

Using **Economics**
for...



Conservation Strategy Fund uses economics and strategic thinking to help conserve natural ecosystems. Our approach involves helping local conservationists use analytical tools to find smart, efficient solutions to the most urgent environmental problems. We train environmental professionals in a focused package of practical skills, and also work with groups directly in the field. Since its creation in 1998, CSF has concentrated on forests and rivers in the tropics, where extraordinarily high levels of biological diversity are found. To maximize the reach and quality of our work, we have involved leading experts and other conservation organizations in all of our projects.

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CONSERVATION **THAT WORKS**

Protecting Nature isn't easy.

People's relationship with Nature involves tradeoffs between leaving environments the way they are and using them for fuel, food shelter and other human needs. Finding balanced solutions requires tenacity and optimism, good science and lucid explanations. Conservation Strategy Fund provides people with an understanding of the costs and benefits nature conservation presents to society, plus the discipline and realism to choose affordable solutions that are likely to succeed. Our vision is of a world in which every country has a robust environmental movement distinguished by these qualities of clear thinking and commitment.

We're getting there.

All over the world, committed scientists and advocates are fighting to conserve their natural heritage. However, those who care the most about plants and animals often lack the economic tools to show how natural capital fits into the big picture of their countries' development. CSF has been supplying those analytical tools for the last nine years.

For example, we are helping people show how much income can be had from fishing and tourism if tropical reefs are kept intact in Belize, Panama and Brazil. We're helping others show the advantages of low-impact transportation alternatives like railways to avert the scarring effects of roads in the Brazilian Amazon. And we're highlighting the costs and benefits of turning nature into bio-fuels production. All these projects are guided by a strategic compass at the heart of CSF's programs — use economic insights and human creativity to do Nature conservation that works.

Education for Nature

Most CSF courses entail two intensive weeks of training in economics applied to conservation strategy. In 2007, we held our annual courses in Brazil and California, bringing our total to over 725 course graduates from nearly 65 countries. 2007 marked the beginning of a CSF scholarship program for Bolivian college students. Twenty two economics majors competed for five scholarships. The winners, five young women from three universities, received CSF grants and mentoring for their own research, focused on the economic values of national parks throughout Bolivia, which is one of the world's most biologically diverse countries. The studies provide park managers insights on how to increase revenues and improve services. Bolivia's parks depend on these kinds of improvements. Sophia Espinoza, from the University of San Simón, garnered first prize for her outstanding thesis project, focusing on Torotoro National Park.

For nine years, CSF has been giving people economic tools they can use to accomplish conservation that lasts.

Sophia Espinoza *recent college graduate and currently a CSF research fellow*

BOLIVIA



“Thanks to CSF’s support, my thesis was a success and I was able to launch my career as an environmental economist.”

Conserving Parks: ONE SIZE FITS ONE.

CSF's trademark approach to conservation is...not to have one.

Rather, we give people the insight and skills to do what works in each situation. Take parks for example. In a recent survey of our training graduates we found them using a striking array of approaches based on their CSF economics training. A few examples from Africa: Chifundera Kusamba analyzed the economics of hunting in the protected forests of the Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo, among the last redoubts of the mountain gorilla. His work led to implementation of anti-poaching regulations. In Tanzania, graduates Stephen Mariki and Zakiya Aloyce of the World Wildlife Fund are setting up a system in which parks will receive payments from downstream cities for providing clean water. In Uganda, Sarah Naigaga of Greenwatch used her training to save a game reserve from conversion into agricultural land. These feats, and many others like them, exemplify our goal of doing conservation that works.

Chifundera Kusamba *Project Leader* Itombwe Forest Conservation Initiative
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO



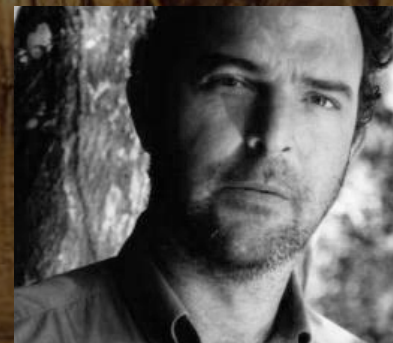
“The course helped me to carry out a survey on the bushmeat trade in Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo. Results were used by the Congolese Wildlife Authority to implement an antipoaching program.”

CONCRETE SUCCESS

Roads in the rainforest are among those things in life that fit in the “LESS IS MORE” category.

They're expensive, trigger massive deforestation and bring little economic development. The Selva Maya (Mayan Forest) is a prime example. It's Central America's largest continuous forest, embracing parts of Guatemala, Mexico and Belize. Thanks to the work of CSF training graduates, its core is still free of roads. Together with CSF economists, they showed how roads have wrought destruction and kindled forest fires. And how any new roads would do the same — while wasting tens of millions of dollars of public funds. Our partners at groups like Trópico Verde, the Wildlife Conservation Society, Unidos para la Conservación and ProNatura Peninsula de Yucatán disseminated the results widely in 2007, damping government enthusiasm for new forest roads, and successfully relocating a planned power line to lessen its impacts. CSF also presented the findings at the World Bank and Inter-American Development Bank to discourage misguided lending for the proposed roads.

Carlos Albacete *Co-Director Trópico Verde-Parkswatch*
GUATEMALA



“Thanks to CSF, my organization was able to work in an entirely new area. We’ve been able to broaden our arguments, vision and opportunities to influence decision-makers.”

Forty-four percent of the planet's population lives close to the ocean, and eight of the ten biggest cities are coastal.

Green in the Blue

Despite the crush of humanity at the water's edge, there are still vast stretches of intact coastal Nature that provide abundant food and recreation for people. In recent years governments have set up protected areas to safeguard these resources, but find themselves under constant pressure to "prove" that protection pays. If they can't, areas are often opened for real-estate development, industrial fish farming and offshore oil drilling.

With support from Conservation International, CSF is doing research at three sites — Gladden Spit in Belize, Coiba Island in Panama and Abrolhos reef in Brazil — on the benefits people get from fishing and tourism at these coastal gems. The first results are in, from Belize, where CSF research fellow Venetia Hargreaves-Allen reports that the value derived by tourists, who are drawn by schooling whale sharks, is as much as six times the price they pay to enter the Gladden Spit reserve. These results help Belize understand the economic potential of their reefs, and show that "development" might mean leaving nature just the way it is.

James C Gumbs



Dept. of Fisheries & Marine Resources
ANGUILLA, BRITISH WEST INDIES

I don't have the words to describe the way I feel about the CSF International Course... It is the most memorable course that I have participated in, and I have never been in a course with such amazing people and personalities. I think it would be difficult for another course to surpass the quality of teaching and material in such a short timeframe.

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The Numbers

Statement of Activities

REVENUE AND SUPPORT	unrestricted	temporarily restricted	total
individual donations	\$13,625		13,625
grants and awards	64,000	1,729,710	1,793,710
training fees	62,359		62,359
contract income	57,625		57,625
other income	16,970		16,970
net assets released from restrictions	709,161	(709,161)	
Total Revenue and Support	923,740	923,740	1,927,319

EXPENSES	unrestricted	total
program services	\$805,038	805,038
management & general	38,315	38,315
fundraising	25,993	25,993
Total Revenue and Support	869,347	869,347

ASSETS	unrestricted	temporarily restricted	total
change in net assets	\$54,394	1,020,549	1,074,942
net assets at beginning of year	78,904	701,261	780,165
Net Assets at End of Year	133,298	1,721,810	1,855,107

Statement of Financial Position

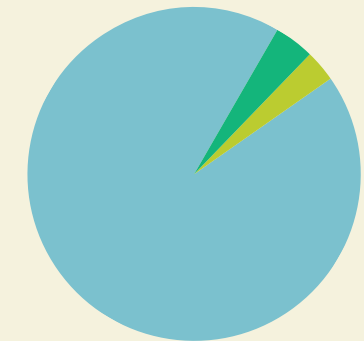
ASSETS	
cash & cash equivalents	\$534,529
grants receivable	1,323,645
accounts receivable	2,864
Total Current Assets	1,861,038
deposits	2,384
equipment, net of depreciation	2,978
TOTAL ASSETS	1,866,400

LIABILITIES	
accrued expenses	\$1,999
other current liabilities	9,294
Total Liabilities	11,293

NET ASSETS	
unrestricted	\$78,906
temporarily restricted	1,721,807
net income	54,394
Total Net Assets	1,855,107

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS 1,866,400

2007 EXPENDITURES



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