which they are treated for any illnesses or injuries they sustained prior to rescue and are tested for various diseases that could make them a danger to the rest of the captive orangutan population.

Once they have a clean bill of health, they begin the process of behavioral rehabilitation. The youngest enter forest school, where human surrogate mothers offer stability alongside lessons focusing on foraging, climbing, nest building, and other essential forest survival skills. Done in a group setting, it is meant to replicate the social learning undertaken by young wild orangutans who would live with their mothers for the first eight years of their lives.

To stimulate mental and physical growth all orangutans receive enrichment, puzzle feeders and challenging toys that encourage problem-solving, curiosity, and creativity. It could also be items that introduce a new sensation, such as frozen items or materials that must be manipulated using tools. The options are limitless, but what they all have in common is their ability to keep orangutans engaged and help them practice their survival skills.



Tire Ropes



By hanging tires whole and as ropes, it creates unstable climbing apparatuses that the orangutans need to use more muscles to climb, mimicking the challenges of climbing vines and lianas in the wild.

Natural Tough Fruits



In the wild, many fruits are inaccessible without learned techniques. Orangutans are given fruits, like coconuts, so they can learn how to open them through strength and tool use.

Ice Blocks



Ice blocks challenge the orangutans mentally to find a way to access the fruit inside while also serving as a fun and cool reprieve from the hot Indonesian weather!

Next orangutans take on to the pre-release stage of rehabilitation. Depending on the center, this can be a forested island or it might be living at the release site, but with access to cages and food. This pre-release period allows for the orangutans to live in the trees and use their survival skills, but with the safety net of having food provisioned and the close monitoring of technicians. It is during this time that the orangutans prove they are finally ready to return to the wild!

The entire process averages ten years per orangutan, with food, medical care, enrichment, and staffing costs coming out to approximately \$4,200 per orangutan annually.

In 2024, our partners operated centers across four Indonesian provinces on the islands of Borneo and Sumatra. Combined, these centers oversaw the care of more than 450 orangutans. Crucially, about 65% of these individuals are on track to eventually return to the wild once they complete their rehabilitation journeys.

Center name	Operation Partner	Location	Total # of Orangutans at the end of 2024	Percent of Orangutan Population Undergoing Rehabilitation
Ketapang Rehabilitation Center	YIARI	West Kalimantan (Borneo)	60	66%
Nyaru Menteng Rehabilitation Center	BOSF	Central Kalimantan (Borneo)	237	76%
Samboja Lestari Rehabilitation Center	BOSF	East Kalimantan (Borneo)	118	33%
Quarantine Station	SOCP	North Sumatra (Sumatra)	41	100%



Orangutan Spotlight

MEET GATOT

One fateful day in August of 2016, a tiny four-month-old baby orangutan was rescued from a human home and turned over to YIARI's Orangutan Rescue, Rehabilitation, and Conservation Center. This male orangutan was so small, he did not have a single tooth yet. The veterinarians and carers provided medical care right away and named him Gatot.



Eight years later, Gatot has finished the educational curriculum of forest school and is thriving. He spent 2024 continuing his rehabilitation journey on an island alongside seven other orangutans, including his friends, Paijo and Senandung. Together they practice their survival skills, such as climbing, nest building, and foraging, but still find time to play each day. Gatot is well on his way to becoming a wild orangutan, but his rehabilitation journey is not yet over!

URGENT NEWS FROM THE FIELD



THE SOCP LANDSLIDE TRAGEDY

Heavy rains were falling in North Sumatra on the night of November 26, 2024. At the SOCP Quarantine Center, the staff were kept up by the extreme weather and just after midnight, the center was hit by the first of two landslides. The team reacted immediately, calling to Medan for help, where veterinarians and security mobilized in the middle of the night to gather medicine, food, radios, lamps, blankets, and other equipment to take to the center. Unfortunately, landslides had also impacted the roads and it took many hours to travel the short distance.

The morning light revealed that the forest school, clinic, and several cages were all destroyed. Of the 41 orangutans housed there, 18 were swept out of the enclosures. For three weeks, the team, with support from the local villagers worked around-the-clock to secure the area, recover the orangutans, and treat those who were injured or traumatized. Tragically, 2 of the orangutans did not survive the ordeal.

Support from communities, near and far, was tremendous. Our Orangutan Outreach community responded with empathy and action, helping to raise over \$130,000 for the relief efforts. These funds have gone towards moving some of the orangutans to the Orangutan Haven, providing medical care for orangutans, and building infrastructure to support the animals still residing there. In the long term, Orangutan Outreach will help them to move to a safe and secure location and rebuild a new permanent rehabilitation center. While this tragedy broke hearts, it proved that even this scale of destruction could not break the spirits of the orangutan carers, community, and of the orangutans themselves.

Red Ape Relief

RELEASES

The culmination of the orangutan rehabilitation process is the final release of orangutans back into their forest homes. It is the goal of these programs to establish self-sustaining, viable populations in the wild to better conservation outlooks for the species as a whole.

The first step of releasing an orangutan is ensuring that the forest they return to is safe from any threats and that there is not a large population of orangutans already present. Once a forest is secured and the orangutans have completed rehabilitation, the journey from the rehabilitation center to the release site can finally begin! These journeys can take a few days and cross treacherous landscapes via car, boat, and sometimes even helicopter! They are fully supported by teams of capable orangutan care technicians and highly skilled veterinarians that prioritize the safety of orangutans and humans above all.



Orangutan Outreach’s partners, SOCP, YIARI, and BOSF, support the release of orangutans in their respective provinces. In Sumatra, SOCP’s rehabilitated orangutans are sent to either the Jantho Nature Reserve or Bukit Tigapuluh National Park to start life in the wild. Over in Borneo, both YIARI and BOSF send orangutans to the Bukit Baka Bukit Raya National Park. Additionally, BOSF also carries out orangutan releases in the Bukit Batikap Protection Forest and the Kehje Sewen Ecosystem Restoration Concession. Each release mission takes several orangutans to freedom, but on average, the cost per release is \$6,000 per orangutan if travelling overland. In 2024, our partners saw to the release of 30 rehabilitated orangutans.



However, when the cage doors are opened, the work does not stop. This is the moment where the post-release monitoring teams step in. SOCP, BOSEF, and YIARI, all employ teams of local technicians, veterinarians, and researchers to live in jungle camps and spend each day monitoring the ecosystems and tracking orangutans. While their methods differ slightly, the general goals are the same:

1

Record the behavior of the orangutans to better understand how to improve the rehabilitation process.

2

Provide support for the orangutans only in the case of emergencies.

3

Collect information on the ecosystem as a whole, which may include the data on the climate, phenology, and other species present in the forest.

4

Connect with any local communities in the area, showing that orangutans can make great neighbors.

Across the 4 release sites monitored by Orangutan Outreach’s Partners, they operate a total of 7 camps that monitor orangutans including a combined 755 released rehabilitated individuals. In 2024, these teams also celebrated the birth of 6 new babies in the wild! And this is the true goal - to see these new populations of orangutans giving birth to the next generation and standing by as spectators as the mother orangutans raise their children in the natural way!

Orangutan Outreach Partner PRM Camps	BOSF			YIARI	SOCP
	Kehje Sewen ERC	Bukit Batikap	TNBBBR, Central Kalimantan	TNBBBR, West Kalimantan	Jantho
Site Stats	Kehje Sewen ERC	Bukit Batikap	TNBBBR, Central Kalimantan	TNBBBR, West Kalimantan	Jantho
Year Release Camp Established	2012	2012	2016	2016	2011
Total Rehabilitated Orangutans Released	130	198	211	82	134
Orangutans Released in 2024	0	0	6	7	11
Orangutans Monitored in 2024	18	12	48	15	23
Total Wild-Born Babies	11	18	8	10	7
Babies Born in the Wild in 2024	1	2	0	3	1

Orangutan Spotlight

MEET MERYL

When she was only eight months old in January 2015, Meryl was rescued by BOSF. She then spent nearly ten years learning how to survive on her own, during which she was featured in the Orangutan Outreach adoption program and starred in the TV show, Orangutan Jungle School. Then, on November 10, 2024, all of her hard work was rewarded and she was released into the wild forests of the Bukit Baka Bukit Raya National Park.



Her journey from the rehabilitation center to the jungle took two days, by car and boat, but Meryl remained calm and relaxed throughout, even when other orangutans took to banging on the sides of their cages. Once they arrived on the riverbank, she was released alongside her friend, Blegi, and immediately took to the trees. Meryl has embraced this new freedom and now roams the forests under the watchful eyes of the post-release monitoring team. Orangutan Outreach could not be more proud of her or more excited to help other orangutans follow in her footsteps!

Red Ape Relief

RETIREMENT

While every orangutan may be born in the trees, for some, a future in the wild has been stolen from them. After rescue and evaluation, there are individuals who cannot be released due to irreparable physical or behavioral issues. Generally, there are three reasons that may make an orangutan unreleasable:

DISEASE

While being held in captivity, orangutans can contract diseases from humans that are incurable, deadly, or contagious, making their release a risk to wild populations.

INJURY

Severe physical trauma, such as missing limbs from electrocution or blindness from rifle pellets, prevents orangutans from being able to survive independently.

BEHAVIOR

Traumatic experiences can stay with orangutans for a lifetime, creating behavioral quirks that are self-harming or prevent them from learning forest survival skills.



Orangutan Outreach holds the belief that unreleaseable orangutans are still entitled to a life of peace and dignity under human care—a comfortable "retirement." Ideally this is life outside of a cage in a safe, but controlled environment such as a small island, where they are still provided with food and enrichment as well as veterinary care.

In Sumatra, lifelong sanctuary care is provided at the Orangutan Haven which houses the unreleaseable orangutans previously cared for at the SOCP Quarantine Center. Over in Kalimantan, we support orangutans at the YIARI Rehabilitation Center, BOSF's Nyaru Menteng Rehabilitation Center, and BOSF's Samboja Lestari Rehabilitation Center.

Over 150 orangutans at these centers will probably need care for the rest of their lives, which could be into their fifties. Their long lives, often combined with the intensive medical care for incurable diseases, makes the financial burden immense, but a necessary reparation. It can vary drastically, but on average it costs \$6000 annually to care for an unreleaseable orangutan.

These sanctuary residents serve as vital ambassadors for their wild counterparts. Our partners ran educational programs where, in 2024, thousands of visitors and students came to see the orangutans from a safe distance, learn about conservation threats, and understand how they can help protect orangutans in the wild.

Orangutan Spotlight

MEET KRISMON

When he was just an infant, Krismon's mother was murdered and he was taken into the home of an army member where he was dressed up like a human. As he got larger, they placed him in a rusty cage. There, he was confined for nearly 20 years until his rescue in 2016 when SOCP took him in and gave him the care he was lacking for so many years.




Today, Krismon resides on a forested island at the Orangutan Haven, but after 20 years in a cage, the new island was intimidating to Krismon when he was first moved there. Over the course of 2024, Krismon has slowly grown his confidence, exploring the island a bit at a time. His caregivers incentivize him with scattered food, like his favorite coconut, and give him all the time he needs to adjust. Orangutan Outreach will continue to cheer on Krismon and all of the unreleaseable orangutans at the Orangutan Haven. If you want to follow along with Krismon and support his care, you can do so with a symbolic adoption on the Orangutan Outreach website!



Project Spotlight

BUILDING A NEW NYARU MENTENG SANCTUARY

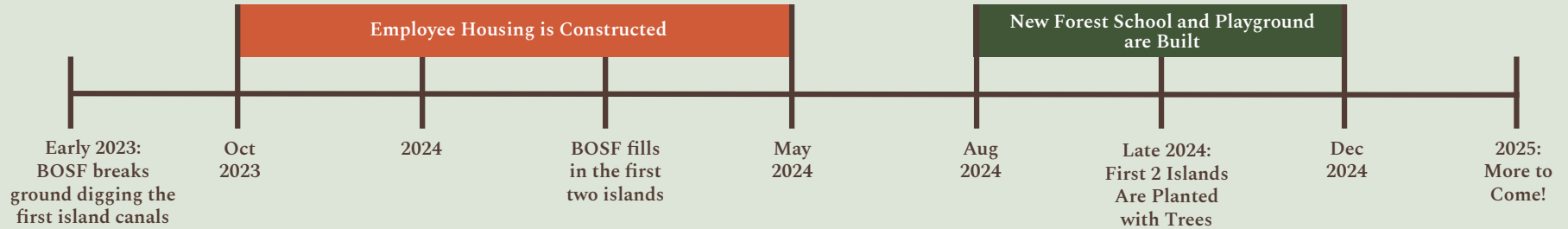


The largest of the rehabilitation centers supported by Orangutan Outreach is BOSF's Nyaru Menteng Rehabilitation Center. At the close of 2024, the center was caring for 237 orangutans, 58 of which are in need of lifetime sanctuary care. Due to these high numbers and limited infrastructure, most of these individuals have been held in cages for years.

In 2023, Orangutan Outreach was thrilled to provide funds to BOSF to begin construction on a new center, which would include sanctuary islands to get many of these orangutans out of their cages and into the trees once again. In 2024, Orangutan Outreach reaffirmed its commitment to this cause with a second donation. The construction is projected to take several years as this new center will not only have sanctuary islands, but also a veterinary clinic, office, forest school, orangutan playground, information center, employee housing, and other supporting facilities.

The first phase of construction began with the digging of canals around the first two islands. Next, the employee housing was built and this was completed in 2024. Shortly after, a new forest school was established by building new boardwalks, orangutan sleeping cages, playground, and workstation for the surrogate mothers. As we go into 2025, construction will continue on the sanctuary islands and begin on new facilities.

TIMELINE

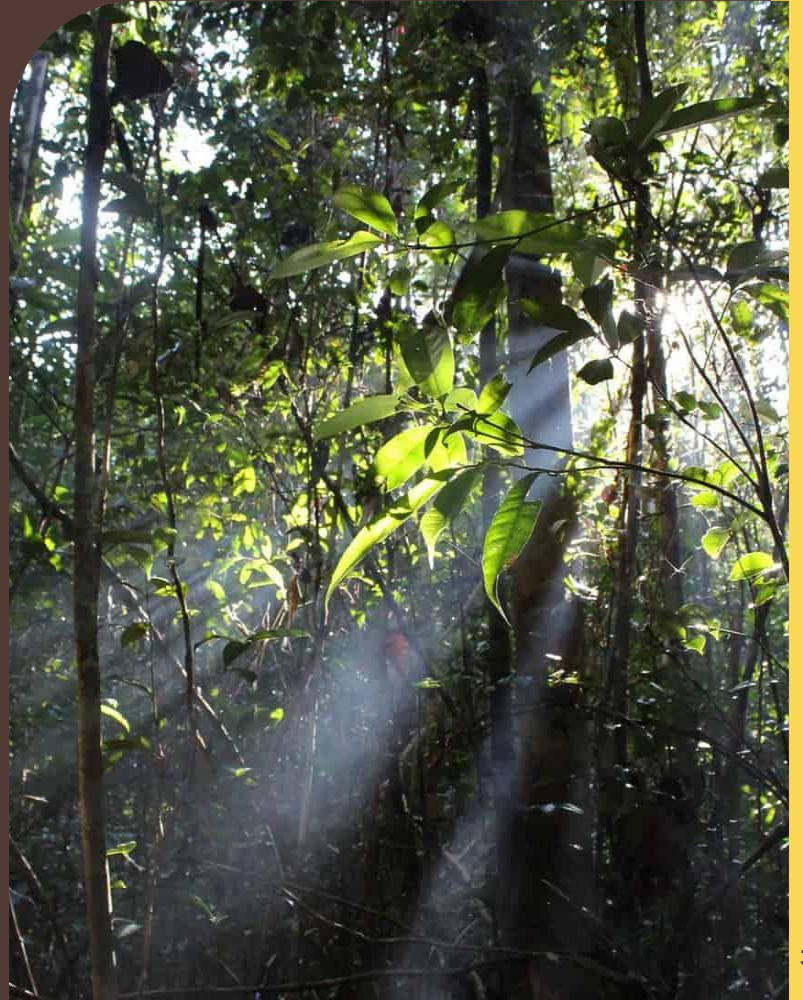


Red Ape Relief

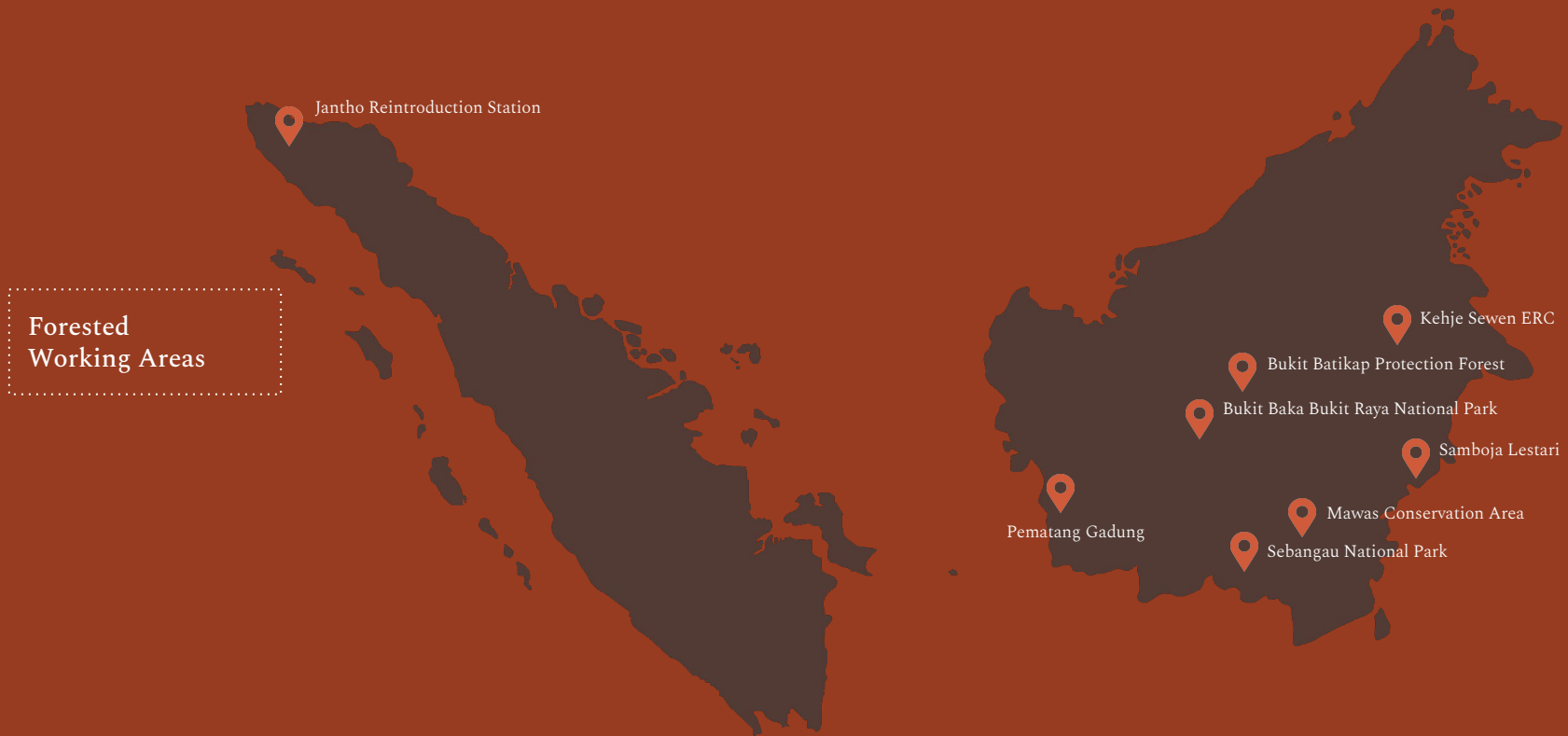
REFORESTATION

Even if all orangutans were rescued from illegal captivity, without their forest homes, there would be no hope for the future of the species. Humans, near and far, also rely on these tropical forests for resources, fresh air, climate regulation, and so much more. Orangutan Outreach is committed to protecting and restoring rainforests for the benefit of orangutans and humans alike.

When forests have been unsustainably exploited, recovery methods, such as replanting and canal blocking, can restore ecological health. While Orangutan Outreach only supports specific smaller reforestation projects, we are proud that all four of our partners, BNF, BOSF, YIARI, and SOCP, work to preserve and restore rainforests across their working areas that cover nearly 2,000,000 ha when combined. Within these areas, our partners have successfully reforested over 4,000 ha of degraded or cleared lands.



As a keystone species with home ranges up to 40 km², orangutans are the "gardeners" of the rainforest, dispersing seeds and helping forests to naturally regenerate. Healthy forests means that animals have safe homes and are not forced into conflict with humans and that human communities can benefit from ecosystem services.



Location	Partner (s)	Partner Activities	OO Supported Activities	Size (ha)
Jantho Nature Reserve	SOCP	Research, Reintroduction, & Protection	Orangutans rehabilitated by OO-supported SOCP Quarantine Center are released here	16,000
Pematang Gadung Sungai Besar	YIARI	Research, Reforestation, & Protection	OO fully funded the replanting of 30 ha from 2022-2023	11,497
Bukit Baka Bukit Raya National Park	YIARI & BOSF	Research, Reintroduction, & Protection	Orangutans rehabilitated by OO-supported BOSF Nyaru Menteng and YIARI Ketapang are released here	181,000
Bukit Batikap Protection Forest	BOSF	Research, Reintroduction, & Protection	Orangutans rehabilitated by OO-supported BOSF Nyaru Menteng are released here	456,000
Mawas Conservation	BOSF	Research, Reforestation, & Protection	OO fully funded the replanting of 28 ha from 2022-2025	309,000
Sebangau National Park	BNF	Research, Reforestation, & Protection	OO provides funding to BNF for their general research and protection activities in the park	537,500
Samboja Lestari	BOSF	Reforestation, & Protection	OO provides general funds for operations of the Samboja Lestari Rehabilitation Center on-site	1,800
Kehje Sewen Ecosystem Restoration Concession	BOSF	Research, Reintroduction, & Protection	Orangutans rehabilitated by OO-supported BOSF Samboja Lestari are released here	86,450

NAME Gus
BORN: 2019
PLACE: Sebangau National Park



BABY BREAK

Project Spotlight

RESTORING A FOREST FOR ORANGUTANS

In Central Kalimantan, the 309,000 ha Mawas Conservation Area stands as one of the world's largest carbon stores and vital orangutan habitat. Once cleared by a failed mega-rice production project that left the peatlands prone to fire, it is now a site of intense restoration by Orangutan Outreach's Partner, BOSF.

In 2022, Orangutan Outreach began a 3-year project with BOSF to reforest 28 ha in Kapuas in collaboration with the village of Katimpun under the village forest social forestry scheme. In late 2023, the area was planted in its entirety with six different tree species, preparing 2024 to focus on monitoring and maintenance. Five permanent sample plots were set up and monitored, revealing that 15 tree species were thriving with a survivorship rate of 77%. Replacement planting was needed, but this was expected due to root damage sustained during the extended period of time seedlings were stored in purun planting bags in the 2023 fire season. Within a few months, another 7,918 seedlings were planted to replace those which had died.

Additionally, teams assembled by the community patrolled the area during the dry season to check for fire outbreaks and illegal activities and, in 2024, no fire outbreaks or illegal activities were reported in the planting areas. Now the project will continue to be monitored and the area maintained through weeding, fertilizing, and replacement planting into 2025 to ensure this young forest is strong enough to continue its growth naturally.



Area Reforested **28ha**

39,096 Total Seedlings Planted
31,178 initially in November 2023
7,918 replacement seedlings in May 2024

Species Planted **6**

15 # Species Growing

Patrols in 2024 Fire Season **21**

5 Fires Before Project

Fires in 2024 **0**

0 Illegal Activities in 2024

49 New Jobs Created by Project

>100 Local People Benefitting

Community Spotlight

KATIMPUN VILLAGE



Conservation starts with community. It is only when everyone benefits, humans and orangutans alike, that we know solutions will be long lasting. In Orangutan Outreach's support of reforestation with BOSF, they have also partnered with the village of Katimpun. This is the local village closest to the reforestation site and is home to just over 800 people. The very first project activity was hosting open meetings to socialize them on the goals of the project and gather their support. The village government and meeting attendees enthusiastically accepted the plan as an important source of alternative income for the village residents.

Katimpun is a Ngaju Dayak community, which is an indigenous ethnic group of Borneo. Due to their remote location, the village has been underserved, with the highest level of education available in the village being elementary school and no hospitals or medical facilities within 25 km. They are connected to the outside world only by the rivers, making transportation an even greater challenge. This project represented a large opportunity and over 10% of the village signed up their interest in participating. To ensure the benefits were shared, they decided that a maximum of one person from a household could be directly employed in the project and priority was given to those who were unemployed. This is how 54 of the residents were given new jobs under this project.

Even more benefitted indirectly as some sold their transportation services using their boats to move people and plants, while others helped by weaving purun grass planting baskets that were purchased from them for fair compensation. This allowed for women and elderly members of the community to stay involved as well since the weaving was done primarily by them. The people of Katimpun truly welcomed the reforestation project and it is because of them the project was a success! Thank you to the Katimpun community!



Project Spotlight

IT'S TIME TO GIVE A DAM WITH BNF

Much of the work of BNF takes place in the peatswamp forest of Sebangau National Park. Not only is this home to orangutans, but the peat that makes up the ground holds an immense amount of carbon that plays a critical role in global climate regulation. It is vital, we keep the carbon in the ground, which means it is vital that all forest fires are prevented. Naturally, this would not be a problem, but illegal logging canals have drained much of the swamp and make it susceptible to fires. However, closing these illegal canals with dams rewets the forest to return it to its natural, balanced state.

In 2024, Orangutan Outreach supported BNF's "Give a Dam about Rainforests" campaign, contributing to their goal of raising £20,000 to construct up to ten dams in the national park. This effort also employed over a dozen local peoples during the process of dam construction and the subsequent ecological monitoring. Sebangau is over a half a million hectares in size so this work continues each and every year, but Orangutan Outreach is proud to "Give a Dam" and not give up in the fight against deforestation and climate change!

Orangutan Spotlight

MEET GRACIA

An inspiration to us all, Gracia is the only wild orangutan in Orangutan Outreach's adoption program. The goal of any release program is to have the rehabilitated orangutans act and reproduce like wild orangutans, and Gracia is the perfect example of what it means for an orangutan to thrive in a tropical rainforest.



Gracia lives in the forests of Sebangau National Park, under the watchful eye of the BNF researchers and rangers. Today it is estimated that Gracia is well into her 30s, but she has been a mother for over 20 years. She gave birth to her first daughter, Georgia in 2003. Years later in 2010, her second daughter, Gretel was born. Her third child, and first son, Gara, was born in 2016. Even more amazing, she had a fourth baby, Gabe in 2023. Gracia is also a grandma as Georgia and Gretel have gone on to have their own children. You too can support the amazing work done to keep this big, happy family safe with a symbolic adoption of Gracia on the Orangutan Outreach website!



Financial Report

2024 BY THE NUMBERS

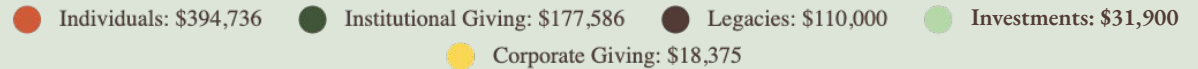
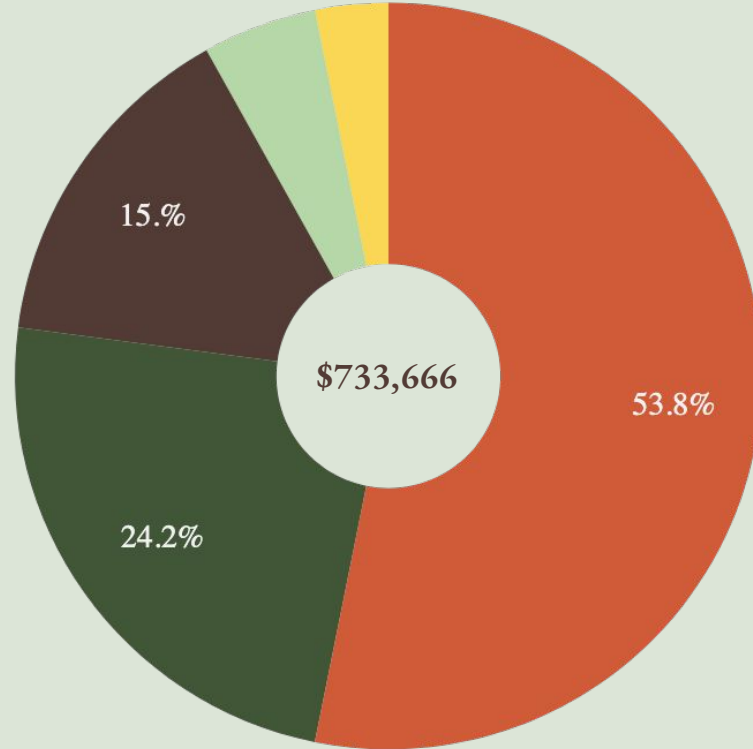
Over

\$500,000

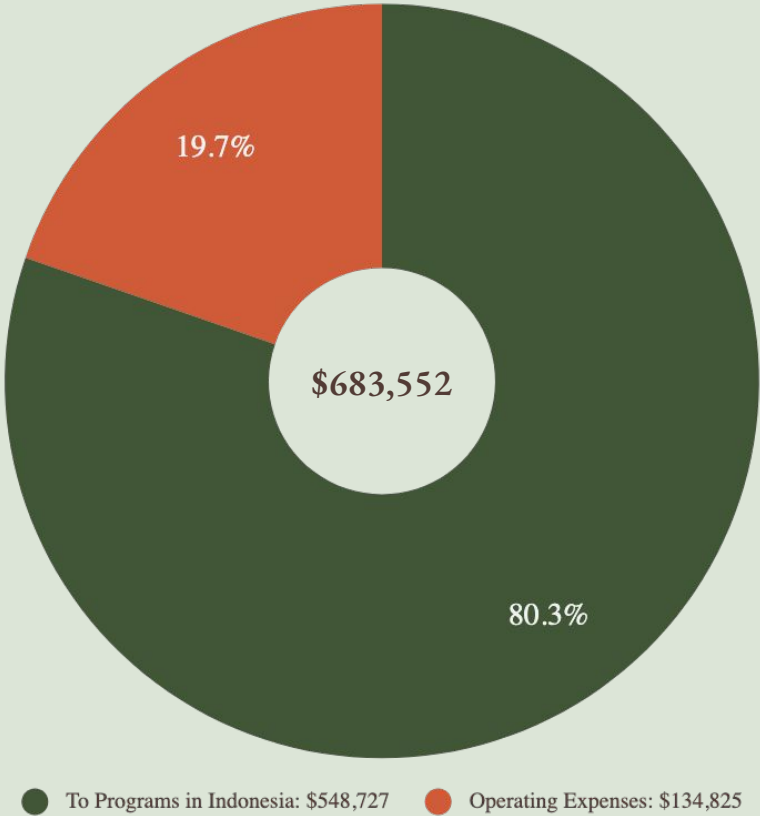
Sent for Orangutan Conservation

FUNDS RAISED FOR CONSERVATION

***Note:** Funds raised from individuals include funds donated via the Orangutan Outreach adoption program and funds donated in the form of cryptocurrency.



CONSERVATION EXPENSES



***Note:** Funds sent to programs were accrued in 2024 and the end of 2023. Some funds received at the end of 2024 were not sent to our partners until January 2025. This will be reflected in our 2025 Annual Report.

Program Breakdown

BOSF:	\$152,000.00
IAR:	\$63,000.00
SOCP:	\$274,000.00
BNF:	\$18,727.90
CAN:	\$41,000.00

A NOTE OF DEEPEST GRATITUDE

As we close this chapter and look toward the future, we want to extend our heartfelt thanks to the global community that makes our work possible. Orangutan Outreach is more than an organization; it is a group effort— fueled by compassion and a shared commitment to orangutan conservation.

To our incredible donors, adoptive parents, foundations, corporate partners, volunteers, and all our dedicated supporters: your generosity is the lifeblood of our mission. Every donation, every adoption, and every shared social media post translates directly into vital protection on the ground—funding critical rescues, financing extensive habitat monitoring patrols, and supporting the rehabilitation centers where orangutans get their second chance at life in the wild, as nature intended.

Your ongoing trust in our stewardship allows us to act decisively where the need is greatest. It is a privilege to partner with each and every one of you in this critical endeavor. Together, we are creating a legacy of conservation and hope for the future of Borneo and Sumatra’s magnificent red apes.

And an extra

THANK YOU



To our institutional donors

Dr. Scholl Foundation
Coville-Triest Family Foundation
Karen Sue Lavin Foundation
Ellen Wills Martin Foundation
Shared Earth Foundation
Captiva Foundation