

Programme Activities

Ecological Principles for Economic Development

With the imminent publication of *Ecological Principles for Economic Development*, a step has been taken that may lead to wider acceptance of the idea that there must be a partnership between conservation and development. The book, which is a joint venture between IUCN and the Conservation Foundation, is concerned with bridging the gap between those who seek to enhance their economic well being through development of natural resources and those concerned with maintaining a diversified environment — an environment in which man may find a wide range of material and psychological satisfactions. The book stresses the need to accept applied ecology with its wide range of well-tested knowledge as a basis for activities intended to either protect or develop the natural resources of a region. The emphasis of the treatment is on ecological principles useful for the development of river basins, tropical forests, grazing lands, irrigation in arid lands and tourism. It also gives attention to the special problems of agricultural development in the tropics and to development of islands and coastal areas.

Although the book has three authors (R. F. Dasmann, John P. Milton and Peter Freeman), it is in fact the work of many individuals who have been closely associated with economic development. In draft form it has been critically reviewed by representatives of all major international development agencies. For an earlier discussion of this project in its formative stage see IUCN Bulletin 2(17) p. 141.

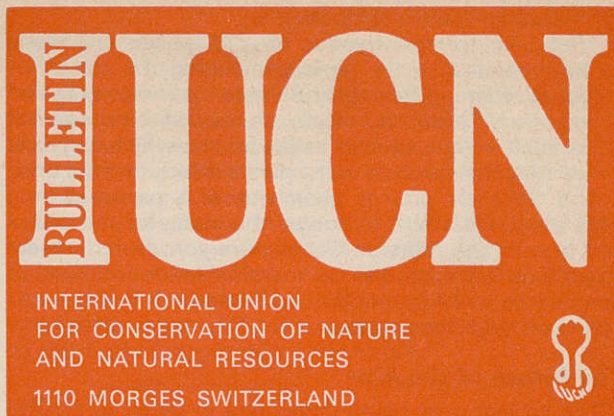
The production of this book and the activation of various IUCN projects leading from it have been helped by a grant from the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA). IUCN has already instituted a number of activities intended to develop further ecological principles and guidelines and to facilitate their application in economic development. Included among them are the preparation of important publications on ecological guidelines for development of islands and tropical coastal areas, conferences on development of the American humid tropics, the Alpine region, and semi-arid regions of south-west Asia. In addition, a joint project being carried out with the University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne in the United Kingdom will explore the place of the ecologist in a development planning team and will assist in the incorporation of ecologists in development planning activities.

Although these are specific activities assisted by funds provided by SIDA, many other activities of IUCN are concerned with the incorporation of ecological principles in the planning of conservation and development programmes. It was the wish of the 11th General Assembly of IUCN, meeting at Banff, that this topic receive major emphasis during the 1973–75 triennium.

Some of the projects briefly mentioned in preceding paragraphs, and a number of others which are now emerging as a follow-up to publication of the book, are summarized in the following paragraphs.

Guidelines for island development

Because islands are ecologically fragile and extremely vulnerable to the impacts of development and population growth, special guidance is essential in planning development. It is important that island peoples be assisted in their efforts to achieve a higher quality of life, but it must immediately be recognized that their future prospects depend on limited resources, and on fragile environmental features which islanders feel are important to their "quality of life". Safeguarding these resources is therefore of highest priority. To further this objective, IUCN/WWF are preparing a pamphlet of about 10,000



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words on ecological guidelines for development of islands.

It is felt that this publication will provide planning officials and others with material and methods needed to make increased use of ecological principles in the formulation and execution of economic development projects.

Dr. Edward L. Towle and Mr. John McEachern, Island Resources Foundation Inc., are the principal authors of the pamphlet. It is planned for completion in early March, 1973.

Guidelines for development in the American humid tropics

The project covers the formulation of ecological principles and guidelines relating to the planning of developments in tropical forest areas of Latin America. It will involve an international meeting to focus attention on this topic and to provide planners with material in a form suitable for their use. One outcome of the meeting will be the formulation of projects to further the maintenance of sustained productivity and high quality of environment in the American humid tropics.

The meeting is expected to take place in late 1973 in Caracas, Venezuela. Officers from Government agencies dealing with agriculture, animal husbandry, forestry and planning from Latin American countries, as well as ecologists and planners from universities and elsewhere would be invited.

Land use and conservation of resources in the Sahelian Zone

The Sahelian Zone, a strip of arid grasslands running across Africa along the southern fringe of the Sahara, is a land in transition. This zone includes parts of Mauritania, Mali, Niger, Chad and Sudan. Here increasing population coupled with increasing demand for food and firewood, widespread use of firearms, social measures such as the tentative fixation of nomadic tribes by the Governments, have all resulted in abuse of the scarce natural resources and have disrupted the traditional land use pattern of this particular and fragile zone, leading to the dramatic progression of the desert.

The grim situation for both man and wildlife of this region has led IUCN/WWF to develop a project to cover an assessment of ecological, economic and sociological aspects of land use and conservation of natural resources of the Sahelian zone. The project will be concerned with:

- 1) The elaboration of development plans for rational utilization of the resources of the region based on sound ecological principles and including essential conservation ingredients;
- 2) Provision to decision-makers and planners of information on which to base new land use policies;
- 3) Evolution of a harmonious balance between man and his environment for the people of the region;

- 4) Arresting desert encroachment;
- 5) Provision for conservation of wild species and biotic communities in the region, including the establishment or strengthening of Saharan national parks and reserves. These are, of course, essential for survival of such unique animals as the addax, which can exist on only the moisture in the plants it eats, and the oryx.

The Sahelian project grew out of a proposal from FAO for IUCN/WWF to survey the status of the addax and oryx in the Saharan/Sahelian region. In its present broad form it is related to the marginal lands stabilization programme of FAO, and will be carried out in close cooperation with that agency.

The future of the Alps

The project now being developed in detail by IUCN/WWF covers the organization of an international Symposium to review the consequences of human activities, particularly during the last half-century, upon the flora, fauna, vegetation and environment of the Alpine region, and to formulate action plans for necessary improvements.

Apart from providing coordinated data on the consequences of past human action on Alpine ecosystems, this Symposium should provide conservation and management programmes for future action.

The Symposium will take place in Trento, Italy, concurrently with the International Alpine Film Festival, in the Spring of 1974. It will be sponsored by IUCN/WWF, the Commission internationale pour la protection des régions alpines (CIPRA), the Union internationale des associations d'alpinisme (UIAA), the Club Alpino Italiano (CAI) and the Festival of Trento, in collaboration with a number of cosponsors. The first meeting of the Organizing Committee will be held in January 1973 to fix title, dates and themes for the Symposium.

The value of wildlife resources in Africa

This subject would scarcely seem to need debating, but conservationist viewpoints in general are not widely shared by decision makers, particularly in matters of land use policy. In Africa, and other countries where large scale changes in land use are planned, growth and other social pressures continue to intensify the conflict between maintenance of wildlife and use of the land for domestic animals or other forms of agriculture. Such efforts as have been made by Governments are still insufficient to indicate the achievement of a harmonious equilibrium in the near future. There is an urgent need for data in a form usable by planners and which will convince governments.

This project, now being worked out by the Research and Planning Group, is designed to promote greater awareness of the value of wildlife resources among Africa's decision makers.

Evaluation of game ranching

For a variety of reasons, utilization of certain game animals for the commercial production of meat, hides and other products appears to offer an excellent potential in certain countries, with superior results, economically and ecologically, to the production of domestic cattle on the same areas. However, this form of land use has never been fully evaluated and there are few data on which decisions can be made to encourage or discourage this type of activity, in general or in specific regions.

IUCN/WWF have decided to support an evaluation project covering an investigation of the economics, ecology and conservation status of game ranching in Southern Africa. This would be one phase of an analysis of game ranching programmes in various countries, which ultimately would provide the basis for making decisions on this form of land use in developing countries.

A field investigator familiar with African conditions will work on the project together with a local associate. Following the field phase, results will be reviewed at an international seminar.

Status of conservation on the Mediterranean coast

This project will provide information on the conservation status of the Mediterranean Coast and monitor changes in the situation; identify sites for conservation projects of various kinds, including areas for optimum development in accordance with sound ecological principles and areas warranting protection as national parks, scientific reserves, etc.; identify sites for case studies on development in relation to ecological principles; and provide a basis for assigning priorities and guiding conservation action throughout the coast.

Generally, the coastal region is under intense pressure caused by expanding human activity and its results, and is deteriorating rapidly in places. Physical damage, visual blight and impairment of biotic communities are problems common to many sections.

The project evolved out of suggestions by the International Federation of Landscape Architects and will be carried out jointly with IFLA.

Initially, the project involves gathering and analyzing information. Much of this is available in the various countries and the task is to be carried out with the cooperation of appropriate local groups. As a pilot phase, working groups are being established in Italy, France and Yugoslavia. As soon as sufficient progress has been made with the pilot study countries, consideration will be given to extending the work to other regions.

The work will be undertaken by the IUCN Secretariat in cooperation with IFLA and the various country Working Groups. The project will involve the cooperation and support of UNESCO, OECD, and the Council of Europe.

Guidelines for establishment of marine national parks

Guidelines for the establishment of marine national parks and reserves are now being prepared by IUCN.

Preparation of the guidelines was decided at a joint meeting of the Commission on Ecology and the ICNP held at Banff in September. An *ad hoc* task force, appointed at that time, prepared a preliminary draft which was circulated to members of the two Commissions for comment.

A new draft, just finished, will be reviewed by a special Working Group of marine ecologists. The final text is expected to be ready in several months.

Ecological study of Empakaai Crater started in Tanzania

An ecological study of the Empakaai Crater in the Ngorongoro Conservation Area, Tanzania, has been started with a grant of US\$ 2,000 from the World Wildlife Fund, US National Appeal.

The Tanzania National Parks Board is planning to develop this area as a wildlife sanctuary and to open it to tourism. An ecological study is needed in order to provide the basis for the essential decisions on boundaries, management, preservation measures, tourist use and facilities. This area is of exceptional scenic appeal and has not been open to the public.

The study is being made by Mr. G.W. Frame, a graduate student in the Cooperative Wildlife Unit, Utah State University, USA. Mr. Frame has worked in the area previously and knows it well.

Errata

In the account of the Second World Conference on National Parks in the November IUCN Bulletin, page 51, the date for the opening session was given as 23 September. It was in fact 22 September. We regret this error.

Conservation notes

Convention to limit ocean dumping opened for signature

A Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter, developed at the Intergovernmental Conference held in London from 30 October to 13 November 1972, was opened for signature on 29 December at London, Mexico City, Moscow and Washington. It will remain open for signature by any state until 31 December 1973.

As another forward step toward control of ocean pollution, the Convention when it enters into force will require Contracting Parties to prohibit the dumping of seven classes of materials, and regulate by permits the disposal of many others – all listed in annexes to the Convention.

UN environmental agency for Nairobi

The General Assembly of the UN has decided to locate the Secretariat for the new UN environmental agency in Nairobi, Kenya, and has fixed its first-year (1973) budget at \$2,000,000. One fifth of this amount is earmarked for the first meeting of the 58-member Governing Council in Geneva in June 1973.

Mr. Maurice Strong was elected by acclamation to serve as Executive Director of the new organization. His term began on 1 January 1973.

The new agency is expected to establish its Nairobi headquarters during the second half of the year, with a staff of under 100 people.

The Lamai Wedge in the Serengeti National Park

The following brief report was prepared by Dr. John S. Owen in response to IUCN's request.

In March 1972, it was reported in the Press that the regional authorities in Tanzania had given permission to the people living on the western borders of the Lamai Wedge for them to occupy an area of some 75 square miles in the Serengeti National Park. This report caused considerable concern not only to those who regarded the Serengeti as one of the finest National Parks in the world, but also to those who had come to admire and respect the Tanzania Government, over the years, for its clearly demonstrated determination to assure the Serengeti's future by all possible means.

It was soon clear that the original reports had greatly over-estimated the consequences of what had been a purely local action resulting from the need to defuse a difficult political crisis in a small area near the Park. In fact, the concession was almost immediately restricted entirely to the grazing of stock, and, most specifically, did not include the right to cultivate the land, to build houses, cut wood or in any way to interfere with the wildlife of the Park.

As a result of a visit to the area in October, I am happy to be able to certify that the limited nature of the concession has been enforced by the Government and has been observed by the people concerned. I was able to carry out a thorough aerial inspection of the whole area, and the only signs of human use were the presence of two small herds of cattle not more than 200 yards from the boundaries of the Park. There were no houses, no cultivations, and no cattle enclosures in the area. Five cattle enclosures which had been erected contrary to the terms of the concession had been burnt by the Police as soon as their presence had been reported by the Park authorities. Personal questioning of the Park Rangers regarding the boundary not only confirmed these facts but revealed that even the very limited use made of the

grazing concession was declining, and likely to decline still further in the future.

On the question of general policy, it is relevant to record that when I was Director of the National Parks, the Board of Trustees, acting on my advice, on several occasions allowed people to graze cattle within the Serengeti and other National Parks, in times when grazing pressures were acute.

There is, of course, the continuing problem of population increases on the north-western borders of the Serengeti National Park. The way in which both the Government and the Park authorities dealt with what was locally a very difficult situation can only be regarded as the best of auguries for the future.

Four more areas protected in Venezuela

Venezuela's conservation efforts are bearing fruit. Marking the centenary of the Yellowstone National Park and related celebrations, one national park, one natural monument and two wildlife refuges have recently been established.

The national park "Archipiélago Los Roques", situated 120 km. north of Venezuela's central coastline, is comprised of a series of islands and coral reefs in the Caribbean with a total area of one 225,000 ha. Its marine habitats are the first in Venezuela to be protected. This is the breeding area of various species of lobsters and is particularly important for its bird populations.

The natural monument "Santa Ana Mountain" is an isolated mountain in the dry Paraguana peninsula in north-west Venezuela. It contains typical island flora and fauna.

The wildlife refuge, "Cuare", about 8,000 ha., includes a series of islands and the coastline in north-east Venezuela, with a particularly important avifauna that includes flamingo and roseate spoonbills.

The last wildlife refuge includes the Island of Birds some 665 km. north of La Guaira. It is important for its sea bird population and known nesting areas of the green turtle.

More than 500,000 ha of small wetlands now protected in USA

A total of 503,083 ha of small wetlands has been acquired by the US Fish and Wildlife Service since 1959 in the migratory bird breeding and rearing areas of the states of Montana, Nebraska, Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota in north central USA.

Created by Ice Age glaciers, these small wetlands or potholes are tremendously productive of ducks, geese and other migratory birds. As the potholes were being drained for agriculture, acquisition was necessary to save them. In 1959 the Congress authorized the programme – acclaimed by conservationists and environmentalists throughout the Western Hemisphere – for acquisition of these small wetlands in the five states. The eventual goal for acquisition is 647,773 ha.

Timber wolf sanctuary established in USA

Action taken by government agencies in the United States will help conserve the endangered eastern timber wolf, *Canis lupus lycaon*.

The new arrangements involve action in Minnesota, the only place where a viable population of the wolf remains in the United States (excluding Alaska).

They include: (1) an inviolate sanctuary of 2,350 square miles for the wolf in the Superior National Forest of northern Minnesota, (2) recognition of the wolf as a desirable animal, (3) management programmes to be directed towards the wolf's recreational values, (4) reduction of conflict between wolves, livestock producers, and deer hunters.

Staff Notes

Cerovsky returns to Czechoslovakia

Dr. Jan Cerovsky, prominent Czechoslovakian educator, author and conservation scientist who has served on the staff of IUCN since early 1969 has returned to Czechoslovakia. His successor as Executive Officer for the Commission of Education has not yet been named.

Prior to coming to Morges, Dr. Cerovsky was chief of research for the Czechoslovak State Institute for Protection of Monuments and Conservation of Nature, and editor of the conservation magazine "Ochrana Prirody"; concurrently he taught at Charles IV University, Prague, and at the University of Agriculture, Brno.

Honours

IUCN/WWF Official Honored

Peter Scott of Great Britain, Chairman of IUCN's Survival Service Commission, and Chairman and Vice President of the World Wildlife Fund, was awarded a Knighthood on January 1st in the Queen's New Year's Honours List for services to conservation and the environment.

Sir Peter, an author, painter, naturalist and sportsman of world-wide reputation, has been active in IUCN affairs for many years.

World Wildlife Fund News

World Wildlife Fund names Deputy Director-General

Francis M. S. Peel, a citizen of the United States and a well-known international lawyer, has joined WWF as Deputy Director-General.

Mr. Peel, 45, holds law degrees from Cornell University and Columbia University. From 1957 to 1968 he served with the United Nations International Labour Organization in Geneva. Following a brief period with IOS, he joined the Organization for Rehabilitation through Training (ORT) in Geneva, becoming Director of the British ORT in London in 1971.

The new Deputy Director-General is based at WWF headquarters in Morges, Switzerland.

Bulletin subscription data

The IUCN Bulletin is free to members. "Supporters" and interested conservationists may subscribe at US\$10.00 for 12 issues per year. Cheques may be mailed to Morges, or deposited to any one of the following bank accounts provided Morges is advised:

- The Riggs National Bank of Washington D.C., Dupont Circle Office, 1913 Massachusetts Avenue N.W., Washington 20036 U.S.A., Acct. No. 04 07 077 297.
- Barclay's Bank Ltd., Lowndes Square Branch, 8 West Halkin Street, London S.W.1., U.K., Acct. No. 3049 2248.
- IUCN's Account with the Société de Banque Suisse, 1110 Morges, Switzerland.
- IUCN's Account with the Union de Banques Suisses, 1800 Vevey, Switzerland.
- IUCN's Post Cheque Account 10-22.605, Lausanne, Switzerland.
- Crédit Commercial de France S.A., 103, Av. des Champs-Élysées, Paris 8^e, France, Account No. 020 285.5870.

A plan worth copying

An unusual Association, Verein zur Sicherstellung überörtlicher Erholungsgebiete in den Landkreisen um München E.V. (Association for the safeguarding of recreation areas of more than local importance in the rural districts surrounding Munich), is a first-class example of cooperation between a metropolitan town, rural districts and communes. It was founded in December 1965 following discussions lasting several years. The founders included the town of Munich, and the rural districts of Dachau, Freising, Fürstenfeldbruck, Munich, Starnberg and Wolf-ratshausen, but the Association now has 20 members. Each member makes an annual per caput payment of 0.50 DM on behalf of its inhabitants, sufficient to bring the Association's income to almost 1,000,000.— DM in 1970.

The primary aim of the Association is to safeguard open spaces in the area — already it possesses more than 100 ha — but it also undertakes their development in consultation with the appropriate planning and conservation authorities. After the necessary development is completed, the maintenance of the area becomes the responsibility of the district in which it is situated.

Book Reviews by Prof. Tom Harrison

Burton, Maurice (1972): *The Observers Book of Wild Animals*
Hatley, Jan (1972): *The Observers Book of Zoo Animals*
London: Frederick Warne, 206 and 194 pp., each 45 p.

These are truly pocket volumes, nicely printed and bound, inexpensive. Maurice Burton's is a re-write of an earlier edition of a pleasant popular treatment covering 60 mammals (152 pp.) reptiles and amphibians (46 pp.) only, with good, small illustrations, mostly by his daughter, Jane. Interesting are the new sections on three introduced and newly established mammals — coypu, mink and edible dormouse. A good introduction to local conservation for children.

Jan Hatley, Education Officer of a British zoo, authors an equally good-looking but not so well-grounded effort, though the aim is commendable. We get the increasingly familiar emphasis on zoo-breeding, with two examples to start with, *neither* of which relate to a zoo — Père David's Deer (Woburn Abbey, long before its Safari Park Days) and the Hawaiian Goose or Nene (Peter Scott at Slimbridge). The totally uncritical text even claims:

"... physically *any animal* is better fed and cared for in a well-kept zoo than in the wild" (p. 10).

This justifies the next step to capture everything and give it that glorious cageed happiness?

Both books misuse the term "Animals". Mr. Hatley has, again, 100 pages on mammals, 65 for the rest of the animal kingdom. It is time authors and publishers started calling a bird an animal and a flea an animal too. The great reading public is being educated beyond this "sales talk" level.

Griffith, Charles J., Landin, Edward & Jostad, Karen (1972): *E. P. — The New Conservation*. Arlington, Virginia: The Izaak Walton League of America. 184 pp., \$ (U.S.) 1.25.

The Izaak Walton League of America was founded in Chicago in 1922, and has been active in environmental education, especially aquatic. The author is regional information officer of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and his colleagues are correspondingly qualified.

But perhaps three authors is too many for a small, non-technical booklet of this kind. The total effect is a little confusing. It takes too long to develop the main theme. It is not known what the E.P. is until page 24. It is Environmental Practice. Things go better for the remaining 128 pages of main text. There is still rather a lot of definitions and hair-splitting terminology. However, this will make a useful contribution at the conservation level, especially if it can be integrated with something more imaginative than the questionnaire and the proposed usage survey suggested in the Appendices. There is room for equivalent literature in Europe, presented with a little more dynamic pep. People are getting saturated with conservation platitudes now. The new conservation of the sub-title is already in danger of growing a little old-fashioned in its approach to the young.

Orr, Robert T. (1972): *Mammals of North America*
Rand, Austin L. (1972): *Birds of North America*
Leviton, Alan (1972): *Reptiles and Amphibians of North America*
New York: Doubleday. (Animal Life of North America series); each c. 250 pp., each \$ (U.S.) 9.95.

As good as any nature series in the world, both as regards production and content. The insect volume is especially well illustrated, almost justifying the publisher's jacket claim for "a magnificent collection". They all are, of course, by competent authorities. Each volume has a separately coloured binding for easy reference on the shelf.

Ullrich, Wolfgang (with Tylinek, E. & Tylinek, Isabella) (1971): *Seltene Tiere*. Leipzig: Edition Leipzig. 284 pp., DM 49.—.

The Tylineks have taken an impressive set of photographs of portraits, of some 75 sorts of mammal, mostly large, in zoos, mostly German. A handful of birds and reptiles are thrown in for the usual bad measure, and nearly all the mammals are, as usual, the obvious ones. Nevertheless, this makes a reasonably priced coffee table gift, with a considerable amount of conservation-relevant information, in the form of short chapters on each species associated with the photograph.

It was particularly interesting to see five excellent pictures of the famous, isolated and now deceased Sumatran rhinoceros, long in the Copenhagen Zoo. (pp. 78, 99-101).

The text is by Professor Ullrich, who is Director of the Dresden Zoo. There is a particularly intelligent, short reading list attached for each species.