



21ST CENTURY TIGER
giving wild tigers a future

21st Century Tiger 2000 Report

Why 21st Century Tiger?

21st Century Tiger was conceived in 1996, as a response to the UK concern for tigers and their conservation in the wild, and as a response to donor's desire for their contributions to go directly to the projects.

A partnership was developed with the common goal of:

working together to save the tiger in the wild for future generations.

In partnership between London Zoo and Global Tiger Patrol each organisation provides a wide range of resources which are applied in the battle to save the tiger in the wild, in the 21st Century and beyond.

A Tiger Conservation Mission For Future Generations

The mission of working together to save the tiger in the wild for future generations is achieved by:

1. Forming a partnership between Global Tiger Patrol and the Zoological Society of London.
2. Raising funds from government, the corporate sector and individuals, for projects which significantly contribute to the conservation of tigers in the wild.
3. Raising the profile of tigers through developing public awareness and educational programmes.
4. Working with the international conservation and scientific community.

Points of Difference

21st Century Tiger is unique in a number of ways:

- 100% of funds raised go directly to wild tiger projects.
- Administration for the operation of 21st Century Tiger is funded separately.
- Only wild tiger conservation projects are funded by 21st Century Tiger funds.
- All projects are comprehensively vetted to ensure that they have sound practical conservation and/or scientific credibility, and are making a fundamental contribution to the conservation of wild tigers.
- It has a strength which comes from the wide skills and resources of each partner.

Peer Group Review

Our projects were subjected to vigorous review by 21st Century Tiger's wide range of experts. Reports of these projects are reviewed every six months to ensure that the funds are being utilised to the best possible advantage. We are pleased to note that completely new projects have been proposed to keep up with the ever-changing environmental situations.

Members of the 2000 Peer Group

Sharon Ament, Director of Marketing Business Development, Natural History Museum

Amanda Bright, Chair, Global Tiger Patrol

Sarah Christie, Conservation Co-ordinator, London Zoo

Steve Galster, Director, WildAid

Peter Jackson, Chair Emeritus, IUCN/ SSC Cat Specialist Group

Dr K Ullas Karanth, Conservation Zoologist, Wildlife Conservation Society

Peter Lawton, Founder, Global Tiger Patrol

Nick Lindsay, Acting Director, Field Conservation and Consultancy, Zoological Society of London

Gail McGuffie, Global Tiger Patrol

Dr Dale Miquelle, Conservation Zoologist, Wildlife Conservation Society

Dr John Seidensticker, Chair, Save The Tiger Fund; Senior Curator, Smithsonian National Zoological Park

Valmik Thapar, Writer, Broadcaster and Director of the Ranthambhore Foundation

1997 Year One

- Launch at Tigers 2000, an International Symposium sponsored by Esso UK plc
- Over £100,000 raised of which £90,000 was distributed to three wild tiger conservation projects
- First ever fund-raising coalition between international in-situ and ex-situ conservation bodies for the conservation of a species in the wild
- Supporter's Lunches at the House of Commons and London Zoo
- ' Land of the Tiger ' Talk by Valmik Thapar, narrator of the BBC TV series , to raise funds
- European Association of Zoos and Aquariums (EAZA) Conference: Presentation to enlist support of European Zoos
- EAZA AGM: Presentation to Zoo Directors
- Belfast Marathon runner raising funds
- Considerable corporate support pledged by Esso for future years
- UK Government support

1998 Year Two

- Over £100,000 raised of which £68,036 was distributed to three wild tiger conservation projects in India, Sumatra and the Russian Far East
- Year of the Tiger Dinner with Her Royal Highness Princess Michael of Kent, supported by Esso UK plc.
- Tiger Calendar published by the Ink Group, giving percentage of wholesale price to 21st Century Tiger
- Esso/Cathay Pacific Promotion in Esso Forecourts
- Daily Express Russian Forest Fires Appeal
- 21st Century Tiger Challenge fund-raising trek in India launched in conjunction with Discovery Initiatives
- Indian project visited in May by Global Tiger Patrol personnel
- Quarterly reports from project leaders in Sumatra
- Updates from Global Survival Network on work in the Russian Far East.
- Zoo support including Colchester, South Lakes Wild Animal Park, Kolmarden Zoo in Sweden, and the UK Federation of Zoological Gardens of Great Britain and Ireland
- Nestlé Kids Club support through Tiger Adoptions
- £1 donation from every holiday booked through BA Holidays
- Esso/21st Century Tiger Awards nominations sought from tiger experts internationally
- Continuing UK Government support pledged by Minister for the Environment, Michael Meacher MP

1999 Year Three

- Night of the Big Cat fashion show, with designs by Ninivah Khomo, Stephen Jones and Manolo Blahnik, and attended by celebrities and top models.
- Esso / 21st Century Tiger Awards: £12,000 donated by Esso UK plc to recognise the achievements of wild tiger conservationists worldwide. Awards won by Boris Litvinov (Russia), Dr Ullas Karanth (India) and the Sumatran Tiger Team.
- The first 21st Century Tiger Challenge trek to India, with 10 people, which raised a lot of money for tigers.
- Administrator post funded by Esso UK plc to enable 21st Century Tiger to carry out its commitment to spending 100% of funds raised on wild tiger conservation projects.
- Wildlife Art Society's Annual Show in August, opened by Lynsey de Paul, with a percentage of sales coming to 21st Century Tiger.
- 21st Century Tiger stalls at the Big Cat Nights at London Zoo
- Ink Group tiger calendars were distributed in the UK, Australia and New Zealand and a percentage of sales were donated to 21st Century Tiger for use of the logo

- Esso Calendars were donated to 21st Century Tiger to sell to supporters for further income.
- 21st Century Tiger T-shirts were printed for the first time and proved popular.
- Press coverage increased as 21st Century Tiger became more well-known
- The Tiger Information Centre Website put an entry for 21st Century Tiger on, generating many enquiries and donations from around the world.
- A Dragon Boat Racing Day was held at the Docklands, with many teams taking part and raising money for 21st Century Tiger.

2000 Year Four: Events

'Wild Tigers of Bandhavgarh' exhibition, Burrell Collection, Glasgow

This was an exhibition of tiger art by a group of fifteen artists from the Artists for Nature Foundation. They visited Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve in central India to see the tiger in its natural habitat and created paintings, drawings and sculptures of the tigers and the other wildlife, as well as the surrounding area. They also worked with some of the local children to create large murals. Visitors to the exhibition could see a film about Sita, the famous tigress, and displays of medicines and items made from tiger parts, seized by the British Police. An enormous wooden tiger collecting box, over a metre tall, was at the entrance to the exhibition and raised a tremendous amount of money for 21st Century Tiger from the public. There was even a junior version of the box made of card, which people could take home and use as a money-box to collect donations. The artists also agreed to donate a percentage of the price of works that they sold. The show was a great success, with record visitor numbers and got a tremendous amount of publicity. Congratulations to Glasgow Museums for all their hard work. The funds raised for 21st Century Tiger from this exhibition have funded a project in India.

Talk by Valmik Thapar

As part of the events around the 'Wild Tigers of Bandhavgarh' exhibition, the well-known tiger expert and broadcaster, Valmik Thapar, agreed to give a talk at the Burrell Collection when he was in England narrating a tiger series for the BBC.

Exhibition of tiger paintings by Rosie Corcoran, Sladmore Art Gallery, London

Another art event took place at a private gallery in London in October, with work by one artist, Rosie Corcoran. These were all produced after a visit to India, and she generously agreed to donate some of the proceeds to 21st Century Tiger. A private view for 21st Century Tiger supporters was well attended.

'Tyger' painting by Penny Wheatley

The artist Penny Wheatley generously donated the proceeds from the sale of her painting to 21st Century Tiger. This was displayed in the Main Building of the Zoological Society of London until it was bought by the Rufford Foundation. 21st Century Tiger is grateful to Penny and the Foundation for their generosity.

Ink Group 2001 CalendarThe Ink Group, an Australian printing company, used the 21st Century Tiger logo on its calendars for the third year running. These are distributed in the UK, Australia and New Zealand and a percentage of sales is donated to 21st Century Tiger.

Tiger Trekkers

Our tireless group of supporters, the Tiger Trekkers, made a second successful attempt to raise money for 21st Century Tiger by climbing four peaks in the Lake District in three days, wearing furry tiger hats, much to the amusement of all those who saw them!

2001 and Future Events

- Five projects approved for funding and more proposals received
- Website 'www.21stcenturytiger.org'
- 21st Century Tiger key-ring promotion with Esso UK plc
- Tiger information leaflet in collaboration with Metropolitan Police
- 21st Century Tiger Challenge trek to India
- Support for new charity launch in Russia at British Embassy for Amur tigers and leopards
- 21st Century Tiger evening event at London Zoo
- Further UK Government funding
- Presentation to European Association of Zoos and Aquariums to encourage more zoo support for 21st Century Tiger

Sources of Funding in 2000

Esso: a Founder Supporter

Esso has continued its generous support of our administration during 2000, enabling 21st Century Tiger to keep its guarantee that 100% of funds donated go directly to wild tiger projects. Esso staff have also supported 21st Century Tiger through the sale of tiger toys.

Government Support

The UK Government has supported 21st Century Tiger since its launch in 1997 when John Gummer, Minister for the Environment, publicly endorsed the partnership. During 2000 their grant funded projects in India and Sumatra.

Public Support

Over 1000 individuals supported 21st Century Tiger in 2000, raising over £20,000. There were also generous donations from charitable trusts, raising £6,000. Supporters included:

The Belvedere Trust
Bellahouston School
The Wildlife Arts Society
The Cray Trust
St Ninians Primary School
The Tiger Trekkers
The Rufford Foundation

Corporate Support

21st Century Tiger received continued support from

- British Airways Holidays
- Tigercare
- Ink Group
- Nestle

And also from the National Geographic Society

Zoo Support

Zoos continued to support us by collecting donations from their visitors and publicising our work next to their tiger enclosures. Colchester Zoo is one of our biggest contributors, and the North of England Zoological Society (Chester Zoo) made a donation this year as well.

21st Century Tiger Sources of Funding 2000

| Sources of Funding | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| <i>UK Government</i> | £50,000.00 | £50,000.00 | £16,659.00 | £49,520.00 |
| <i>Esso UK plc</i> | - | - | £21,811.70 | £14,000.00 |
| <i>Public Donations</i> | £1,228.17 | £4,404.00 | £21,672.36 | £17,846.88 |
| <i>Forest Fire Appeal</i> | | £8,036.00 | - | - |
| <i>21st Century Tiger Events</i> | £2,964.54 | £24,500.00 | £581.81 | - |
| <i>Esso UK plc/Cathay Pacific</i> | £40,687.00 | £15,623.00 | - | - |
| <i>Esso/21st Century Tiger Awards</i> | £7,500.00 | £7,500.00 | - | - |
| <i>British Airways Holidays</i> | - | - | £22,899.00 | £7490.00 |
| <i>Zoos and Zoo Federations</i> | £8,900.77 | £3,000.00 | £3,095.73 | |
| <i>Tigercare</i> | - | - | £6,000.00 | £1,000.00 |
| <i>Trusts</i> | - | - | - | £6,050.00 |
| <i>21st Century Tiger Challenge</i> | - | - | £22,012.06 | £2,500.00 |
| <i>Calendars & T-shirts</i> | - | £2,214.00 | £1,146.46 | £199.00 |
| Totals | £103,780.48 | £115,277.00 | £123,378.12 | £99,514.89 |

21st Century Tiger Projects

Since its launch in 1997, 21st Century Tiger has funded 14 wild tiger conservation projects, usually of one year's duration, plus a one-off emergency appeal for work combatting forest fires in the Russian Far East.

1997: Total funding awarded £70,000

Indonesia: Tiger Rapid Evaluation Team, Southern Sumatra (£43,000) March 1997 - March 1998

Russian Far East: Amur Tiger Protection Programme (£30,000) Sept 1997 - Sept 1998

1998: Total funding awarded £83,000

India: Bengal Tiger Conservation Programme (£30,000) Jan 1998 - Dec 1998

Indonesia: Tiger Rapid Evaluation Team, Southern Sumatra (£15,000) April 1998 - March 1999

Russian Far East: Operation Amba (£30,000) Oct 1998 - Sept 1999
Forest Fire Appeal (£8,000) May 1998

1999: Total funding awarded £44,500

India: Sariska Reserve and National Park (£15,000) June 1999 - May 2000

Russian Far East: Inspection Tiger (£29,500) Oct 1999 - Sept 2000

2000: Total funding awarded £129,000

Indonesia: Kerinci Seblat Tiger Protection Project (£24,500) Feb 2000 - Jan 2001

India: Investigation into Poaching and Illegal Trade of Wild Tigers (£25,000) July 2000 - June 2001

Community Leadership in Tiger Conservation (3 projects) (£18,500) July 2000 - June 2001

Russian Far East: Mapping Tiger & Ungulate Habitat (2 projects) (£61,000) Jan 2001 - Dec 2001

In 2000 21st Century Tiger contributed 5% of NGO tiger project funding worldwide - a fantastic achievement for a small, young organisation.

TOTAL FUNDING AWARDED 1997 - 2000: £329,828

Appendices

- Project Updates
- Article from the Saturday Express, 8.4.00
- Page from Glasgow Museums Members Review, Spring 2000
- Article from TES Scotland, 17.3.00
- Article from Metro, 17.3.00
- Article from Glasgow Evening Times, 15.11.00

Inspection Tiger, Russian Far East

WildAid £29,500

Inspection Tiger is a wild tiger protection programme which works in Primorsky Krai, an area containing a vast wilderness in the Russian Far East. Until now a large proportion of the work has consisted of lengthy anti-poaching road patrols around Primorsky Krai which is home to 85% of the Amur (Siberian) tigers. 21st Century Tiger funded these patrols for three years.

Previously, poachers or traders had escaped arrest because all contact between the teams was by telephone to the headquarters, a long and unwieldy process. 21st Century Tiger funded a radio communication system to link the patrol teams, allowing instant transfer of information and rapid response to any reports of illegal activity or emergencies without delay. This put the patrols in a much better position to combat wildlife crime. Hand-held units allowed the rangers to communicate over shorter distances and radios could also be used as a telephone or fax, so the rangers could call outside authorities, e.g. the Police, for assistance. The system also gives the opportunity to fax documentation to Vladivostok for verification, ensuring hunting permits, etc., are legitimate.

21st Century Tiger funded:

- A Transceiver unit as base
- Mobile data-ready transceivers (one for each of the 6 patrol units)
- Training, set up and maintenance costs
- The purchase of a radio frequency for Inspection Tiger

The equipment was used in a 'sting' operation, reported in the press, where 21st Century Tiger advisor, Steven Galster of Wildaid, posed as a buyer of tiger parts. Two corrupt Russian police officers and a foreign crime boss were leading a major smuggling ring which sold rare wildlife derivatives, including

tiger skins and bones, as well as being involved in other illegal activities. Many agencies worked with the Russian police on 'Operation Kooperatsi' to mount a sting. On March 31 2000, Steve Galster and another investigator posed as buyers for a stockpile of Amur (Siberian) tiger skins that a corrupt officer was offering for sale in Vladivostok. They were wearing hidden cameras and using 21st Century Tiger funded transceivers. The police ambushed the seller and arrested him on the spot. Two more stings were carried out in the next 72 hours.

Investigation Into Poaching And Illegal Trade Of Wild Tigers, India

Wildlife Protection Society of India £25,075

India is home to nearly two thirds of the world's tigers but they are scattered among more than 60 fragments of habitat. The trade in tiger bones, skins and parts is an immediate, short-term threat to wild tigers.

The project that 21st Century Tiger funded expanded the network of informers built up by the Wildlife Protection Society of India and pooled the experience, contacts and information gathered over the years with the principal objective of bringing under control the illegal trade. Extensive field activities were carried out in the state of Maharashtra, Southern Madhya Pradesh, Western Uttar Pradesh and Delhi. The information gathered was fed into the Database on Tiger Poaching, Trade and Wildlife Crimes. There it was further analysed for further action on inter-State traders and suspected internal and international trade routes.

During the 21st Century Tiger funded project, WPSI:

- Hired an undercover field agent and three informers
- Assisted the enforcement authorities in a total of seven seizures in Uttar Pradesh, New Delhi and Maharashtra where thirteen active wildlife traders were arrested and a tiger skin, 11 leopard skins, 2 snow leopard skins and many skins and bones were recovered, as well as a gun and 200kg of electric wire. Although only one tiger skin was involved, all of the traders were known to deal in tiger parts.
- Investigated 34 tiger deaths and recorded all the details of cause of death.
- Investigated deaths of 1,197 leopards, 5 elephants and the seizure of 14 shahtoosh shawls.
- Found a wildlife trade route between India and Nepal into China
- Used the information gathered on the project to strengthen the 103 court cases being supported by WPSI's legal programme.
- Worked closely with the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), India's foremost enforcement agency and trained 45 officers.

Kerinci Seblat Tiger Protection Project, Sumatras

Fauna & Flora International £24,520

Kerinci Seblat National Park is the largest park in Southeast Asia and is unique in its preservation of complete, contiguous ecosystems which have been lost in other areas of Sumatra. The park and its surviving buffer zone forest is the single most important habitat for Sumatran tigers on the island. Unfortunately there has been a marked increase in tiger poaching activities in the last couple of years.

The aim of the Fauna and Flora International project funded by 21st Century Tiger is to provide support to the Park Authorities to take positive action to detect, prevent and deter tiger poaching activities in and around the Park. The project has trained two highly motivated, highly mobile four person Tiger Protection and Conservation Units who work in deep forest and 'at threat' areas where tiger poaching is suspected or reported. They also work in areas of high tiger density to protect surviving tiger populations.

The teams, made up of rangers and local people selected for motivation and forest skills, have been trained in basic field techniques, tiger conservation management and collecting data on tigers. They investigate the causes of attacks on tigers, for example, revenge attacks by the community for animals lost. In collaboration with the park authorities, local NGOs and informants, they identify poaching problem areas and likely future problem areas.

Pursuit and prosecution of individuals or groups involved in the tiger trade is also a priority for the teams, and they spend time educating local communities about the tiger, so that they become involved in reporting poaching activities as well as tiger sightings.

So far the TPCUs have:

- Used their network of informers to arrest a poacher with a tiger skin and bones for sale, securing a conviction of 18 months imprisonment. This is the first case of tiger poaching to reach the local courts in both National Park and local legal history. It also seems to have had a strong deterrent effect, with one major dealer ceasing trade in tigers.
- Identified 18 active poachers and 5 of the larger dealers operating around the park
- Found evidence of deaths of more than 20 tigers, most trapped using wire snares, or poisoned.
- Seized illegal equipment
- Safeguarded a salt lick from slash and burn encroachment
- Prevented a revenge attack on a tiger which killed a villager.

Sariska Tiger Reserve, Rajasthan, India

Global Tiger Patrol £14,880

Sariska Tiger Reserve and National Park has an estimated 25 tigers and a good level of prey density, but inside the Sanctuary area there are 27 villages, a state highway, a large hotel and a temple which attracts many pilgrims. There are signs of human disturbance everywhere, including illegal grazing of

40,000 cattle, goats and camels, illegal tree felling and collection of forest produce. This means that there is a constant 'people pressure ' on the wildlife and the flora in the reserve. 21st Century Tiger awarded the reserve funding for a jeep and truck for 'laying squad' activities and to improve the ability of the guards to move around the reserve rapidly to protect and manage the wildlife. In order to boost morale and make the rangers feel that they were part of a team that is supported and valued, winter uniforms were also awarded. These consisted of boots, socks, sweaters and balaclavas to protect them against the severe winter weather.

On a monitoring visit made after the year's funding had finished, Amanda Bright, Chair of Global Tiger Patrol, travelled on a patrol with the rangers and found that the jeep and truck were in good condition and are being used virtually every day for the following purposes:

- General jungle patrols
- Taking away confiscated forest items
- Taking offenders to court
- Patrols to check on illegal tree felling and cattle grazing
- Checking illegal mining areas
- Checking nomad camps for poaching equipment
- Fire fighting
- Carrying staff for the annual tiger census
- Replenishing salt licks
- Educational trips for local children

Anti-poaching patrols, fire fighting and other emergencies are all benefiting from the mobility of large numbers of forest guards. The fact that guards can be deployed to any point in the reserve has clearly acted as a deterrent to criminal elements, because the incidence of poaching has decreased in the last two years.

The tiger population has been steadily increasing, according to records, and prey densities are at a good level to support the main predators.

Community Leadership For Tiger Conservation, Kudremukh, India

Centre for Wildlife Studies £18,375

This is an exciting new project which is establishing a model for sustained field conservation activity and monitoring for the next few years. Local conservation leaders are identified who really care for tigers and other wildlife, who are well informed ecologically as to what is good conservation practice and what is not, and who have the social skills and leveraging abilities to make things work on the ground. Most project participants are volunteers, so that keeps the costs down, and the project as a whole is part of a process of developing local capacity to do things independently. The first part of the project started in Kudremukh, which is the largest protected area of tropical wet evergreen forest in India. There are various problems such as illegal hunting, over-exploitation of forest resources through firewood collection,

cattle grazing, forest produce collection, annual forest fires, etc. It is not well protected, and conflicts between the interests of the local community and the protected area are common.

So far the 21st Century Tiger funded project has:

- Encouraged the State Forest Department to set up mobile anti-poaching camps in the Park by surveying human pressures in the area and reporting on the best locations for the camps.
- Educated local social and religious leaders on the effects of mining in the Park on the rivers and forests of the region, and started a media campaign which resulted in a suspension of mining development by the State Government.
- Resisted the construction of an illegal road inside the park, stopped a car rally and requested a diversion of the National Highway which now runs through the park, as increased traffic leads to higher mortality rates in the animals, and gives more access for illegal activity.
- Made a true record of the number of families living inside the Park, in place of the official numbers used to inflate the estimated cost of relocating them to outside the Park.
- Run two training camps for local school teachers, successfully raising awareness of conservation issues in the Park, and resulting in the teachers campaigning on the effects of forest fires with the children.
- Given a slideshow to local villagers on conservation.
- Taken local journalists on field visits to make them aware of the issues and problems faced by the Forest Department staff.

In 2001 the project will expand into Bhadra and Nagarahole reserves as well.