



**21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY TIGER**

giving wild tigers a future

# **21<sup>st</sup> Century Tiger Annual Report 2005**

**21<sup>st</sup> Century Tiger is a unique wild tiger conservation partnership  
between the Zoological Society of London and Global Tiger Patrol.**

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## **About 21st Century Tiger**

21<sup>st</sup> Century Tiger was established in 1997 as a unique fundraising partnership between the Zoological Society of London and Global Tiger Patrol. The aim was to pool resources in order to raise money and to source and support tiger conservation projects in the wild. Since its inception, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Tiger has become one of the top six non-government organisations funding tiger conservation worldwide.

A panel of international tiger experts rigorously examines all projects submitted to 21<sup>st</sup> Century Tiger for funding. The projects must have sound practical scientific and/or conservation value, and use local staff wherever possible. Project reports are reviewed every six months to ensure that the funds are being used to the best possible advantage. 21<sup>st</sup> Century Tiger is proud of its record of funding innovative projects which keep up with ever-changing environmental situations.

### **Our Mission**

1. To raise funds, from government, the corporate sector, zoos and individuals, for projects which significantly contribute to the conservation of tigers in the wild.
2. To raise the profile of tigers through developing public awareness and educational programmes.
3. To work with the international conservation and scientific community.
4. To utilise the wide range of resources held by the partnership between Global Tiger Patrol and the Zoological Society of London.

### **Our Defining Features**

- 100% of donations goes directly to wild tiger projects.
- Administration for the operation of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Tiger is funded separately, including through a percentage of sales income.
- 21<sup>st</sup> Century Tiger works closely with in-country counterparts in order to develop capacity within the country to sustain conservation work through the generations.
- All projects are reviewed by experts to ensure that they have sound practical conservation and/or scientific credibility, and are making a fundamental contribution to the conservation of wild tigers.

## **The Scope of Our Work**

Since its inception, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Tiger has funded a total of 56 projects, distributing over a million pounds and supporting projects in seven countries - India, Indonesia, China, Malaysia, Cambodia, Thailand and the Russian Far East. The projects cover a wide spectrum of requirements for tiger conservation, including training for wildlife rangers in the application of wildlife law, jungle survival and identification of endangered species, and support for anti-poaching units which deal directly with poachers, uncover networks of illegal trading, and even advise in cases of human-tiger conflict. In Russia and Indonesia we also fund scientific research, including studies of tiger home ranges and tiger prey densities. Comprehensive and thorough research provides a sound scientific basis for conservation planning and is an essential part of any conservation programme. Finally, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Tiger also funds education and awareness raising programmes within tiger range countries; vital for ensuring sustainable local support for wildlife conservation.

### **Acknowledgements**

21st Century Tiger is most grateful to all its supporters who provide donations, both large and small, as well as those given in kind. We would particularly like to thank the following:

Founding supporter ExxonMobil (formerly Esso UK plc), without whose support for both administration and field projects in the early years 21st Century Tiger would not have come into being, and whose staff continue to support us each year through their toy sales.

DEFRA (the UK Government's Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs), for their substantial yearly contributions to the field projects.

EAZA (European Association of Zoos and Aquaria) and ARAZPA Australasian Regional Association of Zoological Parks and Aquaria), both for their support during the regional zoo Tiger Campaigns in 2002-4, and for ongoing contributions from many zoos.

We would also like to thank Nigel Hodgetts for the design and maintenance of our website and Candice Chitolie for the design and layout of 21st Century Tiger leaflets and newsletter.

## Funding

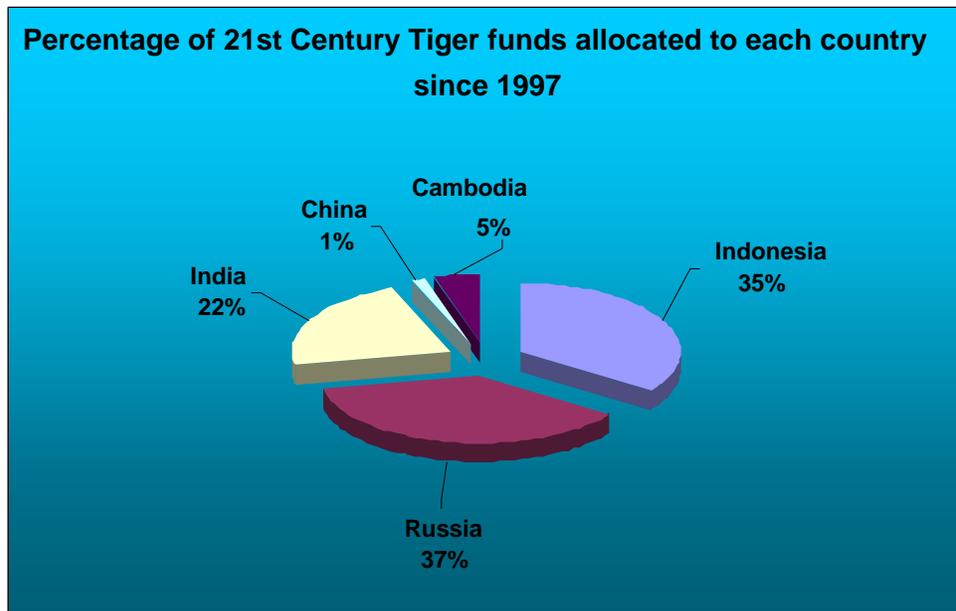
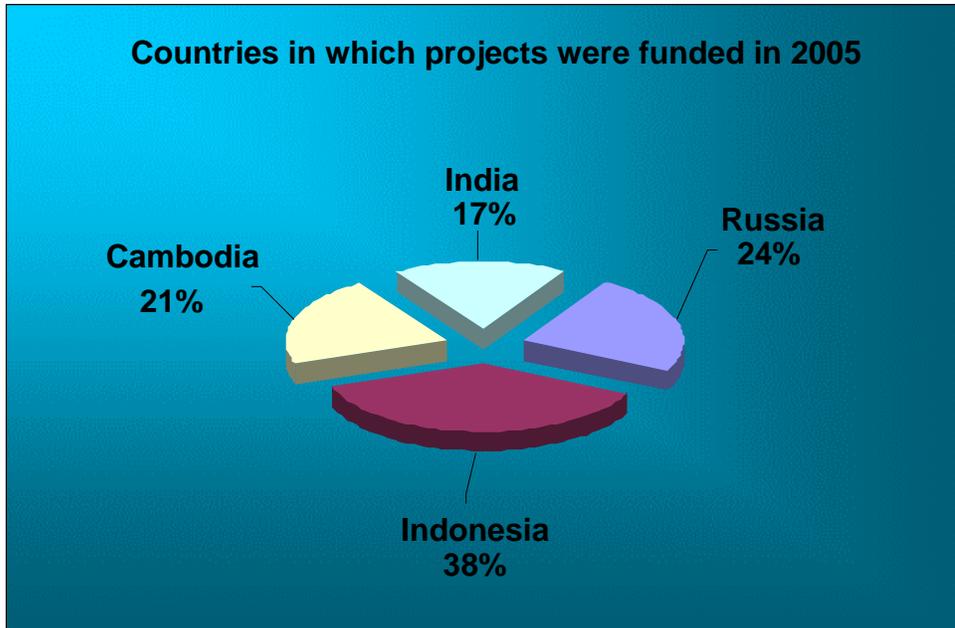
### Sources of funding for 2005

Funding Source	Amount Received
<b>Grants</b>	
Grant from DEFRA	£24,000
<b>Fundraising Activities</b>	
Zoos	£39,700
ExxonMobil: toy sales and staff donations	£2800
Sponsored walk by Susan Morris	£560
Sponsored bike ride by Jason McIntosh	£1025
Public donations	£2,650
CD Sales	£180
<b>Total</b>	<b>£70,915</b>

### Projects receiving funding from 21<sup>st</sup> Century Tiger in 2005

Project Title	Amount Donated	Grantee
Compatibility, Conflict and Compromise: Coexistence between tigers and other large mammals and industry. Sumatra	£33,000	The Zoological Society of London (ZSL)
The Bokor Conservation Project. Cambodia	£20,600	WildAid
Amur/Siberian Tiger Conservation in Verkhnebikinsky Wildlife Refuge. Russia	£11,300	Phoenix
Fighting for the minds: Strengthening tiger conservation in 2005-2006. Russia	£11,550	Phoenix

Community Leadership for Tiger Conservation (CLTC) - Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve. India	£9,800	Tiger Research and Conservation Trust (TRACT)
Community Leadership for Tiger Conservation (CLTC) - Anshi Dandeli. India	£5,700	Sahyadri Wildlife and Forest Conservation Trust (SWIFT)
<b>Total Donated</b>	<b>£91,950</b>	



## **Activities in 2005**

### **Zoo Support**

Zoos continue to fundraise for tigers in the wild through 21<sup>st</sup> Century Tiger with a range of different activities.

Kolmården Zoo in Sweden is currently supporting a project in Verkhnebikinsky wildlife refuge, Russia, through Phoenix.

Zoos belonging to ARAZPA (Australasian Regional Association of Zoological Parks and Aquaria) have also been busy fundraising for tigers – Dubbo Zoo in NSW, Australia organised major fundraising events in November and managed to raise more than \$AU30,000.

21<sup>st</sup> Century Tiger continues to award certificates for zoos' fundraising achievements, and we are delighted to report that Dubbo Zoo has earned a Platinum certificate for its fantastic work. Long term funding is vital and these efforts make a real impact on the ground in helping to conserve tigers.

### **Sponsored Bike Ride with a Difference**

Jason McIntosh from London undertook a sponsored bike ride for us, visiting 280 underground stations in London. It took him one month, 400 miles, three punctures, a lost pedal, smashed lamps and numerous breakdowns. All £1,026 he raised was kindly donated to 21<sup>st</sup> Century Tiger.

### **ExxonMobil Toy Sale**

At the beginning of December we set out to ExxonMobil's two offices in London to sell tiger toys to their staff – we were a bit worried we had saturated the market as it was our 5<sup>th</sup> year, but this proved not to be the case. We had a new range of toys including “snoring animals”, which were an absolute favourite. £2,800 was raised over the two days. We would like to thank all at ExxonMobil, especially Laura Strecker and the staff and volunteers who helped us on the day.

### **21<sup>st</sup> Century Tiger Website**

Nigel Hodgetts continued to keep the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Tiger website up-to-date with pictures, articles and other useful news. As well as providing a vital information service for the general public, this site provides our sponsors such as zoos with access to project reports, news items and pictures. Supporters are provided with log-on details so that they can download pictures which are not available to the general public for copyright reasons.

## **New Administrator**

21<sup>st</sup> Century Tiger had a change of administrator at the beginning of the year. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Naomi McClure for her hard work and dedication. Hanna Beach took over at the end of February. Hanna, who is Swedish, was working as a senior keeper at ZSL's London Zoo before she was appointed to this position.

## **EAZA conference in Bath**

Hanna Beach and Sarah Christie attended the European Association of Zoos and Aquariums' (EAZA) conference in Bath in September 2005. Sarah gave a short presentation on 21<sup>st</sup> Century Tiger projects, many of which have been supported by zoos, particularly during the EAZA 2002-2004 regional campaign for tigers.

## **21st Century Tiger Database**

We have been busy designing and building a database to hold records of project reports and funding, and to quickly provide reports on financial matters. This should be fully operational by mid-2006 (Thanks to our technical advisor Amrit Dephal of ZSL for all his input and help building the database).

## **Information on projects funded in 2005**

21<sup>st</sup> Century Tiger funded six new projects in 2005 bringing the total number supported for the year to twelve. Here follows a selection from each country:

### **Cambodia**

#### **The Bokor Conservation Project (WildAid)**

This project is well managed by WildAid who have many years experience working in South East Asia. Now in its fifth year, the project is focusing on training rangers, outreach activities and wildlife monitoring, with the primary goal of protecting the park's biodiversity from poachers. 21<sup>st</sup> Century Tiger funded this project for the first time in 2002. In 2005, our support was mainly for salary supplements for the staff in the park. This is because Government salaries in Cambodia alone are so low that without any supplement, rangers would be forced to seek other forms of income, distracting them from their important role as defenders of the wild. Without the rangers, poachers would be open to the parks wildlife such as tigers, bears, elephants and gibbons. Our funding will also cover field equipment, walkie talkies and camera traps. It is thanks to the camera traps that we know that tigers are still present in Bokor, though they are under severe threat from poachers.

### **Sumatra**

#### **Kerinci Seblat Tiger Protection & Conservation (Flora and Fauna International)**

This project has been running since its launch in 2000 as a partnership between Kerinci Seblat National Park and Fauna & Flora International. The park is one of the most important conservation areas in Southeast Asia and is a priority for long-term tiger conservation, but poaching of tigers and their prey species, as well as habitat destruction, are threatening their survival. Tiger Protection and Conservation Units are rapid response teams made up of four rangers from the national park and forest-edge communities who can investigate suspected tiger poachers, dealers and communities with a history of poaching. They have also built up data on the source and extent of threats to the Sumatran tiger, and carry out regular patrols and enforcement operations. However, the degenerating law and order situation in Sumatra has led to serious problems, including physical assaults and injury. Illegal loggers use bribes and violence to ensure that they can carry on their business, with the result that rangers cannot patrol some areas. The teams also discovered during their first year's work that actual or perceived human-tiger conflict is a factor in a large proportion of the illegal killings of tigers in and around the park. Investigations and subsequent law enforcement operations to date have led to the seizure of the skins and other body parts of nine Sumatran tigers and resulted in court cases currently active or now concluded, against seven men. A very successful tiger crime workshop was organised in July 2005 with protection rangers, police, senior detectives, forestry and local government officers on the guest list. The purpose of this seminar was to develop a practical, local framework for a more effective approach to detection and investigation of tiger and other serious wildlife crime in the Jambi province of Sumatra.

## **India**

### **Community Leadership for Tiger Conservation - Anshi- Dandeli (SWIFT)**

The Wildlife Conservation Society's India branch (WCS India) believes strongly in nurturing and encouraging local community leaders who wish to conserve tigers. In 1999 the WCS India program identified highly motivated local youth leaders in four prime tiger landscapes in the Western Ghats of Karnataka. The "Community Leadership for Tiger Conservation" (CLTC) project in Anshi-Dandeli is a product of this venture and has been supported by 21st Century Tiger since 2003. Anshi- Dandeli's project leader is Balachandra Hegde, a local farmer who is passionate about tiger conservation.

Anshi National Park and Dandeli Wildlife Sanctuary (ANP & DWS) are located in the Western Ghats global biodiversity hotspot of southern India, one of the best long-term areas for tiger conservation in India. Tiger habitats around Anshi and Dandeli extend over 5,000 sq. km of deciduous and semi-evergreen forests, including other protected areas. Balachandra and his team started by collecting basic information about the threats to tigers present in the area. These included hunting of the tiger's prey, commercial extraction of non-timber forest products, cultivation in almost all the fertile valleys in the hilly region, and destruction of forests for large developmental projects. The project is seeking to raise awareness about wildlife and tiger conservation in ANP & DWS amongst villagers, students and the media. It is also motivating villagers to relocate to areas outside existing wildlife reserves and interacting with local people and forest officials to improve on-ground protection for tigers, their prey and their habitat.

## **Russian Far East**

### **Save the Amur tiger for future generation (The Wildlife Foundation of Khabarovsk)**

The Wildlife Foundation is a non-governmental, non-profit organization that was founded in 1993 by a small group of Russian ecologists and environmentalists to protect forests and biodiversity. The Foundation is based in Khabarovsk, in the north of the Amur tigers' range, and works to protect rare and endangered species such as the Amur Tiger. This project is mainly focused on their work with the younger generation, aiming to change attitudes towards tigers and gain public support. Over the last year, the project has established close ties with twenty-five schools, at which they arrange special tiger lessons. They have also set up environmental field schools where children can learn about the unique wildlife of the Russian Far East. In September 2005 the Wildlife Foundation, together with their colleagues from the zoo organized a summer camp. About 600 children with their parents participated and the most active school children won prizes. These activities led to increased media involvement, with a press release on tiger monitoring and articles about Amur tigers in the local newspapers.