

CONNECTED CONSERVATION FOUNDATION

England & Wales · Charity number 1183328

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Charitable company

Company number [11632911](#)

Registered 2019-05-08

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

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Activities

Objects: THE CHARITY'S OBJECTS ARE: (1) TO PROMOTE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC THE CONSERVATION, PROTECTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF WILDLIFE, IN PARTICULAR BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY THROUGH THE DEVELOPMENT AND APPLICATION OF INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY; AND (2) SUCH OTHER PURPOSES DETERMINED BY THE TRUSTEES AT THEIR SOLE DISCRETION FROM TIME TO TIME AS ARE EXCLUSIVELY CHARITABLE UNDER THE LAWS OF ENGLAND AND WALES.

Activities: Connected Conservation Foundation works to protect wildlife and ecosystems through technology, for the public benefit.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Animals, Environment/conservation/heritage
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Kenya
- Mozambique
- South Africa
- Zambia

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£81,343	£151,881	-	-
2024-03-31	£66,782	£135,486	-	-
2023-03-31	£31,126	£129,015	-	-
2022-03-31	£243,077	£201,175	-	-
2021-03-31	£193,081	£26,300	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
BRUCE WATSON	Chair	2018-10-19
DAVID DELANO WARD		2018-10-19
Jonathan Baillie		2025-06-01

Accounts

Company registration number: 11632911

Charity registration number: 1183328

Connected Conservation Foundation

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Stewart & Co Accountants LLP
Knoll House
Knoll Road
Camberley
Surrey
GU15 3SY

Connected Conservation Foundation

Contents

Trustees' Report	1 to 28
Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities	29
Independent Examiner's Report	30
Statement of Financial Activities	31 to 32
Balance Sheet	33
Notes to the Financial Statements	34 to 42

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees and officers

The trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Trustees:	Mr D D Ward Mr J E M Baillie Mr B Watson A L Rhodes (resigned 17/09/2025)
Charity Registration Number:	1183328
Company Registration Number:	11632911
Registered Office:	13 St Luke's Street Chelsea London SW3 3RS
Independent Examiner:	Stewart & Co Accountants LLP Knoll House Knoll Road Camberley Surrey GU15 3SY

Objectives and activities

Objects of the charity

The charity's objects, as set out in its Articles of Association, are

- To promote, for the benefit of the public, the conservation, protection and improvement of wildlife, in particular but not exclusively through the development and application of innovative technology; and
- Such other purposes, determined by the trustees, at their sole discretion as are exclusively charitable under the laws of England and Wales.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Aims of the charity

In a world facing accelerating environmental challenges, the twin crises of climate change and biodiversity loss rank among the greatest threats humanity has ever faced. As the planet warms, ecosystems are pushed to their limits, species are disappearing at unprecedented rates, and the essential services nature provides - from clean air and water to food and shelter - are increasingly at risk. Yet nature remains one of our most powerful allies in addressing these crises.

The 30x30 goal-to protect 30% of land and sea by 2030-is vital for the future of all life on Earth. While bold, these targets are achievable through coordinated, collaborative efforts and best-practice approaches. Protected Areas remain a cornerstone of biodiversity conservation, and with growing government support to establishing new areas and improving the management of existing ones, the 30x30 target has great momentum.

To tackle emerging global conservation challenges, the sector needs better proven tools and technologies to scale up conservation impacts. The Connected Conservation Foundation (CCF) is committed to inclusive technology that supports a network of well-connected, effective Protected Areas. CCF helps Protected Areas and national governments to assess, secure, design, implement and scale game-changing conservation technologies. Together, with partners, we are shaping a holistic digital ecosystem that enables data-driven conservation, respects data sovereignty and empowers Indigenous Peoples and local communities with tools to steward nature and share in the benefits of this digital transformation.

This year, CCF celebrates its tenth anniversary, marking a decade of transforming conservation through technology. With our partners, we are accelerating the digital transformation of conservation across 18 countries. From satellite imagery and AI to IoT sensors and centralised IT systems, we implement integrated solutions for real-time protection and management. CCF has implemented data-driven interventions at 53 sites supporting the conservation of over 40 threatened species, including black and white rhinos, African and Asian elephants, giant and ground pangolins, tree kangaroos, chimpanzees, Ethiopian wolves, leopards, lions, cheetahs, wild dogs, hirola and key bird species such as the southern ground hornbill and Rüppell's griffon vulture.

From Kenya to South Sudan, our technology partnerships help prevent poaching, human-wildlife conflict and habitat loss, while empowering communities to manage natural resources and generate the accurate data they need to influence conservation management plans and policy. We also support people living in and around these Protected Areas. Our Protected Area Technician Training (PAT) Program is upskilling local talent to maintain systems and create tech-based careers, alongside two community environmental education centres near national parks in Uganda and South Africa, supporting education, outreach and opportunity.

By 2035, through technology and community engagement, we aim to support 20 governments with biodiversity technology strategies, help strengthen 100 Protected Areas to conserve 50+ threatened species and empower communities-demonstrating that solutions to the climate and biodiversity crises are within reach.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

CCF contributes to the following UN Sustainable Develop Goals:

4: Life on Land. We help local partners manage and protect an array of threatened species and habitats. Where technology gives an early warning of threats and issues to prevent wildlife deaths, habitat loss and promote a healthy coexistence between nature and local communities, so both can thrive.

13: Climate action. Strengthening resilient ecosystems, where technology helps stakeholders manage habitats and natural resources sustainability, particularly in climate-stressed areas. Where healthy vegetation and soil removes CO2 from our climate.

15: Quality education. Increasing training and opportunities for local people to grow their digital skills and technical capabilities.

16: Peace and Justice. Bringing peace and security to local communities and those at the forefront of nature protection, to keep them safe.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Our solutions

Since 2015, we've pioneered the implementation of early-warning systems to protect species and wild places. Today, our operation has grown to deliver large-scale, environmental monitoring and protection solutions for biodiversity, climate adaptation and ecosystem resilience.

We have grown long-term partnerships with Cisco, Airbus Foundation, Axis and Actility to help harness their capabilities to enhance conservation efforts across Africa. Excitingly, we've also broadened our geographical impact to support new protected areas in both Africa and Asia, extending our earth observation efforts to partners in Thailand, Namibia, Ethiopia, South Sudan and Papua New Guinea.

CCF tackles a wide range of technological needs, from delivering essential internet connectivity to central park operations, education centres at conservation headquarters, to setting up landscape-wide communication networks that enable data-driven conservation efforts across vast, remote areas. We donate free, robust, end-to-end IoT infrastructure, enabling on-the-ground sensor networks and connectivity for 360° real-time management, monitoring and protection. Our work includes everything from helping monitor entire conservancies using high-resolution satellite imagery, to combining satellite data, artificial intelligence and in situ measurements to unlock precise insights and innovative conservation solutions, to expanding education outreach to local communities.

CCF enables technologies to transform conservation operations across three critical areas:

1. **Early warning systems for mitigating conservation threats**, such as poaching, human wildlife conflict and climate events such as flooding and drought.
2. **Environmental monitoring** - tracking changes in nature and managing ecosystem health by understanding wildlife movement and assessing the availability of forage, water and other essential resources, and co-developing advanced analytical methods to enhance nature-related impact.
3. **Empowering local communities with data-driven insights** to support informed decision-making and foster coexistence. By providing indigenous communities with access to environmental data, wildlife movement patterns and human-wildlife conflict trends, we help improve town and agriculture planning, strengthen local land-use economies and provide training to develop future conservation technology champions.

Our holistic approach includes technology evaluation, strategy and innovation support, guiding Protected Areas to plan the best design of technologies to meet conservation goals, while catalysing private sector contributions and unlocking \$13 million (over ten years) in donations of transformative tech, from software and hardware to engineering, satellite data and cloud infrastructure, directly to the field.

We are proud to build a holistic, sustainable 'digital tech ecosystem' that helps our partners flourish in the use of technology to enhance conservation; from robust digital infrastructure and innovative technologies, to community engagement, capacity building, education and technical training. We are deeply grateful for the invaluable support from all our collaborators, partners and donors, whose contributions make this tech ecosystem and its impacts, detailed in this report, possible.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Challenges

The conservation challenges we seek to address:

Protected Area managers face significant challenges, including human-wildlife conflict, poaching and land-use changes, encroachment, community disputes and the impacts of unsustainable tourism. Through innovative and proven technologies, we help field teams manage these dynamics, to build resilient and effective Protected Areas, conserve species, boost ecosystem services for wildlife and communities and foster coexistence, peace and help maintain security across conservancies.

Our approach centres on addressing four critical issues:

1) Improved security and protection of threatened species from poaching and hunting

While millions depend on bushmeat for survival, poaching continues to pose a grave threat to wildlife and remains one of the leading causes of mammal extinction, alongside habitat loss. Globally, 301 land-dwelling mammal species are threatened with extinction due to poaching (representing 7% of all land mammals assessed by the IUCN¹), with rhinos among the hardest hit. Across Africa, Asia and South America, organised criminal networks exploit weak borders, political instability and limited enforcement to traffic wildlife and their parts². In Kenya's Tsavo ecosystem, Uganda's Kidepo Valley, and South Sudan's remote reserves, poaching, intertribal tensions and conflict continue to endanger elephants, lions and pangolins.

The loss of animals on this scale unravels vital ecosystems, threatening biodiversity, food security and even human health as closer contact with wildlife raises zoonotic disease risks. Conservation itself is becoming increasingly perilous-around 150 rangers die each year, many in clashes with poachers³. Meanwhile, further limited funding and fragmented cross-border cooperation hamper effective protection.

¹ Ripple W. J., Abernethy K., Betts M. G., Chapron G., Dirzo R., Galetti M., et al. (2016). Bushmeat hunting and extinction risk to the world's mammals. *R. Soc Open Sci*, 3(10), 160498. <https://doi.org/10.1098/rsos.160498>

² U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). (2025). Wildlife Trafficking: Why battling this illicit trade is crucial. Retrieved from <https://www.ice.gov/features/wildlife>

³ World Bank. (2020). Risking Lives to Protect Wildlife and Wildlands: Stories from Rangers in the Field. World Bank. Retrieved from <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/feature/2020/07/30/risking-lives-to-protect-wildlife-and-wildlands-stories-from-rangers-in-the-field>

2) Improving coexistence between human communities and humans and wildlife

Human-wildlife conflict (HWC) occurs when expanding human populations, agriculture, infrastructure and settlements encroach on natural habitats, intensifying competition for land, water and food. Crop-raiding elephants, livestock-predating lions and territorial hippos defending shrinking water sources are increasingly moving closer to human settlements, often resulting in retaliatory killings, human deaths, habitat destruction and even local extinctions. Rising HWC threatens livelihoods, deepens resentment and undermines conservation cooperation. For example, in the Bale Mountains of Ethiopia, home to half the world's critically endangered Ethiopian wolves, human encroachment, overgrazing and disease from domestic dogs are compounding pressures on the species, reducing them to less than 500 species.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Furthermore, the impacts of climate change, including more frequent droughts, shifting rainfall and intensifying wildfires, are transforming ecosystems faster than species can adapt. These changes, combined with poaching and land-use pressures, disrupt migration routes, breeding patterns and food availability, further endangering vulnerable populations. Even renowned landscapes like Kenya's Maasai Mara face growing threats from overtourism, poaching, conflict and unregulated grazing, putting biodiversity and cultural heritage at risk.

3) Restoring healthy habitats and resilient ecosystems

Over 75% of Earth's soils are substantially degraded, affecting approximately 3.2 billion people and causing economic losses equivalent to one-tenth of global GDP⁴. Projections indicate this could rise to 90% by 2050 if current trends persist⁴. Critical ecosystems, including forests, grasslands, salt marshes, mangroves, seagrasses and freshwater bodies, are deteriorating rapidly, threatening vital services such as food security, clean water, climate regulation and air quality. Many species struggle to adapt to these changes, driving unprecedented extinction rates and destabilising ecological balance. In 2024 alone, several species were officially declared extinct, including the slender-billed curlew, Chiem whitefish, Captain Cook's bean snail and Thracian shad.

Habitat loss is also being accelerated by invasive plants, such as *Mikania micrantha* in Nepal's Chitwan-Parsa grasslands, which choke native vegetation critical for rhinos and elephants. Ecosystem connectivity is crucial for enabling species migration, maintaining genetic diversity and supporting ecological resilience, yet habitat fragmentation from human activity continues to disrupt these networks. For example, in Peru's Manu Biosphere Reserve, Andean bears face growing isolation as forests shrink due to human activity and climate patterns shift. These intertwined challenges illustrate the immense complexity of monitoring, conserving and restoring our planet's natural systems in the face of mounting pressures.

⁴ IPBES. (2024). Thematic Assessment Report on the Underlying Causes of Biodiversity Loss and the Determinants of Transformative Change and Options for Achieving the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity. O'Brien, K., Garibaldi, L., & Agrawal, A. (Eds.). IPBES Secretariat. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.11382215>

4) Developing technical capacity to sustain technologies

Rapid technology evolution has introduced powerful tools for ecosystem and wildlife monitoring, but the human capacity to manage and maintain them lags, leading to system failures and wasted resources. Without skilled personnel, the immense value of these tools and real-time data remains untapped, as essential on-site maintenance and connectivity support are limited, impeding data-driven conservation efforts. The conservation sector faces ongoing challenges in technology workforce development. There is no standardised Protected Area Technician career path, leading to inconsistent training, unclear job descriptions and dependence on untrained staff to manage complex systems. Technicians often work in isolation, maintaining sensors, monitoring systems and alerts without sufficient expertise or support. Comprehensive, conservation-focused training programs are scarce, resulting in a shortage of skilled personnel able to sustain technology in remote environments. These gaps limit the effective use of emerging tools, slow responses to threats, and reduce the impact of technology-driven conservation efforts.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Objectives, Strategies and Activities

We aim to help tackle these challenges through our three core programmes:

1. Wide-area on-the-ground sensor networks

With partners, we deploy landscape-scale network connectivity, along with sensing devices, radios and IT equipment, to support centralised park management. CCF and partners have developed a blueprint for donating robust, end-to-end IoT infrastructure, enabling on-the-ground sensor networks and seamless connectivity. These sensors track wildlife movements, threats, ranger operations, weather conditions, natural resources and livestock for grazing and carbon management. By integrating data from remote landscapes into a single system, we help provide real-time, 360° monitoring, management and protection, giving conservation teams an up-to-date, comprehensive view of the ecosystem.

2. Wide-area satellite monitoring

By integrating high-resolution imagery, artificial intelligence and in situ data, we are advancing a new frontier in Earth Observation-delivering greater precision and unlocking innovative applications. In partnership with the Airbus Foundation and field collaborators, we co-develop analytical methods that enhance the measurement of nature-related impacts. Satellite imagery has become indispensable for large-scale monitoring and ecosystem restoration, and our Satellites for Biodiversity grant programme supports field projects that promote human-wildlife coexistence, inform land-use planning, map wildlife corridors and strengthen community engagement in resource management and threat intelligence.

3. Capacity building and empowering communities

We aim to support partners who empower community stewards in data collection, collaborative planning and implementation. We encourage partners to share insights broadly with communities, bringing benefits such as resilient farming, effective town planning and peaceful coexistence. We provide local training to develop skills and build future conservation technology champions. We equip local education facilities alongside reserves with robust connectivity, supporting community environmental education and outreach.

Our latest Protected Area Technician (PAT) program aims to:

- Build global capacity through accredited training, empowering a new generation of technology champions to drive sustainable, tech-enabled conservation in Protected Areas.
- Create career pathways by opening doors for local talent from neighbouring communities to step into impactful roles in conservation technology.
- Professionalise the field by formalising the role of the Protected Area Technician, attracting fresh talent into this vital and evolving career.

4. Catalysing investment and private sector contributions

Recognised by the United Nations as “a global leader connecting developing countries with private-sector technology,” we unlock access to proven digital tools that protect nature. In our first decade, we’ve catalysed over \$13 million in transformative technology donations, including software, hardware, engineering, satellite data and cloud infrastructure, directly to the field. These investments enhance conservation outcomes for both ecosystems and local communities and attract additional match-funding from governments and philanthropic organisations. Simultaneously, we help corporate partners focus their technology and capabilities for large-scale conservation impact.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

CCF's main activities against these core programmes achieved within the period include:

1. Catalysing investment and private sector contribution
2. Balance migration, wildlife and tourism in the Mara-Serengeti ecosystem, Kenya
3. Install IoT sensor networks for advanced wildlife tracking and rhino rehabilitation in Tsavo, Kenya
4. Support connected corridors: safeguarding wildlife across Uganda and Kenya
5. Help expand LoRaWAN network and strengthen tower for coexistence and wildlife protection in Amboseli
6. Implementation of LoRaWAN connectivity in Lapalala, South Africa for enhanced protected area management and operations
7. Provide funding, VHR imagery, AI mentorship and technical support from CCF to Round 2 grantees of our Satellites for Biodiversity Award scheme, including:
 - Enabling community coexistence for critically endangered Ethiopian Wolves
 - AI-Powered habitat mapping in South Sudan's reserves
 - Map Andean Bear habitats to support coexistence in Manu, Peru
 - Sustain rhino habitats through satellite mapping and invasive species management in Nepal
 - Invasive species mapping in Loisaba Conservancy, Kenya
8. WiFi Connectivity for Lapalala Wilderness School, to provide secure, reliable internet for community groups, South Africa
9. Develop and launch our Protected Area Technician (PAT) Training Program to develop technology champions for sustainability
10. Provide technology assessment and strategy input to Zinave National Park
11. Support the design of Kenya's Nationwide LoRaWAN Conservation Network
12. Sustain existing CCF-supported technology solutions in partner sites
13. Innovate: Unlock and test HD15 satellite imagery and influence conservation through smarter sensor use
14. Knowledge sharing for collective success
15. Grow our global awareness through the media
16. Drive change: expand our global team

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

For this reporting period the main activities undertaken include:

1. Catalyse investment and private sector contributions for conservation

Connected Conservation celebrates ten years of impact. Over the past decade, our partnerships have grown into a powerful force for protecting endangered species and ecosystems through technology. Together with partners including Cisco, Actility, Axis and the Airbus Foundation, we are helping countries, conservation teams and Protected Areas advance toward the global 30x30 goal. By combining innovative tools with local expertise, we make conservation actions smarter and sustainable-delivering measurable impact from the field to national and global levels.

In 2024-2025, CCF facilitated technology-focused donations worth \$1,000,000, including equipment, engineering, data and services, delivered directly to the field. We work with technology partners and local teams to assess needs, scope solutions and provide implementation support and long-term technical assistance. After securing donations, CCF helps catalyse additional funding, filling gaps and expanding project impact. Our work involves developing strategies for donor engagement, communication, marketing, reporting, fundraising, and operations to secure and sustain these partnerships.

The Birdies4Rhinos (B4R) partnership continues to thrive. This team of international golfers raises vital funds and awareness for CCF with every birdie. In July 2024, B4R and Hype Sports Management hosted a Pro-Am at the London Golf Club, generating crucial support. Louis Albertse topped the leaderboard, claiming the rhino sculpture trophy. Later, Chair Doc Watson welcomed ambassadors Louis Albertse, Rupert Kaminski, and Justin Walters to Sabi Sand Nature Reserve to see our high-tech conservation initiatives in action, helping rhinos and other wildlife thrive.

2. Balance migration, wildlife and tourism in the Mara-Serengeti ecosystem, Kenya

The Maasai Mara, part of the world-renowned Mara-Serengeti Ecosystem, is home to the Great Migration, where over two million wildebeest, zebras and gazelles traverse its plains annually. Yet the ecosystem faces mounting pressures from rapid tourism, unregulated grazing, poaching and climate stress. More than 300,000 visitors and over 100 safari vehicles converge on key areas, disrupting wildlife, fragmenting habitats and threatening local livelihoods.

To address this, the Safari Collection Footprint Trust, in partnership with Narok County Government and supported by Cisco, Actility and the Connected Conservation Foundation, launched a 195,000-hectare LoRaWAN network. Sensors track wildlife, rangers and vehicles; 27 endangered black rhinos are GPS-tagged, with capacity for 150+ trackers. In 2024, the Maasai Mara Conservation Centre opened as a digital hub, using this real-time data to guide ranger deployment, manage visitors and strengthen sustainable conservation.

3. Install IoT sensor networks for advanced wildlife tracking and rhino rehabilitation in Tsavo, Kenya

Spanning over 500,000 hectares of savannah and rugged hills, Tsavo is one of Africa's largest national parks, home to elephants, lions and more than 500 bird species. Once a black rhino stronghold, Tsavo's population fell to just 350 by 1983 due to poaching. Today, the Sheldrick Wildlife Trust (SWT) and Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) are rebuilding rhino populations using advanced technology and community-based conservation.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Supported by Cisco, Actility and CCF, Tsavo operates a LoRaWAN network enabling real-time wildlife tracking, security and ecological monitoring. In 2024, 1,783 rhino sightings were recorded, guiding targeted ranger interventions. LoRa horn transmitters installed in 2025 provide location and behavioural data, triggering alerts near park boundaries or unusual activity. Combined with mobile vet units, this data-driven system strengthens anti-poaching efforts and supports rhino recovery, protecting Kenya's rhinos for future generations.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

4. Support connected corridors: safeguarding wildlife across Uganda and Kenya

Kidepo Valley National Park, in northeastern Uganda bordering Kenya and South Sudan, is a rugged expanse of savannah and acacia woodlands, home to elephants, lions, giraffes, pangolins and countless birds. The park and surrounding communities face challenges including poaching, intertribal conflict, habitat degradation and rising human-wildlife tensions.

To build resilient ecosystems and promote coexistence, the Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA), with support from the Uganda Conservation Foundation (UCF), CCF, Actility and Cisco, is deploying a LoRaWAN IoT network across 144,200 hectares. CCF designed the network, delivered equipment and prepared infrastructure. Gateways and sensors will transmit wildlife, ranger and environmental data to UCF's operations room, integrating EarthRanger software for near real-time insights. The system improves patrol efficiency, threat detection and resource allocation, while future expansion will link multiple parks, supporting sustainable conservation and peaceful coexistence across East Africa.

5. Help expand LoRaWAN network and strengthen tower for coexistence and wildlife protection in Amboseli

For over 30 years, Big Life Foundation has partnered with Maasai communities to protect the Greater Amboseli Ecosystem. More than 390 rangers patrol 2 million acres, safeguarding wildlife and mitigating human-wildlife conflict. With support from Cisco and CCF, LoRaWAN gateways expand a digital network connecting sensors for animal tracking, environmental monitoring and operational efficiency. The system supports monitoring of conflict-prone lions, elephants near crop fences and community livestock, enabling rapid response, data-driven conservation, and smarter patrols. In the Chyulu Hills, critically endangered Eastern black rhinos are monitored with camera traps, with LoRa technology poised to track movements and support future reintroductions, strengthening Amboseli's landscapes, wildlife protection and coexistence with local communities.

6. Enhance protected area management through LoRaWAN connectivity in Lapalala, South Africa

Lapalala Wilderness Nature Reserve, in Limpopo Province within the UNESCO Waterberg Biosphere, is a leading private conservation area. Established in the 1980s, it pioneered black and white rhino reintroductions and now protects cheetahs, sable antelopes, African wild dogs and pangolins. Managing such a vast, rugged landscape requires real-time data for wildlife protection and resource management.

To address this, the Lapalala Wilderness Foundation, with CCF, Cisco and Actility, deployed a robust IoT network across 48,000 hectares, with a 7,000-hectare expansion planned. Over 70 long-range sensors transmit near real-time data for wildlife tracking, patrol and fence monitoring, environmental oversight and operational efficiency. CCF handled network design, equipment delivery and staff training. Cisco gateways and sensors link the field to Lapalala's operations centre, integrating data into a single system that enhances decision-making, ranger efficiency, and rapid response to emerging threats.

7. Provide funding, VHR imagery, AI mentorship and technical support from CCF to Round 2 grantees of our Satellites for Biodiversity Award scheme, including:

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Our partnership with the Airbus Foundation continues to confront the extinction crisis. Building on the success of the Satellites for Biodiversity grant award, CCF and the Airbus Foundation launched Round 2 to further harness Airbus Defence and Space satellite imagery to empower conservation teams with unprecedented detail to monitor ecosystem health, detect deforestation, track illegal activities and monitor wildlife populations in hard-to-reach areas. Applications for Round 2 more than doubled, with submissions from 37 countries covering both marine and terrestrial projects. Common themes included mapping invasive species, assessing species populations, identifying drivers of habitat loss, and monitoring ecosystem extent and connectivity.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

We have been supporting our grantees with one-to-one assistance in tasking, capturing, downloading, analysing and extracting insights from high-resolution satellite imagery across the following projects:

Enabling Community Coexistence for Critically Endangered Ethiopian Wolves

Bale Mountains National Park (BMNP) is a critical refuge for the world's fewer than 500 Ethiopian wolves and numerous endemic species found nowhere else on Earth. The ecosystem faces growing threats, including overgrazing, expanding farmland and settlements, road fatalities, firewood extraction and disease transmission from domestic dogs. Chulalongkorn University and the Ethiopian Biodiversity Institute, supported by the Airbus Foundation and CCF, deployed AI-driven mapping and high-resolution satellite imagery across 303,500 hectares to monitor habitat loss, wolf populations and revealed a dramatic increase in human settlements between 2019-2024. Following these findings, UNESCO assessed settlement expansion, leading to the relocation of people inside the park. Community engagement reached 200 residents through workshops and education initiatives, promoting coexistence. By combining AI, satellite data and local participation, the project strengthened conservation policy, guided government action, and safeguarded this fragile high-altitude ecosystem.

AI-Powered habitat mapping in South Sudan's reserves

Bangangai and Bire Kpatuos Game Reserves in South Sudan protect rare forests and grasslands that sustain endangered chimpanzees, elephants, pangolins and bongo. Despite political instability and poaching threats, the reserves have been safeguarded for over a decade, though monitoring remote terrain remains challenging. Fauna & Flora, with local communities and support from the Airbus Foundation and CCF, used AI analysis of high-resolution satellite imagery to map 199,600 hectares. Over 3,000 ground-reference points trained deep learning models to classify more than 1 billion pixels, producing detailed landcover maps. These maps reveal intact forests, wetlands, and emerging pressures which now guide patrols, habitat protection and community-led conservation efforts to prevent encroachment and safeguard critical habitats.

Map Andean Bear habitats to support coexistence in Manu, Peru

One of South America's most iconic species, the Andean bear, roams alongside pumas and dwarf deer in Peru's Manu Biosphere Reserve. Fewer than 20,000 of these bears remain in the wild, and their habitat faces mounting threats from fragmentation, illegal poaching and climate change. Conservación Amazónica, supported by CCF and the Airbus Foundation, is combining satellite imagery, machine learning, wildlife tracking and local community insights to map 110,100 hectares of Andean bear habitat. Camera collars on wild bears are also providing additional data on movement, behaviour and interactions, revealing new insights into their surprisingly complex social dynamics. The project strives to identify critical habitat and climate corridors to inform strategies to reduce human-wildlife conflict. Community engagement is central, with education programs and training for conservation ambassadors, to support residents in participating in monitoring, protection and policy advocacy for protected corridors.

Sustain rhino habitats through satellite mapping and invasive species management in Nepal

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Nepal's Chitwan-Parsa grasslands are a biodiversity hotspot, supporting one-horned rhinos, tigers, elephants and the livelihoods of 350,000 people. This vital ecosystem faces ongoing threats from agriculture, poaching and invasive species, particularly the fast-spreading plant *Mikania micrantha*, which degrades grassland health and threatens key species like the endangered rhino. The Zoological Society of London (ZSL), supported by the Airbus Foundation and CCF, combined 30 cm Pléiades Neo satellite imagery with field surveys and machine learning to map *Mikania* distribution across 158,700 hectares of Chitwan-Parsa. The analysis revealed patterns of invasion and the effectiveness of different management strategies. These insights will inform cost-effective, evidence-based grassland management strategies and will support a Rhino Habitat Policy Brief to guide national park management and rhino protection.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Invasive species mapping in Loisaba Conservancy, Kenya

Loisaba Conservancy, covering 58,000 acres in northern Kenya, is home to elephants, lions and rare birds. The ecosystem faces growing threats from the invasive *Opuntia engelmannii* (Texas prickly-pear), which outcompetes native flora and reduces forage for wildlife and livestock. In partnership with CCF and supported by the Airbus Foundation, Loisaba used high-resolution satellite imagery, AI analysis and field validation to map *Opuntia* across 25,000 hectares. Targeted removal between 2021 and 2025 reduced *Opuntia* cover by 74%, allowing native vegetation to recover. Combining satellite data with ground observations, the team developed a cost-effective, evidence-based management approach. Community engagement through workshops and technical meetings shared lessons to guide ongoing removal, restoration, and rangeland resilience.

8. WiFi Connectivity for Lapalala Wilderness School, to provide secure, reliable internet for community groups, South Africa

Lapalala Wilderness School, in South Africa's Waterberg Biosphere, offers immersive environmental education to over 3,000 learners annually, from local villages to international universities, and partners with 400+ schools to connect conservation learning with communities. To expand outreach, Lapalala, with support from CCF and Cisco, deployed a campus-wide Wi-Fi network using Cisco Meraki, providing secure, reliable internet for students, teachers and community groups. The system enables interactive learning, online resources and real-time collaboration. This scalable infrastructure strengthens teacher development, supports innovative conservation curricula and extends learning to remote areas. Students now combine field-based education with digital tools, deepening understanding of ecology, biodiversity and conservation careers while promoting long-term environmental education impact.

9. Develop and launch our Protected Area Technician (PAT) Training Program to support technology champions for sustainability

Conservation technology is creating new career opportunities for people living in and around Protected Areas. As data-driven systems become central to modern conservation, skilled technicians play a crucial role in maintaining the infrastructure and devices that safeguards wildlife and supports community stability. To meet this need, CCF has launched the Protected Area Technician (PAT) Training Program. This free online program encompasses ten video courses with three certification levels, designed to equip digital guardians with the expertise to manage anti-poaching sensors, real-time monitoring systems and automated alerts. In the first four weeks, the program received over 200 registrations, reflecting strong demand for tech-based conservation careers.

Course content has been developed with seven industry-led experts: Cisco Networking Academy, The Open University, EarthRanger (AI²), African Parks, Sabi Sand Nature Reserve and Wild Insight Lab. Modules cover networking, cybersecurity, IoT deployment, digital infrastructure and data management - combining technical skills with practical conservation applications.

The PAT Program is designed to build global capacity, create career pathways for local talent and professionalise the role of Protected Area Technicians. To bring this training into practice, A PAT Scholarship Program allows the top 20 participants to gain funded, hands-on field experience at CCF partner Protected Areas, building global capacity and professionalising digital guardians for lasting conservation impact.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

10. Provide technology assessment and strategy input to Zinave National Park

Zinave National Park, part of Mozambique's Great Limpopo Transfrontier Conservation Area, is a leading example of ecological restoration. Since 2016, more than 2,550 animals from 16 species have been reintroduced, including black and white rhinos in 2022, making Zinave the country's first Big Five park. The natural return of lions now signals a recovering ecosystem. In 2025, Peace Parks Foundation invited CCF to assess and enhance Zinave's digital infrastructure in preparation for rhino monitoring and LoRaWAN Rhino Pods. CCF's field team evaluated communications towers, sensors and monitoring systems, identifying improvements to tracking, connectivity and network reliability. The resulting strategy strengthens Zinave's capacity for real-time monitoring and proactive wildlife protection.

11. Support the design of Kenya's Nationwide LoRaWAN Conservation Network

CCF is collaborating with the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) to advance conservation technology through a nationwide LoRaWAN network. Building on Kenya's commitment to innovation in wildlife protection, CCF's technical team assessed national requirements and produced data flow diagrams and architectural blueprints to guide large-scale digital expansion. The resulting framework underpins future governance and coordination of LoRaWAN and related systems across protected areas. Today, CCF's LoRaWAN infrastructure already covers approximately 17% of Kenya's national parks. Supported by detailed technical documentation, the initiative addresses critical considerations such as policy and governance, data security for sensitive species, sovereign data management and the development of a diverse service provider ecosystem-laying the groundwork for a connected, technology-driven future in wildlife conservation.

12. Sustain existing CCF-supported technology solutions in partner sites

CCF engineers and partners support conservation sites by maintaining and managing deployed technology across eighteen countries, ensuring lasting impact for wildlife and communities. This includes system upgrades, local capacity building for self-management and tailored mentorship through regular support meetings. Teams assist reserves with planning, servicing, and decision-making to keep systems fully operational. They also provide prompt replacement of damaged or faulty equipment, such as from lightning or flooding, maintaining operational integrity. Beyond hardware, CCF supplies software, licenses, and data resources tailored to partner needs, while fostering knowledge exchange and best-practice sharing. By sustaining technology solutions, CCF strengthens the reliability and effectiveness of conservation and community initiatives worldwide.

13: Innovate: Unlock and test HD15 satellite imagery and influence conservation through smarter sensor use

Protecting wildlife and ecosystems requires collaboration and diverse expertise. CCF brings together cross-sector partners and emerging technologies to accelerate innovation in conservation.

Innovative conservation through smarter sensor use

With thousands of operational, asset and wildlife-tracking sensors available, selecting the right technology is critical for conservation success. To simplify this, CCF is partnering with leading organisations to field-test a range of IoT devices-from vibration sensors detecting fence breaches to LoRa-enabled rhino and predator trackers. Insights from these trials inform an AI- and large language model-powered LoRaWAN Assistant, designed to help conservationists choose the most effective sensors for their needs. Shaped by real-world feedback, the tool shares field reviews and performance data to drive continuous improvement. Launched in November 2025, CCF has invited teams to contribute reviews and engage with the platform for smarter, data-driven sensor selection.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Unlock and test HD15 satellite imagery

Building on the success of the Satellites for Biodiversity Award, CCF and the Airbus Foundation are launching Rounds 3 and 4, granting winners access to Airbus's HD15 satellite imagery. This next-generation data leverages AI and machine learning to enhance 30 cm Pléiades Neo imagery, revealing fine-scale terrain details, subtle habitat changes and environmental dynamics previously undetectable. By integrating HD15 imagery into their workflows, conservation teams can better assess habitat quality, track restoration progress, and respond to emerging ecological threats with greater precision. These capabilities enable grantees to translate advanced satellite data into actionable insights, strengthening monitoring and management and delivering measurable, on-the-ground conservation impact.

14. Knowledge sharing for collective success

We help shape the future of conservation technology by bridging the private and public sectors, fostering collaboration and sharing insights on a global stage. Some of the key events we've enjoyed presenting or facilitating in the last financial year include:

June 2024, Cisco Live, Las Vegas

Our Executive Director, Sophie Maxwell, showcased how sustained collaboration has advanced species conservation, ecosystem restoration and community empowerment, to a large-scale and diverse tech audience. She underscored the power of long-term corporate support to drive lasting environmental impact through steadfast investment, innovation and shared vision.

December 2025, EarthRanger user workshop, Kenya

Our Technical Director, Swabir Abdulrehman, attended a dynamic workshop hosted by EarthRanger in Kenya, bringing together conservation technology experts to share knowledge, collaborate and explore practical solutions to improve the impact of EarthRanger's tools in the field.

February 2025, Cisco Global Awards, Amsterdam

CCF was honoured to be shortlisted in the top five of 60 for the Cisco Sustainability Changemaker Award. Standing alongside some of the world's leading innovators in technology and sustainability was truly inspiring. Our nomination recognised the impactful application of technology for the protection and management of biodiversity and natural ecosystems on a global scale.

March 2025, STWG: Space Education and Space for Good, London

Sophie joined industry leaders at WCIT Hall, London, for a panel discussion on leveraging the integration of Artificial Intelligence high resolution satellite technology and in situ data to protect wildlife and ecosystems.

15. Grow our global awareness of CCF through the media

Showcasing the work of our partners remains central to CCF's storytelling, highlighting how we contribute to meaningful conservation outcomes. We focus on content that amplifies local voices, captures community energy and shares both challenges and successes, ensuring that collaborative impacts are authentically represented.

This year, we strengthened relationships with communications teams from partners including Cisco (a 10-year anniversary celebration of impact), Actility, the Airbus Foundation, the Safari Collection Footprint Trust, LoRa Alliance and our Satellites for Biodiversity Award grantees. Collaborations included joint press releases, content for partner impact reports, webinars, board meetings, presentations and conferences.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

We continued to amplify partner and joint successes in IoT, capacity building and satellite monitoring through coverage across major media outlets such as IUCN, Mongabay, Tech UK, Space.com, Connecting Africa, Sustainability Magazine, Tech Smart, Ai Invest, and Morning Star, and reached new audiences via Tech Talks Daily Podcast, BBC World - Business Daily, Gadget Magazine and Yahoo News.

Highlights included partnering with Media Planet on the Protecting Our Wildlife campaign, showcasing how CCF equips frontline teams with technology to support the UN's 30x30 conservation goals, and featuring on CNN's Inside Africa with NRT, Kenya Wildlife Service, EarthRanger and Lewa Wildlife Conservancy, highlighting high-bandwidth connectivity, LoRaWAN networks and Pan-Tilt-Zoom cameras at six Sera Conservancy watering holes, enhancing wildlife monitoring, anti-poaching efforts, and community-led conservation.

Our social media presence continues to grow, with LinkedIn as our most engaged platform, now exceeding 3,500 followers. Instagram grew in followers by 17%, and in response to sector migration, we launched a new account on Blue Sky to expand our digital reach. Our website has also been lively with over 98,000 impressions over the last financial year and users staying on the website for longer, on average, viewing 1.2 more pages than last year.

16. Drive change: expand our global team

We're thrilled to welcome three new members to our international team: Quin Clarke, Technical Project Manager; Laura Hoad, Project Manager; and Carien Soldatos, Project Manager.

Quin is leading the rollout of technologies in the field, helping partners build practical, tech-based conservation solutions while staying on top of emerging innovations. Laura is driving the design and delivery of our Protected Area Technology (PAT) training programme and leading impact monitoring to measure the long-term value of technology in conservation. Carien is coordinating partnerships for the PAT programme and supporting Satellites for Biodiversity grantees, ensuring tailored guidance so each project can thrive.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

How do these activities relate to our longer-term aims and objectives?

On the road to protecting 30% of the planet by 2030, the next decade will bring deeper digital transformation to conservation, embedding technology into the core of strategy, financing, monitoring and governance. This shift will drive nature-positive change across Protected Areas, national governments and business sectors.

CCF is committed to inclusive technology that supports well-connected, effective Protected Areas, helping countries achieve the global goal of safeguarding 30% of their lands by 2030. In 2025, CCF supported Protected Areas and national governments with technology audits to map clear pathways for adopting digital tools, laying the foundations to harness new capabilities and innovations in the years ahead. By 2035, CCF aims to donate \$20 million in technology, protect over 50 threatened species, support 20 governments with biodiversity technology strategies, strengthen more than 100 Protected Areas, certify 2,000 Protected Area Technicians, and engage 40 communities through connected education centres. Together, these efforts will transform conservation outcomes, safeguarding ecosystems, species and livelihoods for generations to come.

Significant steps achieved this decade to realise our longer-term aims include:

- \$13 million of donated technologies - from software and hardware to satellite data and cloud infrastructure - to multiply capacity and impact in addressing environmental challenges.
- With 32 leading partners, ranging from private sector companies to NGOs and Protected Areas, we've secured, designed and implemented cutting-edge conservation technologies. By testing, proving and scaling what works, we've boosted efforts to protect 40+ threatened species and their habitats.
- A total of 3.1 million hectares have been captured by Airbus' high-resolution satellite imagery and are being coupled with AI and in situ data to advance powerful monitoring methods that help protect ecosystems for people and the planet, supporting 18 initiatives across 14 countries.
- We've deployed and donated IoT infrastructure, connectivity infrastructure across 41 sites, with partners refining a validated technology blueprint for conservation, helping strengthen protected area management.
- In Kenya, we're working to help design and scale LoRaWAN for conservation nationwide. In 2024, 17% of Kenya's National Parks were covered by CCF's LoRaWAN infrastructure, including the Northern Rangelands Trust conservancies, Tsavo, the Mara, and more. In 2025, new sites and networks will be added.
- Gained recognition from Cisco as a shortlist in the top five of 60 for their Sustainability Changemaker Award for our impactful application of technology for the protection and management of biodiversity and natural ecosystems on a global scale.

Public benefit

The above activities have been undertaken to help preserve our planet's rich biodiversity and natural resources. The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Achievements and performance

Our decade of innovation, partnerships and impact in conservation technology has transformed how we protect species and ecosystems. Since its launch in 2015 with founding partners Cisco and Dimension Data, CCF has pioneered a blueprint for installing and maintaining early-warning systems and digital infrastructure that help safeguard wildlife, connect communities and protect landscapes.

We support governments, conservationists and communities to safeguard over 40 threatened species and advance towards the global goal of protecting 30% of land and sea by 2030. From Kenya to South Africa, we sustain technologies that help stop poaching, mitigate human-wildlife conflict, monitor habitat loss and empower community education and natural resource management.

Achievements summarised in stats for this period only:

- \$1.3 million in combined equipment and funding donated from four partners supporting the roll-out of conservation technologies.
- 40 threatened species better protected and managed with conservation technology: including critically endangered black and white rhinos, one-horned rhino, African and Asian elephants, Ethiopian wolf, giant and ground pangolins, Matschie's tree kangaroos, chimpanzees, leopards, lions, hippos, cheetahs, wild dogs, hirola, brown hyenas, and bird species such as the southern ground hornbill, hooded vulture, and Rüppell's griffon vulture.
- 1.1 million new hectares across five new Protected Areas, now with enhanced IoT management and security, adding to the world's largest LoRaWAN Biodiversity Network, across Uganda, Kenya and South Africa.
- 2.9 million hectares monitored with high-resolution satellite imagery, across six projects in countries Nepal, South Africa, Kenya, Peru, Ethiopia and South Sudan.
- Two environmental education campuses now connected in South Africa and Uganda, helping bring reliable digital infrastructure, strengthen education, training and community outreach efforts.
- 27 Eastern black rhinos are now tracked via a new LoRaWAN network in the Maasai Mara National Reserve, transmitting data to central operations and ranger protection teams.
- Over 200 learners registered in the first month of our online Protected Area Technician (PAT) Training Program and are already earning certification to help with employment and career development.

Review of charitable activities undertaken

CCF has significantly expanded its technology support and equipment across multiple protected areas, strengthening the management of intact ecosystems, safeguarding threatened species and promoting sustainable natural resource use while enhancing local livelihoods. The team has grown to include three part-time staff based across Kenya and South Africa. Accounts for our South African entity follow South African Charitable Governance procedures and are reported separately and are not included in this review.

Review of principle activities

In delivering the activities outlined in 'Objectives, strategies and activities,' CCF has fostered and developed deeper relationships with partners, enabling us to achieve shared conservation targets. We have established a reputation in the conservation technology sector for collaboration, technical expertise and reliability, earning recognition as a trusted and supportive partner. This growing credibility is reflected in the increasing number of invitations to present our innovative work at global conservation conferences, as highlighted in section 12, 'Share knowledge for collective success.' The value of our contribution is further demonstrated by the rising demand for our support in 2025, extending to additional Protected Areas and regions and their governments, including Uganda.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Fundraising performance achieved against fundraising activities set

During this accounting period, CCF has successfully secured new partnerships and donors in line with our fundraising strategy within South Africa, supporting the roadmap of planned activities. This funding has not come to the UK Charity but been channeled through CCF's separate South African entity. We have also established a promising new relationship with Axis.

Investment performance achieved against investment activities set

No investments have been made in this accounting period and no material financial investments are held.

Factors relevant to achievement of objectives

Adequate funds have been raised to bridge this period of partnership changes, cover core costs and carry out all planned activities. Some reserves have been used to support planned activities, fundraising and strategy work, ensuring no compromises to ongoing project roadmaps and impacts.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Financial review

In our fourth year of operation as a UK charitable entity, total income amounted to £81,343, derived from corporate partnerships and individual donations. Our expenditure for the year was £151,881. Although monetary grants to conservation partners were reduced, CCF facilitated significant in-kind donations, including valuable equipment, data and cloud services, amounting to £760,000. Of our expenditure, £105,110 was allocated to core staffing costs providing design, management, implementation and technical support for donated technologies to field projects, while £23,975 was allocated through monetary grants to the field. Additional expenses covered IT running costs and the further purchases of non-donated technologies.

Policy on reserves

The charity has no formal reserves policy. Reserves held by the charity are monitored and regularly reviewed by the trustees to ensure that the level of reserves held will sufficiently cover expected levels of future expenditure.

On 31 March 2025 the charity holds total funds of £84,975. All of these funds are unrestricted, and therefore total free reserves for the charity are £84,975.

Principal funding sources

Our work is made possible thanks to the generosity and commitment of our incredible partners. We extend our heartfelt thanks to the following collaborators and donors for their invaluable contributions to our mission:

Funding

- Birdies4Rhinos
- Airbus Foundation
- Axis Communications Ltd

Facilitated equipment donations to protected areas

- Cisco System PLC
- Actility
- NTT Data Ltd
- Airbus Foundation
- Esri

Collaborators: African Parks, The Open University, The Safari Collection Footprint Trust, Uganda Conservation Foundation, Sheldrick Wildlife Trust, Lapalala Wilderness, EarthRanger, 51 Degrees, Kenya Wildlife Service, Madikwe Futures Company, Narok County Government, Peace Parks Foundation, Sabi Sand Nature Reserve, Asian Institute of Technology, EHRA, Chulalongkorn University, Ethiopian Biodiversity Institute, Conservation Amazonica, Fauna and Flora, Langland Conservation, Loisaba Conservancy, LoRa Alliance, Mara Elephant Project, WildInsight Labs, Tree Kangaroo Conservation Program and ZSL.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Plans for future periods

Aims and key objectives for future periods

In the upcoming accounting period, the Connected Conservation Foundation will continue empowering environmental professionals with advanced tools to protect and manage endangered species and vital ecosystems in key biodiversity hotspots.

Specific objectives induce:

Program 1: Wide Area Satellite Monitoring

1.1 Expanding monitoring and management of species and their habitats using high-resolution satellite imagery

Building on the success of earlier rounds, CCF and the Airbus Foundation have launched Round 3 of the Satellites for Biodiversity Award, expanding support for conservationists harnessing space technology to address the planet's most pressing environmental challenges.

Three winning projects and three runners-up will gain access to state-of-the-art optical satellite imagery at 30 cm, 50 cm, and-for the first time-an exceptional 15 cm resolution, providing unprecedented detail and insight into the landscapes and ecosystems that shape wildlife populations worldwide. Each winner will also receive \$6,000 in funding, on-demand access to Airbus' extensive Archive Library, complimentary ESRI software and ongoing mentorship and technical support from CCF and Airbus geospatial experts. CCF will also continue to support Round 2 Award winners, supporting them with analysis, methodology and reporting to ensure lasting impact and shared learning across all projects.

Program 2: Wide Area Sensor Networks

2.1 Expanding and standardising a conservation IoT network

Building on our partnership with the Uganda Conservation Foundation (UCF) and the Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA) in Kidepo Valley, CCF is extending its digital conservation work across Uganda. Smart IoT networks will be deployed in Murchison Falls and Queen Elizabeth National Parks. This integrated digital infrastructure will enhance real-time situational awareness, improve coordination and strengthen data-driven decision-making across protected areas.

2.2 Digital infrastructure for training and community outreach

Wifi connectivity will be significantly improved at the UWA Community Education and Ranger Training Academy in Lugaya. This upgrade will enhance environmental education and outreach for local communities, while supporting the training of over 500 new rangers, helping to build long-term capacity for wildlife protection and community engagement.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

2.3 Securing Mpilo: Smart networks for security and conservation

CCF is supporting the deployment of advanced conservation technology at Mpilo Game Reserve in KwaZulu-Natal, a Black Rhino Range Expansion Project (BRREP) site in South Africa. In Phase 1, a LoRaWAN network and AI-enabled camera traps will be installed to provide real-time detection of fence breaches, vehicle movements and security incidents, strengthening protection for high-value wildlife. Future phases will expand the system to track endangered species such as black rhinos and African wild dogs, while monitoring broader environmental indicators. In partnership with Mpilo and Wildlife ACT, CCF is helping establish a scalable, cross-reserve digital infrastructure that integrates directly into daily conservation and security operations across the Mkuze Valley cluster.

Program 3: Capacity Building

3.1 Scholarship and In-field training for Protected Area Technicians (PAT)

CCF is addressing a critical challenge in conservation: the scarcity of sustainable technological support in remote environments. Through the Protected Area Technicians (PAT) training and scholarship programmes, we are building a skilled network of conservation technologists. Launched in September 2025, the PAT Programme offers fully funded, two-week field bootcamps in Kenya or South Africa for 20 participants, providing hands-on training in network deployment, environmental data management, digital tools and troubleshooting in operational Protected Areas. Top performers will receive two-month internships at field partner sites, gaining immersive experience and mentorship while contributing to real-world conservation efforts.

The 2026 PAT Scholarships are now open, offering training, certifications and industry connections to advance conservation careers. The CCF team is touring global conservation technology conferences and undertaking a marketing and outreach program to ensure we reach a diverse audience to encourage applications. Shortlisted candidates will be invited to a 30-minute interview, and internship finalists will complete a written exam following the in-field practical session.

Program 4: Technology Evaluation, Strategy and Innovation

4.1 New IoT assistant launch: Smarter sensor selection for conservation

CCF will launch the LoRaWAN Assistant, an AI-powered platform that helps conservation teams select the most suitable IoT sensors for their operations. From wildlife tracking and fence monitoring to environmental and infrastructure management, it delivers field-tested, tailored recommendations to simplify decision-making across thousands of sensor options. Using real-world data and large language models, the Assistant learns from the experiences of rangers, researchers and technicians at sites including Madikwe Game Reserve, Lapalala Wilderness and the Black Rhino Range Expansion Project. Its guidance is continuously refined to ensure reliability in harsh conditions, from extreme heat and dust to rain and remote locations. With 130 sensors reviewed and a goal of 200 by mid-2026, the platform supports data-driven conservation decisions, strengthens ecosystem monitoring, and safeguards wildlife. By connecting field teams and technology developers, it fosters a collaborative, innovation-led approach to modern conservation challenges.

4.2 New Ecosystem Insight Hub

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

To amplify the impact of the Satellites for Biodiversity initiative, CCF and the Airbus Foundation will launch the Ecosystem Insight Hub-a global platform for sharing techniques, analyses and lessons learned from completed award projects. By fostering collaboration across the conservation and Earth observation communities, the Hub aims to advance data-driven conservation and empower practitioners to replicate proven AI methods and scale up Earth observation tools for global impact.

Program 5: Catalysing Private Investment

CCF will continue to pursue strategic grants to support both existing and new conservation initiatives. We are committed to strengthening and deepening our partnerships, providing transparent donor reports, regular updates and staff presentations to demonstrate the real-world impact of every contribution.

We are actively engaging new fundraising partners, and expanding the involvement of existing partners to support sustainable tourism initiatives in the Maasai Mara, creating additional conservation and community benefits. Through these efforts, we aim to unlock new funding streams, foster long-term collaboration and channel private investment toward measurable conservation outcomes, ensuring technology, resources and expertise continue to drive impact where it is needed most.

Activities planned to achieve aims

To achieve the above CCF will:

- 1.1 Round 3: Design, coordinate and launch the third round of the Satellites for Biodiversity Award in partnership with the Airbus Foundation.
- 2.1 Expanding and standardising a conservation IoT network unlocking LoRa Gateway donations from Cisco to enable the Uganda Conservation Foundation (UCF) to deploy in Murchison Falls and Queen Elizabeth National Park
- 2.1 Digital infrastructure for training and community outreach: At the UWA Community Education and Ranger Training Academy in Lugaya
- 2.3 Securing Mpilo Game Reserve with new LoRaWAN network infrastructure from Cisco and Actility
- 3.1 Scholarship and In-field training for Protected Area Technicians (PAT)
- 4.1 New IoT assistant launch: AI-decision support tool that help practitioners choose the best IoT sensors for their need
- 4.2 New Ecosystem Insight Hub: showcase the project analysis, methods and learnings to the wider conservation community, highlighting innovative approaches and key insights
- 5: Catalysing Private Investment: Demonstrate impact through transparent donor reports, regular updates and engaging presentations

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Structure, governance and management

Nature of governing document

Connected Conservation Foundation is a charitable company (company number 11632911) limited by guarantee and a registered charity (charity number 1183328). Its governing document is its Articles of Association.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

Trustees were recruited based on their experience and expertise in the context of wildlife conservation and technology. Directors have also been chosen to represent the views of contributing partners. All Directors are willing to act as a director and have been nominated in writing by the founding member. They have been appointed by resolution of the Directors.

Induction and training of trustees

All trustees are kept up to date on the strategy and financial aims for the upcoming periods and this is agreed by all Directors. There have been no changes to the list of representatives on the Board of Directors.

Arrangements for setting key management personnel remuneration

Policies around setting remuneration, include an assessment of competitive pay for executive level staff in Foundations. The Foundation has set benchmarked salary bands to attract and retain appropriate personnel and ensure transparency and fairness in the use of charity resources. Payroll and associated benefits for newly recruited staff have been established with accounting firm Stewart & Co Accountants LLP.

Organisational structure

The Board of the Foundation is made up of 4 unpaid Trustees. Mr B Watson is the Executive Chairman and Founder of the Connected Conservation Foundation and will table decision-making with the Board of Directors. The following types of decisions are taken by the charity's Trustees and remaining decisions are delegated to staff.

Director decisions include:

- agreeing strategy;
- approving major commitments;
- financial review and approval;
- partnership engagement and due diligence;
- senior level recruitment;
- risk management and mitigation.

CCF's Executive Director reports into the Executive Chairman and provides inputs to the Board for informed decision-making. Foundation staff will report into the Executive Director and be responsible for day-to-day decision-making, to execute operations, project delivery, marketing and communications.

All other decisions are delegated to the staff.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Major risks and management of those risks

CCF has reworked the identification of risks within the risk register. We've reviewed these with specified members of the senior team and Trustees, to help track, manage and drive mitigation strategies. The designated risk owner reports on each risk, at required intervals, to all Trustees and Senior Leads.

The Trustees review the Charity's Risk Register annually at its AGM and consider the following:

Financial risk

All trustees are kept up to date on the strategy and financial aims for the upcoming periods and this is agreed by all Directors. There have been no changes to the list of representatives on the Board of Directors.

Political instability

During this period, there have been challenges in aligning donations with CCF's mission to ensure inclusive access for all in Kenya. CCF has partnered with the Kenya Wildlife Service to help ensure that local politics do not hinder efforts to distribute donated network technologies fairly, ethically, and responsibly so they benefit as many conservation practitioners as possible.

Matched technology donations from corporate partners

There is a risk that corporate partners will change their technology offerings to the foundation and the wider market. CCF is broadening its strategy to diversify by approaching new technology providers. CCF has worked hard to secure further future donations of Cisco technologies in 2025 and also in 2026. During the next period we understand that Cisco will discontinue their LoRaWan gateway business. In preparation for this change, coming in 2025, we are working to find new corporate partners who can donate new tools to conservation.

Working overseas with changing political frameworks

Unpredictable contexts in working overseas can impact our activities. There are several unpredictable political, social and economic situations in some countries we work in. This can impact technology and equipment donations from our corporate partners. CCF works closely with our corporate partners Cisco, Axis and Airbus Foundation to preempt any export control bans on equipment to certain countries. Ensuring that our supported projects foresee and overcome challenges in supply of donated equipment to their region. CCF has found work around solutions for these emerging scenarios and will continue to work closely to mitigate these risks in the future. The Board is confident that the appropriate steps have been taken to mitigate the potential impact of these risks occurring.

The Board is confident that the appropriate steps have been taken to mitigate the potential impact of these risks occurring.

Small companies provision statement

This report has been prepared in accordance with the small companies regime under the Companies Act 2006.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 18 November 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

 SIGNED SECURELY
09/12/2025 at 1:13:43 PM UTC

.....
Mr B Watson
Trustee

Connected Conservation Foundation

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of Connected Conservation Foundation for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards, comprising FRS 102 have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that can disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by the trustees of the charity on 18 November 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

 SIGNED SECURELY
09/12/2025 at 1:13:43 PM UTC

.....
Mr B Watson
Trustee

Connected Conservation Foundation

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Connected Conservation Foundation (‘the Company’)

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity’s trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (‘the 2006 Act’).

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity’s accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (‘the 2011 Act’). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner’s statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of Connected Conservation Foundation as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a ‘true and fair view’ which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

.....
Lucy Evans, FCA

Stewart & Co. Chartered Accountants
Knoll House
Knoll Road
Camberley
Surrey
GU15 3SY

18 November 2025

Connected Conservation Foundation

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2025 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Total 2025 £
Income and Endowments from:			
Donations and legacies	3	81,343	81,343
Total income		81,343	81,343
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities	6	(151,881)	(151,881)
Total expenditure		(151,881)	(151,881)
Net expenditure		(70,538)	(70,538)
Other recognised gains and losses			
Other gains/losses	7	(1,804)	(1,804)
Net movement in funds		(72,342)	(72,342)
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward		157,317	157,317
Total funds carried forward	14	84,975	84,975
		Unrestricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Income and Endowments from:			
Donations and legacies	3	66,782	66,782
Total income		66,782	66,782
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities	6	(135,486)	(135,486)
Total expenditure		(135,486)	(135,486)
Net expenditure		(68,704)	(68,704)
Other recognised gains and losses			
Other gains/losses		(4,169)	(4,169)
Net movement in funds		(72,873)	(72,873)
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward		230,190	230,190
Total funds carried forward	14	157,317	157,317

The notes on pages 34 to 42 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Connected Conservation Foundation

**Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2025
(Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and
Losses)**

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.
The funds breakdown for 2024 is shown in note 14.

The notes on pages 34 to 42 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Connected Conservation Foundation

(Registration number: 11632911)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Current assets			
Debtors	10	-	2,239
Cash at bank and in hand	11	92,471	170,826
		92,471	173,065
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	12	(7,496)	(15,748)
Net assets		84,975	157,317
Funds of the charity:			
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		84,975	157,317
Total funds	14	84,975	157,317

For the financial year ending 31 March 2025 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The financial statements on pages 31 to 42 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 18 November 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

SIGNED SECURELY

09/12/2025 at 1:13:43 PM UTC

.....
Mr B Watson
Trustee

The notes on pages 34 to 42 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

1 Charity status

The charity is limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

The address of its registered office is:

13 St Luke's Street
Chelsea
London
SW3 3RS

2 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102). They also comply with the Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011.

Basis of preparation

Connected Conservation Foundation meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

The financial statements are prepared in GBP, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

The trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of one year from the date of approval of the financial statements.

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Income and endowments

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of the income receivable can be measured reliably.

Donations and legacies

Donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance by the charity before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Support costs

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, for example, allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Trade debtors

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Trade creditors

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the charity does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Borrowings

Interest-bearing borrowings are initially recorded at fair value, net of transaction costs. Interest-bearing borrowings are subsequently carried at amortised cost, with the difference between the proceeds, net of transaction costs, and the amount due on redemption being recognised as a charge to the Statement of Financial Activities over the period of the relevant borrowing.

Interest expense is recognised on the basis of the effective interest method and is included in interest payable and similar charges.

Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless the charity has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least twelve months after the reporting date.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Foreign exchange

Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate of exchange at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at the balance sheet date are reported at the rates of exchange prevailing at that date.

The results of overseas operations are translated at the average rates of exchange during the period and their balance sheets at the rates ruling at the balance sheet date. Exchange differences arising on translation of the opening net assets and results of overseas operations are reported in other comprehensive income and accumulated in equity (attributed to non-controlling interests as appropriate).

Other exchange differences are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which they arise except for:

- 1) exchange differences on transactions entered into to hedge certain foreign currency risks (see above);
- 2) exchange differences arising on gains or losses on non-monetary items which are recognised in other comprehensive income; and
- 3) in the case of the consolidated financial statements, exchange differences on monetary items receivable from or payable to a foreign operation for which settlement is neither planned nor likely to occur (therefore forming part of the net investment in the foreign operation), which are recognised in other comprehensive income and reported under equity.

Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Financial instruments

Classification

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial liabilities and equity instruments are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the charity after deducting all of its liabilities.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Recognition and measurement

All financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs), except for those financial assets classified as at fair value through profit or loss, which are initially measured at fair value (which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs), unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction. If an arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, the financial asset or financial liability is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are only offset in the statement of financial position when, and only when there exists a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and the charity intends either to settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Financial assets are derecognised when and only when a) the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire or are settled, b) the charity transfers to another party substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset, or c) the charity, despite having retained some, but not all, significant risks and rewards of ownership, has transferred control of the asset to another party.

Financial liabilities are derecognised only when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expires.

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Donations and legacies;			
Donations from companies, trusts and similar proceeds	50,810	50,810	-
Donations from individuals	30,533	30,533	66,782
	<u>81,343</u>	<u>81,343</u>	<u>66,782</u>

None of the donations received in the previous year were restricted.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

4 Independent examiner's remuneration

	2025 £	2024 £
Examination of the financial statements	<u>2,640</u>	<u>2,520</u>

5 Analysis of governance and support costs

	Satellites for Biodiversity £	Technical Support for all Protected Areas £	Core £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Support Costs					
Bank charges	-	-	266	266	318
Computer and Website costs	1,210	1,694	1,937	4,841	7,546
Staff Costs	31,533	47,300	26,277	105,110	98,352
Legal & professional fees	-	-	593	593	1,319
Other expenses - Travel	3,474	6,949	3,474	13,897	3,944
Advertising	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>559</u>	<u>559</u>	<u>-</u>
	36,217	55,943	33,106	125,266	111,479
Governance costs					
Independent examiner fees					
Examination of the financial statements	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,640</u>	<u>2,640</u>	<u>2,520</u>
	<u>36,217</u>	<u>55,943</u>	<u>35,746</u>	<u>127,906</u>	<u>113,999</u>

6 Expenditure on charitable activities

Analysis by fund

	Note	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds £
Satellites for Biodiversity (Grants)		23,975	23,975
Allocated technical support costs	5	125,266	125,266
Governance costs	5	<u>2,640</u>	<u>2,640</u>
Total for 2025		<u>151,881</u>	<u>151,881</u>
Total for 2024		<u>135,486</u>	<u>135,486</u>

Connected Conservation Foundation

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

7 Other recognised gains/losses

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Foreign currency (gains)/losses	1,804	1,804	4,169
	<u>1,804</u>	<u>1,804</u>	<u>4,169</u>

8 Staff costs

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management / leadership team) employed by the charity during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

	2025 No	2024 No
Administrative	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>

The number of employees whose emoluments fell within the following bands was:

	2025 No	2024 No
£60,001 - £70,000	-	1
£70,001 - £80,000	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £105,110 (2024 - £98,352).

The chief executive officer, as the highest paid member of staff, received benefits totalling £79,167 (2024 - £68,961).

9 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any other benefits from the charity during the year.

10 Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Prepayments	<u>-</u>	<u>2,239</u>

Connected Conservation Foundation

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

11 Cash and cash equivalents

	2025 £	2024 £
Cash at bank	<u>92,471</u>	<u>170,826</u>

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade creditors	-	9,387
Other taxation and social security	3,132	3,081
Other creditors	1,724	760
Accruals	<u>2,640</u>	<u>2,520</u>
	<u>7,496</u>	<u>15,748</u>

13 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

14 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Other recognised gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2025 £
Unrestricted funds					
<i>General</i>					
General	<u>157,317</u>	<u>81,343</u>	<u>(151,881)</u>	<u>(1,804)</u>	<u>84,975</u>
	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Other recognised gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
Unrestricted funds					
<i>General</i>					
General	<u>230,190</u>	<u>66,782</u>	<u>(135,486)</u>	<u>(4,169)</u>	<u>157,317</u>

Connected Conservation Foundation

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

15 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds at 31 March 2025 £
Current assets	92,471	92,471
Current liabilities	<u>(7,496)</u>	<u>(7,496)</u>
Total net assets	<u><u>84,975</u></u>	<u><u>84,975</u></u>
	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds at 31 March 2024 £
Current assets	173,065	173,065
Current liabilities	<u>(15,748)</u>	<u>(15,748)</u>
Total net assets	<u><u>157,317</u></u>	<u><u>157,317</u></u>

16 Financial instruments

Categorisation of financial instruments

	2025 £	2024 £
Financial assets measured at amortised cost	<u>92,471</u>	<u>170,826</u>
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	<u><u>(3,000)</u></u>	<u><u>(2,880)</u></u>

Accounts

Company registration number: 11632911

Charity registration number: 1183328

Connected Conservation Foundation

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Stewart & Co Accountants LLP
Knoll House
Knoll Road
Camberley
Surrey
GU15 3SY

Connected Conservation Foundation

Contents

Trustees' Report	1 to 26
Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities	27
Independent Examiner's Report	28
Statement of Financial Activities	29
Balance Sheet	30
Notes to the Financial Statements	31 to 39

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees and officers

The trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Trustees:	Mr D D Ward Mr A L Rhodes Mr J E M Baillie Mr B Watson
Charity Registration Number:	1183328
Company Registration Number:	11632911
Registered Office:	13 St Luke's Street Chelsea London SW3 3RS
Independent Examiner:	Stewart & Co Accountants LLP Knoll House Knoll Road Camberley Surrey GU15 3SY

Objectives and activities

Objects of the charity

The charity's objects, as set out in its Articles of Association, are

- To promote, for the benefit of the public, the conservation, protection and improvement of wildlife, in particular but not exclusively through the development and application of innovative technology; and
- Such other purposes, determined by the trustees, at their sole discretion as are exclusively charitable under the laws of England and Wales.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Aims of the charity

Nature is under immense pressure. We are at a critical crossroads for our planet and humanity.

The WWF Living Planet Report 2024¹ reveals a staggering 73% decline in wildlife populations over the past 50 years. This alarming trend signals that our planet's biodiversity is under severe threat, with dire consequences for ecosystems and our survival. The report tracks nearly 35,000 population trends across 5,495 species, exposing a grim reality: our natural world is in crisis, and the systems essential for our health, livelihoods and global economies are rapidly unravelling.

Current national commitments and efforts fall far short of what's needed to meet global targets- such as halting and reversing biodiversity loss by 2030 under the Global Biodiversity Framework adopted in 2022, and limiting global temperature rise to 1.5°C as outlined in the Paris Agreement.

Achieving the Global Biodiversity Framework's target of protecting 30% of the planet's lands, waters, and seas by 2030 requires a dramatic expansion of effective protected areas. With only 16% of land and 8% of oceans currently safeguarded we must double terrestrial protected areas and quadruple marine. To fulfil this commitment, we must ramp up urgent restoration of degraded landscapes and increase effective protection of intact ecosystems.

Technology plays a vital role in strengthening protected areas, enhancing their effectiveness and supporting efforts to achieve and measure conservation targets. The Connected Conservation Foundation (CCF) is dedicated to supporting local partners in leveraging technology to scale up effective protected area management and empowering community-led conservation. CCF unites the capabilities of technology companies, donors and local conservationists, mobilising public and private sectors to transform conservation efforts and address the drivers of nature loss.

Today, we operate in 15 countries. We help design, secure and implement landscape-scale technology solutions that drive change. We partner with the private sector, conservationists and governments to support 29 protected areas with wide-area sensor networks, securing 5.6 million hectares of wilderness with digital infrastructure. Our wide-area satellite monitoring initiative supports 11 innovative projects spanning 961,000 hectares. We've also helped 19 remote parks harness reliable global connectivity at park headquarters, enabling data-driven conservation.

From Kenya to South Africa, we are sustaining technologies that help stop poaching, human-wildlife conflict and habitat loss, while empowering community education and natural resource management.

This work supports the restoration and protection of landscapes supporting over 100,000+ households, alongside 35+ threatened species and their habitats, including critically endangered black and white rhinos, African and Asian elephants, giant and ground pangolins, Matschie's tree kangaroos, chimpanzees, leopards, lions, hippos, cheetahs, wild dogs, hirola, brown hyenas, and bird species such as the southern ground hornbill, hooded vulture and Rüppell's griffon vulture.

But we strive to do more. By 2030, through technology and community engagement, we aspire to protect 20 million hectares of habitat, conserve over 50+ threatened species, and enhance the livelihoods of local people living in and around conservancies.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

CCF contributes to the following UN Sustainable Develop Goals:

4: Life on Land. We help local partners manage and protect an array of threatened species and habitats. Where technology gives an early warning of threats and issues to prevent wildlife deaths, habitat loss and promote a healthy coexistence between nature and local communities, so both can thrive.

13: Climate action. Strengthening resilient ecosystems, where technology helps stakeholders manage habitats and natural resources sustainability, particularly in climate-stressed areas. Where healthy vegetation and soil removes CO2 from our climate.

15: Quality education. Increasing training and opportunities for local people to grow their digital skills and technical capabilities.

16: Peace and Justice. Bringing peace and security to local communities and those at the forefront of nature protection, to keep them safe.

¹ WWF's Living Planet Report (2024)

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Our solutions

Since 2015, we've pioneered the implementation of early-warning systems to protect species and wild places. Today, our operation has grown to deliver large-scale, environmental monitoring and protection solutions for biodiversity, climate adaptation and ecosystem resilience.

We have grown many innovative partnerships with companies including Cisco, Dimension Data, Airbus Foundation, Axis and Actility to help enhance conservation efforts across Africa. Excitingly, we've also broadened our geographical impact to support new protected areas in both Africa and Asia, extending our earth observation efforts to partners in Thailand, Namibia, South Sudan and Papua New Guinea, alongside the establishment of a new charitable office and entity in South Africa.

At CCF, we tackle a wide range of technological needs, from delivering essential internet connectivity to central park operations education centers at conservation headquarters, to setting up landscape-wide communication networks that enable data-driven conservation efforts across vast, remote areas. Our work includes everything from helping monitor entire conservancies using high-resolution satellite imagery, to expanding education outreach to local communities. We also deploy cutting-edge, proactive solutions-such as ground sensors and cameras-to manage and mitigate environmental threats in real time.

CCF enables technologies to transform conservation operations across three critical areas:

1. **Early warning systems for mitigating conservation threats**, such as poaching, human wildlife conflict and climate events such as flooding and drought.
2. **Environmental monitoring** - to track changes in nature and manage ecosystem health. By understanding wildlife movement and assessing the availability of forage, water and other essential resources.
3. **Empowering local communities with data-driven insights** to support informed decision-making and foster coexistence. By providing indigenous communities with access to environmental data, wildlife movement patterns and human-wildlife conflict trends, we help improve town and agriculture planning and strengthen local land-use economies.

We are proud to build a holistic, sustainable 'digital tech ecosystem' that helps our partners flourish in the use of technology to enhance conservation; from robust digital infrastructure and innovative technologies, to community engagement, education and technical training.

We are deeply grateful for the invaluable support from all our collaborators, partners and donors, whose contributions make this tech ecosystem and its impacts, detailed in this report, possible.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Challenges

The conservation challenges we seek to address:

Protected area managers face significant challenges, including human-wildlife conflict, poaching, land-use changes, encroachment, community disputes and the impacts of tourism. Through innovative and proven technologies, we help field-teams manage these dynamics, to build resilient and effective protected areas, to conserve species, boost ecosystem services for wildlife and communities and foster coexistence, peace and security across conservancies.

Our approach centers on addressing four critical issues:

1) Improved security and protection of threatened species from poaching and hunting

While millions depend on bushmeat for survival, poaching poses a serious threat to wildlife and is one of the leading causes of mammal extinctions, alongside habitat loss. Right now, 301 land-dwelling mammal species are at risk of vanishing due to poaching, with rhinos among the hardest hit. In 2023, South Africa lost 499 rhinos to poaching—a troubling rise of over 10% compared to 2022².

The loss of animals on this scale unravels vital ecosystems, putting nature's balance and even food security at risk. Poaching also increases the chances of zoonotic diseases, as people come into closer contact with wildlife. Tragically, protecting these animals comes at a heavy price—around 150 wildlife rangers lose their lives each year, with 50-70% of those deaths linked to clashes with poachers³. Beyond the devastating environmental and human toll, illegal wildlife trade hurts local economies by driving away the tourism that thrives on iconic species and their habitats.

² (Ripple et al., 2016) Ripple W. J., Abernethy K., Betts M. G., Chapron G., Dirzo R., Galetti M., et al. (2016). Bushmeat hunting and extinction risk to the world's mammals. *R. Soc Open Sci.* 3, 160498. doi: 10.1098/rsos.160498

³ The Thin Green Line Foundation [online] Viewed 14 November, 2024

2) Improving coexistence between human communities and humans and wildlife

Human-wildlife conflict (HWC) occurs when expanding human populations and development encroach on natural habitats, intensifying competition for vital resources like land, water and food. This increasing overlap results in frequent, often deadly encounters between humans and wildlife, with profound consequences for both⁶. Crop-raiding elephants, livestock-predating lions and territorial hippos defending shrinking water sources are just a few examples of interactions that lead to retaliatory killings, human deaths, habitat destruction and even local extinctions. These conflicts not only threaten biodiversity but also endanger livelihoods, destabilise communities and undermine progress toward the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Agriculture and water scarcity are among the primary drivers of HWC. Subsistence farmers struggle with crop destruction caused by elephants, baboons and giraffes, while predators such as lions and leopards increasingly target livestock as their natural prey diminishes. Drought-prone regions face heightened risks as shared water sources bring humans into contact with dangerous wildlife like crocodiles, hippos and elephants. The toll is staggering: every year, hundreds of humans and thousands of animals lose their lives to these conflicts, highlighting the urgent need for sustainable coexistence strategies⁴.

⁴ König HJ, Kiffner C, Kramer-Schadt S, Fürst C, Keuling O, Ford AT. Human-wildlife coexistence in a changing world. Special section: challenges of and solutions to human-wildlife conflicts in agricultural landscapes. *Conserv Biol.* 2020;34(4):786-94.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

3) Restoring healthy habitats and resilient ecosystems

Degraded land and seascapes now cover over 2 billion hectares, affecting the lives of 3.2 billion people and causing economic losses amounting to one-tenth of global GDP due to the collapse of biodiversity and ecosystem services (IPBES, 2018)⁵. Critical ecosystems such as forests, grasslands, salt marshes, mangroves, seagrasses and freshwater bodies are deteriorating at an alarming rate. This collapse threatens the vital services they provide, including food security, clean water supply, climate regulation and fresh air. Many species struggle to adapt to the rapid environmental changes, driving unprecedented rates of extinction and destabilising the balance of life on Earth. In 2023 alone, 21 species went extinct including honeycreeper birds, a fruit bat of Guam and the Texas fish.

Effectively monitoring these ecosystem dynamics is fraught with challenges. Invasive species undermine native biodiversity, often displacing or preying on indigenous species, while ecosystem management must navigate the delicate balance between human demands and conservation goals. Ecosystem connectivity is crucial for enabling species migration, maintaining genetic diversity and supporting ecological resilience, yet habitat fragmentation from human activity continues to disrupt these networks. Additionally, addressing ecosystem conversion and restoration requires meticulous planning, substantial investment and the incorporation of local knowledge to rehabilitate degraded landscapes while safeguarding against further loss. These intertwined challenges illustrate the immense complexity of monitoring, conserving and restoring our planet's natural systems in the face of mounting pressures.

⁵ IPBES 2018, IPBES, Summary for policymakers of the assessment report on land degradation and restoration Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (2018)

4) Developing technical capacity to sustain technologies

Rapid technology evolution has introduced powerful tools for ecosystem and wildlife monitoring, but the human capacity to manage and maintain them lags, leading to system failures and wasted resources. Without skilled personnel, the immense value of these tools and real-time data remains untapped, as essential on-site maintenance and connectivity support are limited, impeding data-driven conservation efforts.

The conservation sector also faces challenges in ICT workforce development. There's no standardised ICT career path, leading to inconsistent training, vague job descriptions and the reliance on untrained staff expected to troubleshoot without adequate support. Additionally, there's a lack of comprehensive ICT training programs tailored to conservation, creating a shortage of qualified candidates capable of meeting sector needs.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Objectives, Strategies and Activities

We aim to help tackle these challenges through our three core programmes:

1. Wide-area on-the-ground sensor networks

With our partners, we are deploying landscape-scale network connectivity alongside sensing devices, radios and IT equipment for centralised park management. Sensors track wildlife movements, threats, ranger operations, weather data, natural resources and livestock tracking for grazing management and carbon health. Data from remote landscapes is integrated into a single system, providing an up-to-date, 360-degree view of the ecosystem.

2. Wide-area satellite monitoring

Satellite imagery has become an essential tool in the conservation toolbox for large-scale monitoring and restoration. In collaboration with the Airbus Foundation, we provide high-resolution satellite data to support conservation projects addressing human-wildlife coexistence, land use planning, mapping wildlife corridors and engaging communities in natural resource management and threat intelligence.

3. Capacity building and empowering communities

We aim to support partners who empower community stewards in data collection, collaborative planning and implementation. We encourage partners to share insights broadly with communities to bring benefits, including resilient farming, effective town planning and peaceful coexistence.

We invest in the technical education of field partners to ensure the successful adoption and sustainable benefits of tools. We provide local training to develop skills and build future conservation technology champions. This period, we are expanding our work to help community members pursue and build careers in ICT park management, identifying and upskilling tech-savvy individuals, capable of maintaining the vital digital infrastructure of protected areas.

4. Catalysing investment and private sector contributions

We are recognised by the United Nations as a leader in connecting those in developing countries with the private sector, to secure the digital technologies for preserving our natural world. Simultaneously, we help our corporate partners focus their technology and capabilities for large-scale conservation impacts.

To date, we have facilitated over \$11 million in groundbreaking technology, engineering and data investments in the field, enhancing positive outcomes for nature and local communities. This effort attracts additional match-funding from government and philanthropic organisations, which goes directly to conservation sites.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

CCF's main activities against these core programmes achieved within the period include:

1. Catalyse investment and private sector contributions for conservation
2. Equip vital connectivity to Park HQs across African Parks' 14 sites
3. Connect 21 new NRT conservancies for resilient ecosystems and communities
4. Converge LoRaWan technologies, network, data management, sensors and Earth Observation to halt rhino poaching and support rewilding in Madikwe
5. Support Round 1 winners of our Satellites for Biodiversity Awards including:
 - Habitat risk mapping for wild Asian elephants in Thailand and Desert Elephants in Namibia
 - Protect habitat for Tree Kangaroos, Echidnas and 5,000 species in Papua New Guinea
 - Create habitat connectivity and community conservation areas in South Sudan
 - Couple high-resolution satellite imagery and artificial intelligence to protect giant pangolin in Kenya.
6. Use satellite data to campaign for the designation of new Protected Areas to conserve biodiversity hotspots in the Lorian Ecosystem
7. Monitor and protect reintroduced rhino at Loisaba Conservancy with LoRa gateways
8. Advise on technologies for conservation and community benefits in the Simalaha Community Conservancy (SCC) in Zambia
9. Bring technology innovation to the ground, for real-world testing against conservation outcomes
10. Sustain existing CCF supported technology solutions in historical partner sites
11. Develop conservation technology champions for sustainability
12. Share knowledge for collective success
13. Advance an Impact Assessment Framework for conservation technologies
14. Expand our global team and operations
15. Grow global awareness of CCF

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

For this reporting period the main activities undertaken include:

1. Catalyse investment and private sector contributions for conservation

CCF has established new and nourished ongoing strong partnerships with technology companies including Cisco, Dimension Data, Actility and the Airbus Foundation. These companies are generously donating a range of equipment, engineering, cloud services, data and associated software licensing to CCF. This is helping us facilitate digital infrastructure to countries, conservation actors and protected areas needed to achieve global 30x30 targets. In addition to supporting anti-poaching efforts, the strategy now encompasses a wider set of ambitious goals to tackle further extinction-drivers.

Since operating, CCF has facilitated technology-focused donations to the value of:

2021-2022: £1,700,000 (£1,600,000 equipment | £90,000 satellite data | £10,000 services)

2022-2023: £900,000 (£740,000 equipment | £83,000 satellite data | £75,000 services)

2023-2024: (£580,000 equipment | £159,000 satellite data | £41,000 cloud and platform services)

CCF collaborates with these technology partners and local teams to assess needs, scope solutions and deliver the necessary tools, providing implementation support and long-term technical assistance.

These technology donations go directly to field partners, with CCF coordinating the partnerships, legal agreements and logistics. The tools significantly enhance field capacity and conservation efforts. After securing a donation, CCF works to catalyse additional matched funding for local partners, ensuring comprehensive support for collaborative projects. This momentum often attracts further donations, filling gaps and expanding project impact.

Securing these partnerships has involved formulating comprehensive strategies for donor engagement, communication, marketing, donor reports, fundraising and operations.

We're also bolstering the bond between sports and nature through our growing partnership with Birdies4Rhinos. This team of international golfers is raising funds for CCF projects by donating for every birdie they score. A warm welcome to the new players who have joined in the last fiscal year: Tommy Fleetwood, Ewen Ferguson, Paul Marks, Rupert Kaminski, Louis Albertse and April Angurasarane. We are immensely grateful for their efforts in raising the profile of conservation projects protecting rhinos at high-profile tournaments across the globe.

CCF has secured three new partners during this period:

Actility: In 2023, CCF was delighted to secure a partnership agreement with Actility, a world leader in Low-Power Wide-Area Networks (LPWAN) industrial-grade connectivity solutions for the Internet of Things (IoT). Actility is now working with CCF to offer their Things Network software licenses and support for all our field projects.

Axis: We appreciate their financial support and look forward to deepening our partnership in the years ahead.

Assore: A South African corporation, has generously contributed financially to help establish a new South African charitable and technical capacity-building program. This will be reported on separately.

2. Equip vital connectivity to Park HQs across African Parks' 14 sites

Africa, home to a quarter of the world's biodiversity, faces unprecedented pressures from climate change and rapid population growth. Despite the establishment of protected areas, many lack the digital infrastructure necessary for effective management, with 60% of these parks identified as urgently needing support.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

African Parks, in partnership with Cisco and the CCF, has led a groundbreaking initiative to advance data-driven conservation management across some of the world's most remote areas, providing vital digital infrastructure to those parks at the start of their technology journey. Nineteen park headquarters have been connected to the internet, spanning the pristine shores of Bazaruto, the forests of Rwanda, and the untamed wilds of the Central African Republic. These regions, teeming with life, are home to some of the world's most threatened species- including Western lowland gorillas, chimpanzees and elusive forest elephants.

By integrating Cisco Meraki routers with Starlink satellite connectivity, these parks now enjoy global, high-speed internet access. With over 2000 African Parks staff connected to starlink global connectivity, this technological advancement has significantly bolstered their data-driven conservation efforts, crucial for protecting endangered biodiversity. This digital uplift enables real-time wildlife monitoring, robust communication networks, efficient resource management, innovative research and community engagement programs. Every gigabyte of data is now seamlessly managed to drive conservation efforts forward, with 4,200 devices monitored and controlled from a single, centralised location.

3. Connect 21 new NRT conservancies for resilient ecosystems and communities

The Northern Rangelands Trust (NRT) is a membership conservation organisation serving 45 member community conservancies in northern and coastal Kenya and Uganda, covering 6.4 million hectares. This area is home to over 100,000 local households and 15 endangered species, including the world's most critically endangered antelope - the hirola, alongside the black rhino, African elephant and cheetah. Here, communities and wildlife grapple with climate impacts including prolonged droughts, floods and conflicts over natural resources.

Amidst these challenges, resilience shines in Northern Kenya, where NRT has integrated conservation, community and technology for large-scale positive change. In the last period, we partnered with NRT, Actility, Cisco, EarthRanger and 51 Degrees to expand connectivity from 5 sites to 21, creating Africa's largest IoT conservation network - across a formidable 3 million hectares. This consists of 21 LoRa gateways, on-the-ground sensors, live stream PTZ video cameras, satellite imagery, backbone connectivity, EarthRanger and cloud IoT integration infrastructure.

NRT has huge challenges to sustainably manage its natural resources and to pre-empt and reduce human and wildlife conflict. Data from over 600 sensors-tracking wildlife movements, threats, weather patterns, land-use changes and livestock-are collected and relayed through the network to NRT's joint operations room via EarthRanger. This system powers more than 20 IoT applications, all working in harmony to deliver impactful conservation outcomes.

NRT's peace ambassadors-courageous women once silenced by the threat of victimiaation-now have their voices amplified through technology. Their early warnings have successfully averted 15 potential conflicts, safeguarding their communities and fostering peace.

4. Converge LoRaWan technologies, network, data management, sensors and Earth Observation to halt rhino poaching and support rewilding in Madikwe

Madikwe Game Reserve is a prime target for ruthless poachers, sheltering both white and black rhinos, alongside elephant, lion, leopard and brown hyena. With only 6,487 black rhinos left in Africa, the urgency to protect Madikwe's rhinos cannot be overstated. In the first six months of 2023 alone, South Africa lost 231 rhinos to poaching.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Madikwe Futures Company (MFC) has collaborated with Dimension Data, CCF, Cisco, Airbus Foundation and Actility to implement cutting-edge technologies for wildlife protection and habitat management since 2021. These technologies include camera traps, fence alarms, drones and tracking devices, all working together to scan the environment 24/7 and alert security teams to incursions, threats and suspicious activities. PTZ cameras maintain vigilant surveillance along the reserve's perimeter to detect and deter poachers, whilst EarthRanger's visualisation software provides real-time alerts for informed operational decision-making.

Throughout 2023-24, new advancements included canine trackers assisting in search and rescue operations, supporting specialised canine units in critical situations and Iridium satellite radios were donated to ensure uninterrupted communication across vast reserves. The Connected Conservation integration platform simplifies the integration of sensors into EarthRanger, allowing for customisable data sharing. Ranger trackers promote safe and effective patrols, especially during crises, while the Actility Thing Park platform builds secure, low-cost LoRaWAN infrastructure for IoT applications.

With support from the Airbus Foundation, CCF has complemented ground sensors with 30cm Pléiades Neo satellite imagery, providing a 360 degree anti-poaching solution. This satellite imagery verified intelligence for a poaching incident, and understanding entry and exit routes of rhino poachers, whilst supporting landscape-scale restoration in Madikwe with targeted bush clearance efforts.

These collaborative efforts have led to a significant decrease in rhino poaching, resulting in 16 arrests of suspected poachers between 2021 and 2023, compared to none in 2020 before this partnership was established. This initiative has also fostered peace within the reserve and among neighboring communities. By supporting stable, nature-based economies, over 1,000 ecotourism jobs have been created for local residents, strengthening livelihoods while safeguarding wildlife.

5. Support Round 1 winners of our Satellites for Biodiversity Awards

We've forged a powerful partnership with the Airbus Foundation to confront the ongoing extinction crisis, harnessing the capabilities of Airbus Defence and Space satellite imagery to empower frontline defenders of nature.

Satellite imagery has ushered in a new era for conservation efforts, providing an unprecedented level of detail that allows scientists and conservationists to closely monitor and comprehend the health of invaluable ecosystems like never before. Serving as a vital tool, it is helping detect deforestation, tracking illegal activities and monitoring wildlife populations in hard-to-reach areas.

The first round of our 'Satellites for Biodiversity' global grant award was a success. This grant received a wealth of interest and global media coverage and global applications. Use-cases were put forward encompassing marine and terrestrial projects alike. Common themes among these applications included mapping invasive species, assessing the state of species populations and drivers of habitat loss, alongside monitoring ecosystem extent and connectivity.

Four winners have been awarded exclusive access to the most advanced optical satellite imagery, boasting an impressive 30cm spatial resolution from Airbus Pléiades Neo and 50cm from Pléiades, alongside \$5,000 USD in financial support from CCF, access to Airbus' Archive Library upon request, and complimentary ESRI software and cloud service support.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

We have been supporting our grantees with the following projects:

Habitat risk mapping for Desert Elephants in Namibia

In the harsh and arid landscapes of northwest Namibia, human-elephant conflict is a significant issue, leading to devastating financial losses for farmers and contributing to the decline of the elephant population. Only 21 desert elephants remain today.

To address this, CCF's GIS and Data Science specialist has assisted Elephant-Human Relations Aid (EHRA) with the analysis of 1,991 km² donated high-resolution imagery provided by the Airbus Foundation. This analysis, involving 40 rural communities, combined on-the-ground elephant collar tracking with data on water sources, land boundaries and vegetation to better understand the movements and motivations of these desert elephants. Maps have been created from the analysis, aiding EHRA's fieldwork, sharing insights for better land-use planning and elephant-human coexistence.

Protect habitat for Tree Kangaroos, Echidnas and 5,000 species in Papua New Guinea

The lush and rugged landscape of Papua New Guinea is home to many endangered species, including the Matschie's tree kangaroo (with less than 2,500 left in the world), Eastern long-beaked echidna and bandicoot. These rare creatures face a desperate situation on the brink of extinction due to habitat encroachment and illegal logging activities and need urgent protection.

Monitoring this expansive region to stop habitat loss has been challenging, as rangers can only patrol certain areas on foot and previously used satellite imagery lacked the necessary resolution to see human activities in detail. TKCP is using six new field-based land-use monitors to gather data that can confirm habitat changes detected through the 1,227 km² donated satellite imagery from the Airbus Foundation. This is empowering local communities to report harmful activities affecting the environment, helping to protect the region's diverse flora and fauna.

Our GIS and Data Science specialist has supported this project by integrating data from these land-use monitors with satellite data. This analysis is helping track and understand the drivers of habitat loss, allowing field teams to intervene and develop targeted conservation strategies. We are now leveraging Airbus imagery to map vegetation and land structures, further enhancing our understanding of habitats and shaping more informed strategies for the future.

Habitat risk mapping for wild Asian elephants in Thailand

Thailand's wild elephant population in Sai Yok National Park has dwindled to 3,500 due to human-elephant conflict (HEC), illegal poaching, habitat loss and human pressure. The fragmentation of once-continuous elephant habitats significantly disrupts their migration routes and access to vital resources. This shift drives elephants into adjacent human settlements and farmlands, escalating HEC -a critical challenge for conservation in Thailand.

The Asian Institute of Technology spearheaded an innovative project to tackle these challenges, utilising 504 km² of donated Pléiades 50 cm satellite data from the Airbus Foundation. By applying machine learning, the project mapped land-use changes in elephant habitats over the past decade, assessing habitat quality, identifying risks and predicting future changes. Four land classification algorithms were tested to determine the optimal performance for analysing the Pléiades data.

The mapping outputs and insights are now being shared with conservation and government organisations to inform planning and policy, including invasive species removal and HEC mitigation. The team also successfully explored the application of AI and deep learning with high-resolution Pléiades satellite data, comparing the accuracy of various machine learning algorithms for land use classification.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Create habitat connectivity and community conservation areas in South Sudan

CCF and the Airbus Foundation are supporting Fauna & Flora by providing 2,000 km² of Pléiades satellite imagery, funding and technical expertise to map biodiversity landscapes in the Bangangai Game Reserve and Bire Kpatuos. This advanced technology offers essential insights for managing these delicate ecosystems and helps establish community conservation areas that serve as protective buffer zones for the reserves.

By using data-driven methods and a dedicated team of 13 technical staff utilising advanced monitoring and decision-making tools, Fauna & Flora guides field teams in the conservation of endangered species, including chimpanzees, African forest elephants, giant elands and ground pangolins. In addition, the organisation actively promotes sustainable community involvement in these conservation efforts.

Machine Learning analysis has been applied to the satellite imagery, enabling the analytics team to identify core forest patches and crucial connectivity pathways vital for biodiversity. By working closely with local communities, they are translating data into actionable strategies, supporting sustainable natural resource management.

Couple high-resolution satellite imagery and artificial intelligence to protect giant pangolin in Kenya

Our Satellites for Biodiversity programme also captured 30 cm Pleiades Neo satellite imagery of the Maasai Mara ecosystem in Kenya to enable multiple field and technology partners to share the data to advance innovative AI-powered approaches.

One project has involved the Langland Conservation who has used this imagery to protect the giant pangolin and the Nyakweri Forest. Their remote sensing project has mapped landscape fragmentation and fence lines to prevent pangolin electrocution. The team has developed a deep learning model to quickly map linear boundaries, including fence lines and roads, using minimal hardware and human effort. These maps are intended to be shared with political stakeholders to raise awareness of the threats to Giant Pangolins and their habitat.

6. Use satellite data to campaign for the designation of new Protected Areas to conserve biodiversity hotspots in the Lorian Ecosystem

In the heart of Kenya, a conservation initiative led by the Northern Rangelands Trust (NRT) aims to restore ecological balance and foster coexistence between wildlife and communities across the Marsabit to Meru landscape. Over five years, this project focuses on transforming conservation efforts in the critical Lorian Swamp, a key ecological connector in the region, home to Hooded vulture, Rüppell's griffon vulture, African wild dog, lion, Schilluk and Mozambique ridged frog.

To support this ambitious project, CCF partnered with the Airbus Foundation to provide 1,900 km² of high-resolution satellite imagery from the Pleiades satellite. We're assisting the team to best utilise this technology to aid the monitoring of wildlife corridors, identify vegetation types and understand the impact of the invasive *Prosopis juliflora* tree, which poses risks to biodiversity by blocking water channels and causing flooding damage to livelihoods. The collected data will also serve as a baseline for future conservation efforts over the next decade, lobbying the governmental agencies to declare this site as one of four put forward for designation as a new protected area.

7. Monitor and protect reintroduced rhino at Loisaba Conservancy with LoRa gateways

Once abundant in Kenya, black rhinos faced near extinction due to rampant poaching in the 1970s and '80s. To restore their population to 2,000 by 2037, more space is needed, prompting conservancies and governments to remove fences and join vast, connected rangelands. The Loisaba Conservancy, a 230 km² reserve, is key to this effort, allowing rhinos to roam freely once more.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

In collaboration with Cisco, Actility, Dimension Data and 51 Degrees, we support the protection of Loisaba's new rhinos, providing new LoRa gateways, a network cloud server and an IoT integration platform. These enable reliable real-time rhino tracking, with their movements visible in EarthRanger. This technology helps monitor the health and behaviour of 21 newly introduced eastern black rhinos, providing invaluable data, guiding protection strategies and expanding safe rangeland. The rhino's safe arrival at Loisaba also completes the 'big five' presence, attracting tourists, creating jobs and supporting community projects.

8. Advise on technologies for conservation and community benefits in the Simalaha Community Conservancy (SCC) in Zambia

Peace Parks Foundation and the Sesheke and Sekhute Chiefdoms are leading Zambia's first community conservancy - the Simalaha Community Conservancy (SCC). Significant progress has been made in the 1,800km² area, including a 500km² wildlife sanctuary protected by village scouts, home to 3,126 animals. The SCC's first tourism offering is now open, supporting the community through initiatives for food security, alternative livelihoods, and social amenities.

The SCC forms part of an ecological corridor, allowing elephants to move between Namibia, Botswana and Zambia's Kafue National Park. CCF is advising on technologies for conservation and community benefits. CCF led a ground-truthing exercise to evaluate SCC's needs. This assessment guided recommendations for implementing radio networks, off-grid Internet services, operations room setup and on-the-ground sensors. We identified optimal tower sites to ensure reliable network coverage for the conservancies, and Internet access to isolated schools.

9. Bring technology innovation to the ground, for real-world testing against conservation outcomes

We're collaborating to scale new models and change the way the world protects and values nature, filling us with great optimism for the future. Our commitment to technological innovation is grounded in the practical evaluation and testing of new conservation technologies against real-world conservation scenarios and target outcomes.

In collaboration with our partners NRT, 51 Degrees, Dimension Data and Sabi Sand Nature Reserve, we conducted trials to test a variety of innovative sensors. This initiative aimed to guide the selection of the most effective low-cost, low-power sensors for supported protected areas. Key enhancements included the installation of a new LoRaWAN gateway and a LoRa weather station to improve security, monitoring, and operational efficiency.

Innovative and sustainable collaborative explorations have included:

Livestock trackers, monitoring movements and environmental conditions are being tested to manage forage and water sustainably, especially during periods of extreme drought, with the potential to use data for carbon health reporting.

New lightweight tracking sensors for monitoring the location of surveillance drones during anti-poaching operations are informing counter strategies. Sensing devices are getting ever smaller, including asset tracking sensors, vehicles, different species, canine and ranger trackers are being tested at partner reserves.

We regularly communicate our results with all field partners to create a dynamic ecosystem of knowledge sharing, so innovative technology can make an impact quickly on the ground.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

10. Sustain existing CCF supported technology solutions in historical partner sites

Our engineers and partners are dedicated to supporting sites through ongoing maintenance and management of deployed technology solutions. This includes sustaining existing solutions, building local technical capacity for self-management, and providing regular mentorship and technical support through monthly or fortnightly meetings with each site. We guide reserves in decision-making, servicing and planning to ensure all systems are in frequent use, reliable and operating at their full capabilities. Additionally, we assist in the replacement of damaged equipment, such as that caused by lightning strikes or flooding to maintain operational integrity.

11. Develop conservation technology champions for sustainability

Conservation technology can offer new channels of employment to local people living in and around conservation areas. As the need for Park IT management rises, technical job opportunities are increasing. As part of our upcoming capacity-building and community benefit program, we aim to professionalise this career path and develop technology champions capable of sustaining the technologies that significantly enhance species and ecosystem protection.

We are collaborating with partners to enhance exposure to technical opportunities within the existing environmental curriculum delivered through conservation schools. For example, Lapalala Wilderness School, engages 400 local schools that visit the reserve for hands-on conservation and ecology education, uniting sustainable conservation with ground-breaking environmental education, emphasising the interconnectedness of people and nature.

We are developing new educational content designed to train local talent in data analysis, radio communications and IT management. By inspiring tech-savvy individuals to pursue ICT careers in park management, and using Lapalala as a pilot site, we aim to expand this educational effort to more schools, enhancing their curricula. We look forward to growing this programme with new staff capacity and funding.

Currently, CCF is also building local technology capacity through initiatives aimed at empowering local organisations and communities. We provide technology advice, skills training and ongoing support to all partner sites, enabling them to effectively onboard and sustain new tools. We also ensure our partners have the right software, licenses, and resources to meet their data needs. Through the 'Satellites for Biodiversity Award' capacity-building program, grantees in Kenya, Papua New Guinea, and Namibia gain access to one-on-one assistance in tasking, capturing, downloading, analysing and extracting insights from high-resolution satellite imagery. Additionally, we promote knowledge sharing and the exchange of best practices among all partners to foster a collaborative environment.

12. Share knowledge for collective success

We help shape the field of conservation technology, bridging private and public sectors sharing learnings on a global stage. Some of the key events we've enjoyed presenting or facilitating include:

March, 2024, United Nations Headquarters, New York

Under the theme 'Connecting People and Planet: Exploring Digital Innovation in Wildlife Conservation', Sophie Maxwell joined esteemed experts Dr. Krithi Karanth (Centre for Wildlife Studies), Jorge Ahumada (Wildlife Insights) and Adams Cassinga (Conserv Congo) in addressing country ministers. They discussed leveraging technology to meet international 30 x 30 conservation targets and overcoming challenges in technology deployment in the field. We emphasised fostering a collaborative 'tech ecosystem' approach, highlighting technical robustness, community engagement, training and sustainability as crucial components.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

March, 2024, United Nations Headquarters, Geneva

Our Technical Director, Swabir Abdulrehman, showcased CCF's initiatives, highlighting the use of cutting-edge technologies to empower local conservationists and communities. He urged technology companies to recognise their responsibility to protect global biodiversity.

December, 2023, UK Tech Conference, London

At the TechUK conference, the spotlight was on leveraging technology for biodiversity conservation. Our Communications and Press Manager, Emma Oldham, shared how CCF integrates private-sector technological capabilities and resources with local field teams to enhance wildlife and ecosystem protection.

December, 2023, EarthRanger User Conference, South Africa

The Annual EarthRanger User Conference in Cape Town brought together nearly 500 conservationists from 250 organisations across 40 countries to discuss new conservation technologies and methodologies. A panel including Sophie Maxwell and Swabir Abdulrehman, (51 Degrees) alongside Colette Terblanche (Peace Parks Foundation), and Tim van Dam (Smart Parks) shared lessons from the use of Cloud-Based Sensors and LoRaWAN technology for enhancing conservation efforts in Africa. We highlighted LoRaWAN's capabilities in monitoring, safeguarding and managing wildlife and habitats in Northern Kenya.

13. Advance an Impact Assessment Framework for conservation technologies

We are continually enhancing our impact assessment framework for conservation technologies, focusing on developing robust evaluation methods for technology intervention in conservation. Building on our groundwork laid in Phase 1 - where we collaborated with Conservation Alpha and a consortium of experts to establish the initial framework and taxonomy- Phase 2 now focuses on testing and refining the technology impact assessment framework across multiple sites, including the Sabi Sand Nature Reserve in South Africa.

We're evaluating technologies against agreed-upon criteria, such as threat detection accuracy, speed of information relay for management decisions and the quality and reliability of data for informed action. By applying the framework in real-world settings, we aim to empower managers to conduct baseline surveys before and after technology deployment, ultimately guiding future investment and intervention decisions. Our long-term goal is to make the framework openly accessible to the conservation community - enabling practitioners to easily assess the impacts of technology in protected area management.

14. Expand our global team and operations

We established a new registered charitable entity in South Africa, deepening our local roots and enabling us to tailor our conservation initiatives to address region-specific challenges. By anchoring ourselves in this locale, we aim for a more local impact, aligning with the needs of the South African context and building relationships with key funders and stakeholders in the region.

We are excited to welcome two new members to our team: Swabir Abdulrehman, our Technical Director, and Japheth, our GIS and Data Science Specialist. Both have quickly adapted to their roles. Swabir has been providing essential support to our field partners in establishing large-scale communications networks and assessing LoRaWAN connectivity requirements. Meanwhile Japheth's expertise is already enhancing our satellite programs with valuable technical and operational assistance.

15. Grow global awareness of CCF

Our communications strategy always puts our partners' work first at the heart of all stories, showcasing how the Connected Conservation Foundation contributes towards impactful conservation projects. We focus on creating content that centers around local voices, energy, struggles and triumphs, ensuring that our joint impacts and partnership collaboration is at the center of our storytelling and true to the sector.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

We have nurtured and strengthened our relationships with the communication teams of our esteemed field and technology partners, including Cisco, NRT, Actility, the Airbus Foundation, Sabi Sand Nature Reserve, Madikwe Futures, African Parks and our most recently, our Satellites for Biodiversity Award grantees. These have involved joint press releases and providing content for partners impact reports, board meetings, presentations and conferences.

For another year running, we continued to grow our social media presence, showcasing CCF's interconnected stories of impact and how our partners are growing in the conservation technology landscape. We've seen a 23% increase in followers on Facebook, 40% increase on X, 12% increase on Instagram and 49% growth of followers on LinkedIn.

We are proud that over the last fiscal year, our work was recognised another year by some of the most prestigious publications. Our IoT projects have been featured in CITES, The World Economic Forum, Fast Company, Digital CxO, TelecomPaper whilst our earth observation projects have been covered by The Washington Post, News Space Africa, TechUK, Mongabay and Catapult satellite Applications.

How do these activities relate to our longer-term aims and objectives?

On the road to protecting 30% of the planet by 2030, over the next six years, CCF is committed to equipping more protected areas with impactful technologies to help recover and protect 10,000,000 hectares of intact ecosystems, preserve 50+ threatened species and benefit the local people living in or around reserves.

All activities during this period have helped CCF improve our capabilities to deliver these longer-term aims, across our four key programmes:

1. Wide-Area On-the-Ground Sensor Networks
2. Wide-Area Satellite Monitoring
3. Capacity Building and Empowering Communities
4. Catalysing Investment and Private Sector Contributions

Significant steps achieved this year to realise our longer-term aims, include:

- Securing new technology solutions for both wildlife protection and community education facilities, with new partners in Kenya, Uganda, Botswana and South Africa.
- Building out a holistic, sustainable 'tech ecosystem' for our partners - from robust technologies to community engagement and training.
- Scaling our geographical impact to support new protected areas in Africa and Asia, with a new South African charitable office.
- Deploying LoRaWan network coverage for 20 further community-led conservancies in Kenya
- By leveraging donated satellite imagery, we have accelerated the protection and monitoring of vast areas, encompassing an impressive 961,000 hectares across 11 innovative projects.
- Helped 19 remote parks harness reliable global connectivity at park headquarters, enabling data-driven conservation.
- Building trust with diverse actors, as a credible collaborating partner, offering valuable technical design and support to bring the right solutions to more protected areas.
- Improving our brand to secure new, larger donations and technology partners, who can provide valuable capabilities.
- Gaining recognition from the United Nations, as a leader in helping those in developing countries access conservation technologies. Invited to share our experiences at the UN HQ in New York.

Public benefit

The above activities have been undertaken to help preserve our planet's rich biodiversity and natural resources. The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Achievements and performance

We are immensely proud of how far we've come together: collaborating deeply with our partners, achieving ambitious goals and delivering a lot with very little. Since being founded in 2015, we've pioneered the implementation of early-warning systems to protect species and wild places. Today, we operate in 15 countries, helping design, secure and implement landscape-scale technology solutions that drive change.

We partner with the private sector, conservationists and governments to support 29 protected areas, securing 5.6 million hectares of wilderness with digital infrastructure and wide-area sensing networks. From Kenya to South Africa, we are sustaining technologies that help stop poaching, human-wildlife conflict and habitat loss, while empowering community education and natural resource management.

Achievements summarised in stats for this period only:

- 35+ threatened species better protected and managed with conservation technology: including critically endangered black and white rhinos, African and Asian elephants, giant and ground pangolins, Matschie's tree kangaroos, chimpanzees, leopards, lions, hippos, cheetahs, wild dogs, hirola, brown hyenas, and bird species such as the southern ground hornbill, hooded vulture, and Rüppell's griffon vulture.
- 5,600,000 hectares secured and managed for resilient ecosystems and communities.
- \$11 million of donated technologies to address environmental challenges.
- 20+ IoT use-cases served, delivering conservation outcomes across twenty-nine conservancies equipped with landscape-wide technology for security, research and operations.
- 961,000 hectares of Airbus Foundation satellite imagery used for early warning, coexistence and ecosystem monitoring.
- 500+ Rangers better equipped to stop nature loss and bring peace and security.
- 19 African Park HQs connected, enabling 4,200 devices in 10 new countries.
- 300+ LoRa Sensors in Kenya now deployed by 51Degrees in Africa's largest IoT Conservation network.
- Three new partners Actility, Assore and Axis added value to the conservation toolbox.
- 16 arrests of suspected rhino poachers at Madikwe Game Reserve between 2021 and 2023, compared to 0 in 2020 with the help of technology interventions.
- 21 newly reintroduced eastern black rhinos being monitored with LoRa at Loisaba Conservancy.

Review of charitable activities undertaken

CCF has substantially expanded its provision of technology support and equipment to numerous protected areas, helping secure and manage a growing array of intact ecosystems and threatened species and contributing to the sustainability of natural resources and fostering improved livelihoods within local communities.

CCF has proudly grown the team to support this expansion by establishing a South Africa entity registered in South Africa, alongside two new part-time staff members based in South Africa. The accounts for this separate entity are accountable with the South African Charitable Governance procedures and are not included within this review.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Review of principle activities

In delivering the activities listed in section 'Objectives, strategies and activities', CCF has maintained excellent relationships with existing and new partners to achieve our combined targets. We have also built trust in CCF within the conservation technology space, where we have gained a reputation for collaboration and valued technical expertise, as a credible supportive partner.

Our reputation continues to grow. This has been demonstrated by increasing invitations to speak at a variety of global conservation conferences, to share our groundbreaking and impactful work. As detailed in section 12 above 'Share knowledge for collective success'.

The value of our contribution has also been demonstrated by increased demand for our assistance in 2024 into more protected areas and regions.

Fundraising performance achieved against fundraising activities set

During this accounting period, CCF has successfully secured new partnerships and donors in line with our fundraising strategy, supporting the roadmap of planned activities. Donations have increased by 50% compared to the previous period. We have also established a promising new relationship with Axis, which is poised for further growth in the 2024-2025 period.

Investment performance achieved against investment activities set

No investments have been made in this accounting period and no material financial investments are held.

Factors relevant to achievement of objectives

Adequate funds have been raised to bridge this period of partnership changes, cover core costs and carry out all planned activities. Some reserves have been used to support planned activities, fundraising and strategy work, ensuring no compromises to ongoing project roadmaps and impacts.

Financial review

In our fourth year of operation as a UK charitable entity, total income amounted to £66,782, derived from corporate partnerships and individual donations. Our expenditure for the year was £139,655. Although monetary grants to conservation partners were reduced, CCF facilitated significant in-kind donations, including valuable equipment, data and cloud services, amounting to £780,000.

Of our expenditure, £36,918 was allocated to core staffing costs, while £102,737 was directed towards project support through grants and engineering time for the design, management and implementation of donated technologies in the field. Additional expenses covered IT running costs and the further development of an impact measurement framework to assess the effectiveness of technology in conservation efforts.

Policy on reserves

The charity has no formal reserves policy. Reserves held by the charity are monitored and regularly reviewed by the trustees to ensure that the level of reserves held will sufficiently cover expected levels of future expenditure.

On 31 March 2024 the charity holds total funds of £157,317. All of these funds are unrestricted, and therefore total free reserves for the charity are £157,317.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Principal funding sources

CCF is extremely grateful to our supporters and donors who have helped during this period. Without their collaboration, none of our achievements are possible. We would like to thank:

Funding

- Birdies4Rhinos
- Airbus Foundation
- Axis Communications Ltd

Facilitated equipment donations to protected areas

- Cisco System PLC
- Actility
- NTT Data Ltd
- Airbus Foundation

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Plans for future periods

Aims and key objectives for future periods

In the upcoming accounting period, the Connected Conservation Foundation will continue empowering environmental professionals with advanced tools to protect and manage endangered species and vital ecosystems in key biodiversity hotspots.

Specific objectives include:

Programme 1: Wide Area Satellite Monitoring

Expand monitoring and management of species and their habitats using high resolution satellite imagery - Launching Round 2 of the Satellites for Biodiversity Award, continue assisting round 1 winners.

To accelerate the adoption of high-resolution satellite imagery in addressing global wildlife loss and advancing habitat preservation efforts, we will launch Round 2 of the Satellites for Biodiversity Award, in partnership with the Airbus Foundation. Three winning projects will gain access to cutting-edge optical satellite imagery with 30cm and 15cm spatial resolutions from Airbus Pléiades Neo, and 50cm from Pléiades. In addition, they will receive \$6,000 in financial support, on-demand access to Airbus' Archive Library, complimentary ESRI software, and expert guidance from both the CCF and the Airbus Foundation.

We will also continue to support Round 1 Award winners, assisting them with analysis, methodology and reporting on their results.

Programme 2: Wide Area Sensor Networks

2.1 Lapalala Game Reserve: Enhance conservation and community education with the Lapalala Wilderness Foundation

Lapalala Wilderness is an exceptional conservation legacy spanning 48,000 hectares of breath-taking and diverse habitat, with an upcoming expansion of 7,000 hectares. It is dedicated to protecting biodiversity and providing environmental education, partnering with 400 local schools that visit the reserve's educational facilities to undertake hands-on conservation and ecology learning.

We will design and secure new technology donations for wildlife conservation, community outreach and education at Lapalala Wilderness Reserve and the adjacent Lapalala Wilderness Environmental School.

2.2 Kidepo Valley National Park: Protect Uganda's Wildlife with advanced IoT solutions

Supported by the Connected Conservation Foundation and Cisco, the Uganda Conservation Foundation (UCF) is preparing to deploy a LoRaWAN IoT network in Kidepo Valley National Park. This network will leverage existing tower infrastructure and deploy a variety of low-power, cost-effective sensors to enhance conservation efforts. Data will be transmitted from across the park to a central control room and visualised through EarthRanger software, enabling effective management of the protected area. This digital infrastructure will secure threatened species, sustain ecosystem services for local communities, and ensure ranger safety.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

2.3 Kenya: Scale regional IoT networks

Our collaboration to improve data insight and governance in Northern Kenya has been highly successful. This upcoming year, we are partnering with 51 Degrees and the Kenya Wildlife Service to scale up the deployment of LoRa Networks in and around national parks including:

Greater Amboseli Ecosystem - We will partner with Big Life Foundation to protect East Africa's wildlife, including one its most famous elephant populations. With support from CCF and Cisco, Big Life will install a LoRaWAN network in the Greater Amboseli Ecosystem. This real-time data will feed into a central operations room, giving managers the ability to coordinate rapid responses to incidents, and more efficiently manage operations over a vast area. Uses in future will be expanded to include wildlife tracking and environmental monitoring.

Maasai Mara - We will support the Safari Collection Footprint Trust (TSCFT) to drive positive change in local ecosystems through tourism. With donations from Cisco, TSCFT will enhance management in the Maasai Mara National Reserve, including the installation of a new LoRaWAN network and building staff capacity. TSCFT will also establish a state-of-the-art operations room to serve as the nerve centre for managing reserve activities and enhancing conservation efforts.

Tsavo Conservation Area - We will help tackle human-wildlife conflict and poaching in Tsavo. With support from Cisco, we will integrate donated LoRa gateways into the Sheldrick Wildlife Trust's operations room. This improved tracking will strengthen rhino monitoring and problematic individuals prone to conflict, to enhance the safety of both wildlife and local communities by reducing the risk of conflict.

Programme 3: Capacity Building

CCF recognises a pivotal challenge in conservation efforts worldwide: the scarcity of sustainable technological support in remote environments. We will develop the Technology Champions for Sustainable Conservation (TCSC) initiative as a strategic response to this pressing need, aiming to bridge the gap between technology provision and long-term functionality within conservation organisations.

This program will aim to develop a network of "Technology Champions" with the technical skills needed to support conservation efforts sustainably. Through accredited training, participants will gain expertise in remote area technologies, with an emphasis on sustainable practices, maintenance and troubleshooting. The program will foster community-led conservation and aim to ensure the long-term viability of technological infrastructure, allowing communities to independently manage and maintain these resources beyond the program's duration.

Programme 4: Expand CCF's partners and international operations

We will continue to expand our team by recruiting a Project Manager based in South Africa. This individual will play a vital role in connecting partners and deploying technology to protect wildlife, people, and ecosystems across key protected areas. Their prime goal will be to plan and deliver a technical training programme, monitoring the impact of these initiatives, and identifying new opportunities that will benefit our partners.

Activities planned to achieve aims

To achieve the above CCF will or has began:

1. Design, coordinate and launch the second round of the Satellites for Biodiversity Award in partnership with the Airbus Foundation.

2.1 Lapalala Game Reserve: We have unlocked donations to support two key projects in these areas:

- a) New advanced LoRa networks and array of sensors to manage and protect black rhinos and other threatened species and to help upkeep infrastructure and secure the reserve, including a planned 7,000 ha expansion.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

b) Cisco MR36 wireless access points will provide reliable internet for community outreach and education. This will improve how local people of all ages learn about the environment and increase inspiration on environmental job opportunities.

2.2 Kidepo Valley National Park: We have unlocked seven LoRa Gateway donations from Cisco to enable the Uganda Conservation Foundation (UCF) to deploy a LoRaWAN IoT network in Kidepo Valley National Park. This network will leverage existing tower infrastructure and deploy a variety of low-power, cost-effective sensors to enhance conservation efforts.

2.3 Kenya: Scale regional IoT networks:

Greater Amboseli Ecosystem - With support from Cisco, we will help Big Life install a LoRaWAN network in the Greater Amboseli Ecosystem. This will revolutionise Big Life's ability to track its conservation operations.

Maasai Mara - With donations unlocked from Cisco, we will help TSCFT enhance management in the Maasai Mara National Reserve, with the installation of a new LoRaWAN network. New LoRaWAN gateways promise to extend coverage to over 90% of the reserve, enhancing wildlife tracking and monitoring capabilities.

Tsavo Conservation Area - With support from Cisco, we will integrate donated LoRa gateways into the Sheldrick Wildlife Trust's technical toolkit. These advancements will enable the use of LoRa tracking tags on juvenile elephants and rhinos, allowing rangers to precisely monitor their movements.

3. Capacity Building: The Education Programme will develop a robust conservation training curriculum with practical applications. Beginning with a content audit, essential topics and third-party resources will be identified and refined into a pilot module. Expert-led content production will follow, generating new materials linked to conservation contexts. A Learning Management System (LMS) will then be selected, structured and quality-tested for seamless content access and tracking. After obtaining accreditation, the program will focus on outreach, establishing internship placements and mentors to provide hands-on experience.

4: Expand CCF's partners and international operations: We will continue to apply for grants and develop new partnerships. We will expand our team further to grow our impact. The job roles will be published on our website and promoted across our social media channels, employment channels and to our contacts.

Structure, governance and management

Nature of governing document

Connected Conservation Foundation is a charitable company (company number 11632911) limited by guarantee and a registered charity (charity number 1183328). Its governing document is its Articles of Association.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

Trustees were recruited based on their experience and expertise in the context of wildlife conservation and technology. Directors have also been chosen to represent the views of contributing partners. All Directors are willing to act as a director and have been nominated in writing by the founding member. They have been appointed by resolution of the Directors.

Induction and training of trustees

All trustees are kept up to date on the strategy and financial aims for the upcoming periods and this is agreed by all Directors. There have been no changes to the list of representatives on the Board of Directors.

Arrangements for setting key management personnel remuneration

Policies around setting remuneration, include an assessment of competitive pay for executive level staff in Foundations. The Foundation has set benchmarked salary bands to attract and retain appropriate personnel and ensure transparency and fairness in the use of charity resources. Payroll and associated benefits for newly recruited staff have been established with accounting firm Stewart & Co Accountants LLP.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Organisational structure

The Board of the Foundation is made up of 4 unpaid Trustees. Mr B Watson is the Executive Chairman and Founder of the Connected Conservation Foundation and will table decision-making with the Board of Directors. The following types of decisions are taken by the charity's Trustees and remaining decisions are delegated to staff.

Director decisions include:

- agreeing strategy;
- approving major commitments;
- financial review and approval;
- partnership engagement and due diligence;
- senior level recruitment;
- risk management and mitigation.

CCF's Executive Director reports into the Executive Chairman and provides inputs to the Board for informed decision-making. Foundation staff will report into the Executive Director and be responsible for day-to-day decision-making, to execute operations, project delivery, marketing and communications.

All other decisions are delegated to the staff.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Major risks and management of those risks

CCF has reworked the identification of risks within the risk register. We've reviewed these with specified members of the senior team and Trustees, to help track, manage and drive mitigation strategies. The designated risk owner reports on each risk, at required intervals, to all Trustees and Senior Leads.

The Trustees review the Charity's Risk Register annually at its AGM and consider the following:

Financial risk

All trustees are kept up to date on the strategy and financial aims for the upcoming periods and this is agreed by all Directors. There have been no changes to the list of representatives on the Board of Directors.

Political instability

Government and individual ministerial changes in Botswana mean the unfortunate cease to the Chobe National Park project. CCF has worked tirelessly to try and find a solution to ensure the project continues, and technologies are deployed for their original purpose. However, lack of capacity in the country to operate the technology now means the Board has taken the decision to reallocate the equipment and support to another protected area with the right enabling conditions in place. This has been a difficult decision, but CCF is committed to ensuring that its donated tools and support will always and only be used for impact to protect endangered species, ecosystems and benefit local communities.

Matched technology donations from corporate partners

There is a risk that corporate partners will change their technology offerings to the foundation and the wider market. CCF is broadening its strategy to diversify by approaching new technology providers. CCF has worked hard to secure further future donations of Cisco technologies in 2024 and also in 2025, which will fall in the next period. During the next period we understand that Cisco will discontinue their LoRaWan gateway business. In preparation for this change, coming in 2025, we are working to find new corporate partners who can donate new tools to conservation.

Working overseas with changing political frameworks

Unpredictable contexts in working overseas can impact our activities. There are several unpredictable political, social and economic situations in some countries we work in. This can impact technology and equipment donations from our corporate partners. CCF works closely with our corporate partners Cisco and Airbus Foundation to preempt any export control bans on equipment to certain countries. Ensuring that our supported projects foresee and overcome challenges in supply of donated equipment to their region. CCF has found work around solutions for these emerging scenarios and will continue to work closely to mitigate these risks in the future.

The Board is confident that the appropriate steps have been taken to mitigate the potential impact of these risks occurring.

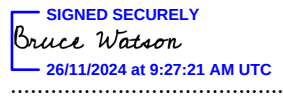
Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Small companies provision statement

This report has been prepared in accordance with the small companies regime under the Companies Act 2006.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 21 November 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

 SIGNED SECURELY
Bruce Watson
26/11/2024 at 9:27:21 AM UTC
.....
Mr B Watson
Trustee

Connected Conservation Foundation

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of Connected Conservation Foundation for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

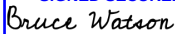
Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards, comprising FRS 102 have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that can disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by the trustees of the charity on 21 November 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

SIGNED SECURELY

26/11/2024 at 9:27:21 AM UTC
.....
Mr B Watson
Trustee

Connected Conservation Foundation

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Connected Conservation Foundation ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of Connected Conservation Foundation as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



.....
Lucy Evans, FCA

Stewart & Co. Chartered Accountants
Knoll House
Knoll Road
Camberley
Surrey
GU15 3SY

21 November 2024

Connected Conservation Foundation

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2024 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Income and Endowments from:			
Donations and legacies	3	66,782	66,782
Total income		<u>66,782</u>	<u>66,782</u>
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities	6	(135,486)	(135,486)
Total expenditure		<u>(135,486)</u>	<u>(135,486)</u>
Net expenditure		(68,704)	(68,704)
Other recognised gains and losses			
Other gains/losses	7	(4,169)	(4,169)
Net movement in funds		(72,873)	(72,873)
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward		230,190	230,190
Total funds carried forward	14	<u>157,317</u>	<u>157,317</u>
	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Total 2023 £
Income and Endowments from:			
Donations and legacies	3	31,126	31,126
Total income		<u>31,126</u>	<u>31,126</u>
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities	6	(129,015)	(129,015)
Total expenditure		<u>(129,015)</u>	<u>(129,015)</u>
Net expenditure		(97,889)	(97,889)
Other recognised gains and losses			
Other gains/losses		20,663	20,663
Net movement in funds		(77,226)	(77,226)
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward		307,416	307,416
Total funds carried forward	14	<u>230,190</u>	<u>230,190</u>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.
The funds breakdown for 2023 is shown in note 14.

The notes on pages 31 to 39 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Connected Conservation Foundation

(Registration number: 11632911) Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2024

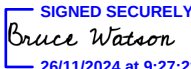
	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Current assets			
Debtors	10	2,239	2,049
Cash at bank and in hand	11	<u>170,826</u>	<u>235,526</u>
		173,065	237,575
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	12	<u>(15,748)</u>	<u>(7,385)</u>
Net assets		<u>157,317</u>	<u>230,190</u>
Funds of the charity:			
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		<u>157,317</u>	<u>230,190</u>
Total funds	14	<u>157,317</u>	<u>230,190</u>

For the financial year ending 31 March 2024 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The financial statements on pages 29 to 39 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 21 November 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

 SIGNED SECURELY
Bruce Watson
26/11/2024 at 9:27:21 AM UTC

.....
Mr B Watson
Trustee

The notes on pages 31 to 39 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

1 Charity status

The charity is limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

The address of its registered office is:

13 St Luke's Street

Chelsea

London

SW3 3RS

2 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102). They also comply with the Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011.

Basis of preparation

Connected Conservation Foundation meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

The financial statements are prepared in GBP, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

The trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of one year from the date of approval of the financial statements.

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity.

Income and endowments

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of the income receivable can be measured reliably.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Donations and legacies

Donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance by the charity before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Support costs

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, for example, allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Trade debtors

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Trade creditors

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the charity does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Borrowings

Interest-bearing borrowings are initially recorded at fair value, net of transaction costs. Interest-bearing borrowings are subsequently carried at amortised cost, with the difference between the proceeds, net of transaction costs, and the amount due on redemption being recognised as a charge to the Statement of Financial Activities over the period of the relevant borrowing.

Interest expense is recognised on the basis of the effective interest method and is included in interest payable and similar charges.

Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless the charity has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least twelve months after the reporting date.

Foreign exchange

Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate of exchange at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at the balance sheet date are reported at the rates of exchange prevailing at that date.

The results of overseas operations are translated at the average rates of exchange during the period and their balance sheets at the rates ruling at the balance sheet date. Exchange differences arising on translation of the opening net assets and results of overseas operations are reported in other comprehensive income and accumulated in equity (attributed to non-controlling interests as appropriate).

Other exchange differences are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which they arise except for:

- 1) exchange differences on transactions entered into to hedge certain foreign currency risks (see above);
- 2) exchange differences arising on gains or losses on non-monetary items which are recognised in other comprehensive income; and
- 3) in the case of the consolidated financial statements, exchange differences on monetary items receivable from or payable to a foreign operation for which settlement is neither planned nor likely to occur (therefore forming part of the net investment in the foreign operation), which are recognised in other comprehensive income and reported under equity.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Financial instruments

Classification

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial liabilities and equity instruments are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the charity after deducting all of its liabilities.

Recognition and measurement

All financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs), except for those financial assets classified as at fair value through profit or loss, which are initially measured at fair value (which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs), unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction. If an arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, the financial asset or financial liability is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are only offset in the statement of financial position when, and only when there exists a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and the charity intends either to settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Financial assets are derecognised when and only when a) the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire or are settled, b) the charity transfers to another party substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset, or c) the charity, despite having retained some, but not all, significant risks and rewards of ownership, has transferred control of the asset to another party.

Financial liabilities are derecognised only when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expires.

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds £
Donations and legacies;		
Donations	66,782	66,782
Total for 2024	66,782	66,782
Total for 2023	31,126	31,126

Connected Conservation Foundation

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

4 Independent examiner's remuneration

	2024 £	2023 £
Examination of the financial statements	<u>2,520</u>	<u>2,400</u>

5 Analysis of governance and support costs

	Satellites for Biodiversity £	Technical Support for all Protected Areas £	Core £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Support Costs					
Bank charges	-	-	318	318	433
Computer and Website costs	1,887	2,641	3,018	7,546	5,772
Staff Costs	29,506	44,258	24,588	98,352	90,339
Legal & professional fees	-	-	1,319	1,319	854
Other expenses - Travel	986	1,972	986	3,944	10,465
Measurement & Evaluation	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,084</u>
	32,379	48,871	30,229	111,479	112,947
Governance costs					
Independent examiner fees					
Examination of the financial statements	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,520</u>	<u>2,520</u>	<u>2,400</u>
	<u>32,379</u>	<u>48,871</u>	<u>32,749</u>	<u>113,999</u>	<u>115,347</u>

Connected Conservation Foundation

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

6 Expenditure on charitable activities

Analysis by fund

		Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds £
Satellites for Biodiversity		21,487	21,487
Allocated support costs	5	111,479	111,479
Governance costs	5	2,520	2,520
Total for 2024		<u>135,486</u>	<u>135,486</u>
Total for 2023		<u>129,015</u>	<u>129,015</u>

7 Other recognised gains/losses

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Foreign currency (gains)/losses	4,169	4,169	(20,663)
	<u>4,169</u>	<u>4,169</u>	<u>(20,663)</u>

Connected Conservation Foundation

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

8 Staff costs

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management / leadership team) employed by the charity during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

	2024 No	2023 No
Administrative	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>

The number of employees whose emoluments fell within the following bands was:

	2024 No	2023 No
£60,001 - £70,000	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £98,352 (2023 - £90,338).

The chief executive officer, as the highest paid member of staff, received benefits totalling £68,961 (2023 - £62,966).

9 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any other benefits from the charity during the year. Last year Mr B Watson was reimbursed £916, for travel expenses.

10 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Prepayments	<u>2,239</u>	<u>2,049</u>

11 Cash and cash equivalents

	2024 £	2023 £
Cash at bank	<u>170,826</u>	<u>235,526</u>

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	9,387	-
Other taxation and social security	3,081	2,298
Other creditors	760	2,687
Accruals	<u>2,520</u>	<u>2,400</u>
	<u>15,748</u>	<u>7,385</u>

Connected Conservation Foundation

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

13 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

14 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Other recognised gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
Unrestricted funds					
<i>General</i>					
General	230,190	66,782	(135,486)	(4,169)	157,317
	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Other recognised gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
Unrestricted funds					
<i>General</i>					
General	307,416	31,126	(129,014)	20,662	230,190

15 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds at 31 March 2024 £
Current assets	173,065	173,065
Current liabilities	(15,748)	(15,748)
Total net assets	157,317	157,317
	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds at 31 March 2023 £
Current assets	237,575	237,575
Current liabilities	(7,385)	(7,385)
Total net assets	230,190	230,190

Connected Conservation Foundation

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

16 Financial instruments

Categorisation of financial instruments

	2024	2023
	£	£
Financial assets measured at amortised cost	170,826	235,526
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	(2,880)	(2,699)

Accounts

Company registration number: 11632911

Charity registration number: 1183328

Connected Conservation Foundation

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Stewart & Co Accountants LLP
Knoll House
Knoll Road
Camberley
Surrey
GU15 3SY

Connected Conservation Foundation

Contents

Trustees' Report	1 to 27
Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities	28
Independent Examiner's Report	29
Statement of Financial Activities	30
Balance Sheet	31
Notes to the Financial Statements	32 to 41

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees and officers

The trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Trustees:	Mr D D Ward Mr A L Rhodes Mr J E M Baille Mr B Watson
Charity Registration Number:	1183328
Company Registration Number:	11632911
Registered Office:	13 St Luke's Street Chelsea London SW3 3RS
Independent Examiner:	Stewart & Co Accountants LLP Knoll House Knoll Road Camberley Surrey GU15 3SY

Objectives and activities

Objects of the charity

The charity's objects, as set out in its Articles of Association, are

- To promote, for the benefit of the public, the conservation, protection and improvement of wildlife, in particular but not exclusively through the development and application of innovative technology; and
- Such other purposes, determined by the trustees, at their sole discretion as are exclusively charitable under the laws of England and Wales.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Aims of the charity

Earth's biodiversity is facing a perilous global crisis. The intricate web of life, encompassing diverse species and their interactions with the environment, is unraveling. Human-induced factors have triggered the onset of the sixth mass extinction event.

The latest findings from the WWF Living Planet Report 2022 underscore the severity of the situation, revealing a staggering 69% decline in global wildlife populations since 1970¹. More than half of land ecosystems are now grappling with critically low species diversity. This alarming trend serves as a stark warning, signaling that we stand at a crucial tipping point that demands immediate reversal. We all need nature, fresh water, clean air, plants and animals for food. We are all part of our planet's ecosystems - where continued biodiversity loss impacts our health, livelihoods and global economies.

Immediate global intervention is imperative, and in December 2022, 196 countries agreed to protect 30% of the planet by 2030 (30x30). To fulfill this commitment, firstly we must safeguard existing intact ecosystems, and then restore degraded land. The pivotal role of technology cannot be overstated in helping countries and conservation stakeholders achieve 30x30 targets.

The Connected Conservation Foundation (CCF) is committed to assisting local collaborators in leveraging technology to protect and monitor wildlife and natural ecosystems, alongside empowering community-led conservation efforts through our dedicated initiatives.

CCF joins the capabilities of technology companies, donors and local conservationists, mobilising public and private partners to transform conservation together to tackle extinction-drivers. We help protected areas secure and use the right technologies to stop poaching, prevent human-wildlife conflict, reduce habitat loss and sustainably manage natural resources for both wildlife and local people.

Our projects support field teams working in some of the most hostile and untamed regions, equipping protected areas with digital tools and connecting 5,600,000 hectares across 29 conservancies in Kenya, South Africa and Zambia. Our work supports the restoration and protection of over 35 threatened species, including black and white rhinos, African elephants, pangolins, leopards, lions, hippos, cheetahs, wild dogs, hirola, brown hyenas, and the southern ground hornbill.

By 2030, through technology, we aspire to protect 10 million hectares of habitat, conserve over 50+ threatened species, and enhance the livelihoods of local people living in and around conservancies.

CCF contributes to the following UN Sustainable Development Goals:

4: Life on Land. We help local partners manage and protect an array of threatened species and habitats. Where technology gives an early warning of threats and issues to prevent wildlife deaths, habitat loss and promote a healthy coexistence between nature and local communities, so both can thrive.

13: Climate action. Strengthening resilient ecosystems, where technology helps stakeholders manage habitats and natural resources sustainability, particularly in climate-stressed areas. Where healthy vegetation and soil removes CO2 from our climate.

15: Quality education. Increasing training and opportunities for local people to grow their digital skills and technical capabilities.

16: Peace and Justice. Bringing peace and security to local communities and those at the forefront of nature protection, to keep them safe.

¹ WWF's Living Planet Report (2022)

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Our solutions

Since 2015, the Connected Conservation initiative has worked to harness the collective capabilities of technology companies Cisco, Dimension Data, Airbus Foundation, Actility and Microsoft to deliver impactful conservation technology solutions to local conservation partners across Africa. Excitingly, our initiative is now broadening its horizons, extending this support to new partners in Thailand, Namibia and Papua New Guinea.

CCF addresses diverse technological needs within parks, ranging from providing basic but vital internet connectivity at reserve headquarters, to establishing landscape-wide communications and connectivity networks across vast, remote areas. Our involvement spans from monitoring entire conservancies with high-resolution satellite imagery, to deploying advanced proactive solutions that utilise on-the-ground sensors and cameras to pre-emptively detect and mitigate threats.

This range of both basic and cutting-edge technologies empower conservation managers to monitor people, rangers, visitors, vehicles, natural resources and wildlife. Where real-time data flows into a central operations room, providing rangers with round-the-clock visibility of everything happening across a conservancy, giving them early warning of conservation issues to facilitate a swift response.

This technology enables our partner's conservation teams to multiply their capacity, save costs and increase the speed of decision-making and response, significantly enhancing the effectiveness of protected area management.

While the conservation technology sector continues to evolve with integrated tools and services, the operational capabilities and technical maturity of protected areas vary widely. CCF not only contributes donated technology solutions, but aids sites to choose appropriate tools, develop sustainable technical capabilities, and design infrastructure tailored to their distinctive challenges. We facilitate support to field teams in planning, acquiring and implementing landscape-scale solutions that deliver profound impacts for conservation management, protection and community coexistence.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Conservation challenges we seek to address

1. Protecting species and delivering peace and security across conservancies

The Illegal Wildlife Trade (IWT) threatens many endangered species. Africa's large mammals, particularly rhinos and elephants, are under threat from poaching. We must halt this illegal activity as these animals are crucial biodiversity and ecological drivers, creating habitats for other species, catalysing opportunities for nature-based economies and local employment and inspiring restoration and rewilding programmes.

Whilst African authorities have estimated around 23,290 rhinos across the continent at the end of 2022² - 5.2% more than in 2021 - at least 561 rhinos were still illegally poached during 2022. For the first time in a decade, rhino numbers are moving in the right direction. So we must not drop our guard but further restore and build upon this positive development.

Additionally, commercial bushmeat poaching continues to affect rare and endangered wildlife. In the DRC, bushmeat poachers can earn significant income in a country where most live on less than \$2.15 per day. A 2022³ study in Maniema province revealed porters paying hunters around \$4.70 for small monkeys and \$4 for duikers, with potential earnings of \$25 for transporting loads to Kindu. On the other hand, capturing a baby bonobo can yield as much as \$450.

Furthermore, around 150 rangers worldwide die each year protecting wildlife, with poacher conflicts responsible for 50% to 70% of ranger deaths on the job⁴. IWT also impacts livelihoods. The loss of flagship and iconic species threatens local wildlife-based economies dependent on tourists seeking experiences with majestic species.⁵

² International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). (2023). "African Rhino Numbers Are Increasing Despite Poaching." Press Release. Retrieved from <https://www.iucn.org/press-release/202309/african-rhino-numbers-are-increasing-despite-poaching>

³ Hart, J. A., Omene, O., & Hart, T. B. (2022). Vouchers control for illegal bushmeat transport and reveal dynamics of authorized wild meat trade in central Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). *African Journal of Ecology*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1111/aje.12965>

⁴ The Thin Green Line Foundation [online] Viewed 01 Aug, 2022

⁵ Greg L. Warchol (2004) *The Transnational Illegal Wildlife Trade*, *Criminal Justice Studies*, 17:1, 57-73, DOI: 10.1080/08884310420001679334

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

2. Improving coexistence between humans and wildlife

As human populations grow and space for nature decreases, human-wildlife conflict (HWC) is now a critical global challenge. Today, species such as elephants, lions and hyenas increasingly share habitats with local communities, leading to human and wildlife casualties, property and crop damage, and a substantial rise in livestock predation. A single incident of livestock predation can result in the loss of up to two-thirds of a household's annual income⁸.

Competition for grazing and water resources between wildlife and local communities is on the rise, with competition anticipated to intensify as the global impacts of climate change become more pronounced⁶.

The expansion of human settlements and farmland is also increasingly coming into conflict with wildlife, exemplified by the issue of landscape fragmentation. South Africa witnesses a tragic annual loss of between 1,000 and 2,000 pangolins due to electric fence-related electrocutions⁷, which dwarfs the estimated 50-100 pangolins trafficked.

What often hinders effective resolution in such situations is the absence of data pinpointing the nature and location of these issues to prevent conflicts. Habitat mapping and early-warning technologies can empower conservation organisations to gather essential data, allowing communities to proactively predict the flow of wildlife through landscape and pre-empt HWC events.

⁶ Abrahms, B. (2021). *Human-wildlife conflict under climate change*. *Science*, 373(6554), DOI: 10.1126/science.abj4216.

⁷ Pietersen, Darren. (2022). *Body Size, Defensive Behaviour, and Season Influence Mortality Probability in Wildlife Interactions with Electrified Fences*. *African Journal of Wildlife Research*. 52. 10.3957/056.052.0172.

⁸ Dickman, A. J., Macdonald, E. A., & Macdonald, D. W. (2011). *A review of financial instruments to pay for predator conservation and encourage human-carnivore coexistence*. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 108(34), 13937-13944. <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.1012972108>

3. Restoring healthy habitats and resilient ecosystems

Ecosystems support all life on Earth, yet increasing land-use change for agriculture and climate-change driven drought is damaging the health and viability of forests, grasslands and savannas. With only 15% of the Earth's landmass currently protected, 196 countries have agreed to protect 30% of the planet by 2030.

Technologies are vital in helping countries achieve these 30x30 goals as they offer an up-to-date understanding of the integrity of protected areas. Additionally they assist management activities to prevent, halt and reverse ecosystem degradation, restore natural processes that remove Co2 from the climate, create suitable habitats for endangered species, whilst sustaining water, soil and vegetation for local people.

By making environmental monitoring technologies available (including high-resolution satellite imagery and network sensors), conservationists can monitor and manage the health of natural ecosystems. Satellite imagery makes it possible to measure changes on the earth's surface and understand ecosystem dynamics, which may range from the rapid detection of deforestation to locating endangered species in hard-to-reach areas and other human activities changing the landscape.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

4. Developing technical capacity to sustain technologies

Technology is a big multiplier, offering substantial leaps forward, but achieving lasting success hinges on the proficient use of these tools by local practitioners. However, disparities in technical expertise and a lack of awareness about suitable technologies can impede effective use. CCF firmly believes that investment in the technical education of field partners is paramount to ensuring long-term benefits of technology beyond the initial implementation phase. CCF collaborates with technology companies and local organisations in-country, to provide technical support, skills and capabilities, for the successful adoption of tools.

Objectives, Strategies and Activities

To address these challenges, we aim to:

1. Make effective technology and real-time intelligence available to conservation teams at the forefront of environmental protection and aid them to pre-empt, manage and mitigate conservation and climate challenges.
2. Provide education and ongoing training and support to build local technical capacity and ensure technologies are locally and effectively managed.
3. Foster trust and collaboration across local partners, conservationists, technologists and academia to accelerate the implementation of appropriate technologies.
4. Catalyse investment and accelerate sustainable technology solutions to scale long-lasting conservation impact.
5. Be conservation-led and governed by a robust technology impact measurement framework to ensure multi-partner investments consistently deliver target conservation outcomes.

Our activities span ongoing work to equip conservation teams with a full range of conservation technologies in 9 protected areas, whilst bringing connectivity and communications to a further 20.

In these regions, communication systems, network connectivity, satellite imagery and sensing devices are playing a pivotal role in supporting a spectrum of conservation endeavors. These range from thwarting rhino poaching in South Africa; to combating illegal fishing in Zambia; space-based monitoring of wildlife and ecosystems to manage resources amid severe drought in Kenya; and improving wildlife and community co-existence across partner sites.

In our commitment to biodiversity-important Protected Areas, we actively assist in designing and procuring technologies tailored to each site's specific needs and challenges. We also work hard to fundraise to support the adoption of proven technologies, amplifying their conservation impact.

CCF's main activities against these objectives within the period:

1. Catalyse investments and resources from technology companies and donors for conservation.
2. Improve monitoring and management of species and their habitats using high resolution satellite imagery
3. Use satellite data to define and lobby for a new Protected Area in Northern Kenya for the Lorian Ecosystem
4. Extending Africa's largest IoT conservation network with Northern Rangelands Trust providing additional connectivity to 20 community-led conservancies
5. Equip vital connectivity to Park HQs across African Parks' 14 sites

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

6. Tackle rhino poaching in Madikwe Game Reserve, South Africa, with LoRaWan technologies, network, data management and sensors
7. Advance our impact assessment framework for conservation technologies.
8. Sustain existing CCF supported technology solutions in historical partner sites
9. Bring technology innovation to the ground, for real-world testing against conservation outcomes
10. Develop new partnerships and a refreshed CCF strategy
11. Grow global awareness of CCF

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

For this reporting period the main activities undertaken include:

1. Catalyse investments and resources from technology companies and donors for conservation.

CCF has strong partnerships with technology companies Cisco, Dimension Data and Airbus Foundation, where these companies donate equipment, engineering, cloud services, data and associated software licensing.

CCF has facilitated technology-focused donations to the value of:

- 2021 - 2022 - £1,700,000 (£1,600,000 equipment, £90,000 satellite data, £10,000 services)
- 2022 - 2023 - £900,000 (£740,000 equipment, £85,000 satellite data, £75,000 services)

CCF has engaged with our technology and local partners to understand conservation challenges, form the requirements, scope the solution technologies, secure and ship the tools to site, and assist field practitioners with the implementation of equipment and long-term technical support.

These technology-focused donations are made direct to our field partners, where CCF also sits as a nexus point in the middle of all partnerships to write and manage all the legal agreements. These donations are extremely valuable to field-practitioners, where the tools multiply their capacity and enhance their conservation impacts.

After successfully securing a technology donation, CCF diligently engages in catalysing additional matched-funding for our local conservation partners. The realization of these collaborative projects requires a comprehensive package of support. The donations obtained, coupled with the collaborative momentum that CCF generates, have enabled all the projects outlined in this report.

2. Improve monitoring and management of species and their habitats using high resolution satellite imagery.

The Airbus Foundation and the Connected Conservation Foundation (CCF) have forged a powerful partnership to confront the ongoing extinction crisis, harnessing the capabilities of Airbus Defence and Space satellite imagery to empower frontline defenders of nature.

Satellite imagery has ushered in a new era for conservation efforts, providing an unprecedented level of detail that allows scientists and conservationists to closely monitor and comprehend the health of invaluable ecosystems like never before. Serving as a vital tool, it is helping detect deforestation, tracking illegal activities and monitoring wildlife populations in hard-to-reach areas.

During this period, our collaboration launched the 'Satellites for Biodiversity' global grant award, aimed at accelerating the use of high-resolution satellite imagery for biodiversity conservation. This grant received global interest with a wealth of applications, where seven transformational projects have been selected.

During the next period, three winners and four runners-up of this grant will be awarded exclusive access to the most advanced optical satellite imagery, boasting an impressive 30cm spatial resolution from Airbus Pléiades Neo and 50cm from Pléiades. Then additionally the top three winners will receive \$5,000 USD in financial support from CCF, access to Airbus' Archive Library upon request, and complimentary ESRI software and cloud service support.

The selected winning projects, include:

The Asian Institute of Technology, which is leveraging AI and high-resolution satellite data to map buffer zones to inform local conservation management of the Asian Elephant habitat in Thailand's Sai Yok National Park.

The Tree Kangaroo Conservation Program (TKCP), will assist local communities in using satellite data to protect essential habitats for the endangered Matschie's tree kangaroo, Eastern long-beaked echidna, and nearly 5,000 fauna and flora species in Papua New Guinea's YUS Conservation Area.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

The Elephant-Human Relations Aid (EHRA), will focus on predicting and preventing human-elephant conflicts between Namibia's desert elephants, communities and local farmers.

Four runners-up working in the Masai Mara in Kenya, have also been selected to establish a 'Masai Mara Satellite Sandbox.' This initiative will contribute to the protection of giant pangolins, mapping invasive species, enhancing wildlife connectivity and delineating land boundaries for deploying geo-fences for elephant trackers to mitigate the escalating human-wildlife conflict.

3. Use satellite data to define and lobby for a new Protected Area in Northern Kenya for the Lorian Ecosystem

In the heart of Kenya, a remarkable conservation initiative is making waves. Aiming to restore the delicate balance of life from Marsabit to Meru, the Lorian Swamp holds a pivotal role in maintaining ecological connectivity across this unique landscape. Led by the Northern Rangelands Trust (NRT), this five-year project sets out to transform conservation of this important landscape and foster coexistence between people and wildlife.

1900km² of donated Pléiades 50cm imagery from the Airbus Foundation, through CCF, is assisting the team in monitoring and mapping wildlife corridors and identifying vegetation types. The detail in this fine resolution imagery is enabling NRT researchers to develop more informed plans and conservation activities to deal with evolving climate-driven events and changing natural resources. Like understanding hydrology channels and human settlements and mapping the impact of invasive species - specifically species like *Prosopis juliflora*, which is a risk to biodiversity and livelihoods. Due to their seed pods containing high-sugar content, they are very potent to livestock, causing dental issues and death. By enabling NRT to observe and map these ecosystem dynamics, they can plan and execute management strategies.

Additionally, governmental agencies, including the National Museums of Kenya, Kenyatta University, and the Kenya Wildlife Service, will work with NRT to use this imagery to plan the mitigation of human-wildlife conflict occurrences between elephants, lions, and local communities.

Lastly and importantly, this satellite imagery is helping define and plan for the designation of four new conservancies, supporting conservancy management plans submitted by the Kenya Wildlife Service, for the designation of these biodiversity hotspots as Protected Areas. Data collected on Lorian Swamp will provide a baseline to measure ecosystem recovery over the next ten years for NRT and NRT's partners' conservation projects.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

4. Extending Africa's largest IoT conservation network with Northern Rangelands Trust providing additional connectivity to 20 community-led conservancies

Working with private and public partners, we have collaborated to support Northern Rangelands Trust (NRT) in Kenya, facilitating the connection of multiple conservancies and the establishment of one of the largest LoRaWan conservation networks in Africa.

Furthering the LoRaWan network (originating from Phase 1 in Lewa), we connected 20 new NRT community-led conservancies in this fiscal year. The network now spans a vast climate-stressed region, totalling over 3,000,000 ha, home to a diverse array of threatened species where over 100,000 households coexist with wildlife.

A new era of IoT conservation sensors

Twenty LoRaWan gateways and shared network infrastructure facilitate the swift onboarding and deployment of over 200 sensors that enable the transmission of real-time wildlife and environmental data across vast distances to a central control room. This provides conservation managers with invaluable situational awareness, accessible through EarthRanger.

The project has introduced innovative methods for rhino population monitoring and has facilitated the removal of fences between conservancies, fostering larger, interconnected habitats where rhinos can roam safely. This approach aids in halting poaching, sharing information on vulnerabilities, strengthening conservation management strategies and enabling conservancies to share security response teams.

Managing and verifying natural resources

2022 saw extreme drought in East Africa, sweeping away grasslands, water, local food and animals. NRT has huge challenges to sustainably manage its natural resources and to pre-empt and reduce human and wildlife conflict. This IoT network has supported the deployment of livestock tracking and environmental monitoring sensors, allowing communities and field teams to implement rotational grazing strategies and observe water levels that have been threatening the success of human-wildlife coexistence.

Connectivity for improved livelihoods

This backbone network is also empowering local women by providing connectivity for data collection and analysis on wildlife movements, habitat activities and reporting crime-related activities.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

5. Equip vital connectivity to Park HQs across African Parks' 14 sites

CCF, with our partner Cisco, have helped African Parks enable reliable, well managed internet connectivity across all 14 Park Headquarters in eight African countries including Bazaruto, Central African Republic, Chad, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Malawi, Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, and Zambia. This achievement is crucial for enhancing conservation operations, wildlife management and fostering harmonious coexistence in remote regions.

With the donation and deployment of 14 of the 24 Meraki router devices so far, the collaboration has empowered African Parks with an enterprise-level IT solution to efficiently manage connectivity and operations. This has proven invaluable in ensuring the safety and well-being of both staff and local communities, particularly in regions where tribal conflicts and other challenges create unpredictable environments.

African Parks can now remotely manage the use of bandwidth in each park from a centralised location, enabling the team to prioritise and block unauthorized use and traffic flows, ensuring dedicating bandwidth exclusively to vital conservation work.

With a reliable and stable internet connection, local teams can operate valuable services and programs via the cloud. Improving the wide use of EarthRanger and Cloud storage services, effectively eliminating obstacles to storing, sharing and analysing data, imperative to conservation and security operations.

Moreover, the five-year donation of advanced license support from Cisco has relieved African Parks of financial burdens and granted them access to Cisco's support team. This support has proven invaluable, as it has enabled the prompt repair and replacement of faulty items. This is a level of service typically beyond the financial reach of African Parks. This ensures the long-term sustainability and health of Meraki devices and connectivity.

African Parks are local leaders on delivering key infrastructure and services to some of the remotest regions in Africa - from roads to water and electricity. CCF are happy to help African Parks add vital internet connectivity to their digital infrastructure provision in some of the world's wildest areas, helping create more stable conditions for people and wildlife to thrive.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

6. Tackle rhino poaching in Madikwe Game Reserve, South Africa, with LoRaWan technologies, network, data management and sensors

The Madikwe Game Reserve, stretching across an expansive 750 square kilometers, stands as a beacon of hope in South Africa's conservation history. Landscapes and wildlife populations have been restored at scale, helping populations of white and black rhino, elephants, giraffes, cheetahs, lions, African wild dogs, and more than 400 avian species to bounce back. Fragmented farmlands have been united, fences removed and invasive vegetation curbed, allowing grasslands and their species to reflourish. The reserve has over 30 lodges devoted to tourism, generating over 1,000 employment opportunities.

Yet, this monumental achievement is under imminent threat from rhino poaching. Madikwe shelters both white and black rhinos, rendering them susceptible to ruthless poachers. The urgency of the situation cannot be overstated. A mere 6,487 black rhinos remain in all of Africa⁹, and South Africa grapples with profound poaching losses, recording 231 rhinos poached in the initial six months of 2023 alone⁹. Madikwe's rhinos are repeatedly targeted by poachers.

CCF joined forces with Madikwe Futures in 2021 to help safeguard these majestic creatures. In 2021-2022 CCF donated essential thermal cameras that were strategically placed along the reserve's perimeter to monitor known poaching entry and exit routes. Poachers attempting to enter the reserve were swiftly detected, and their activities were thwarted. During the period 2022-23, the team continues to report zero activity from poachers within the vicinity of the cameras, confirming long-term deterrent effects. Furthermore, recent new use-cases of the thermal cameras have included helping detect the location and direction of felt fires.

In the fiscal year 2022-23, CCF's sustained collaboration with Madikwe Futures to establish a LoRaWAN network across the areas of the parks at risk from poaching. CCF additionally extended financial support for the acquisition of LoRa-enabled sensing devices, encompassing fence sensors, vehicle and ranger trackers.

This system facilitates real-time tracking of security teams, rangers, staff and eventually tourists. This capability enhances monitoring for suspicious behavior, aiding in the identification of individuals who may be assisting poachers. The trackers significantly elevate the team's responsiveness to conservation issues by providing situational awareness of all field rangers. This, in turn, allows for command and control to swiftly deploy the nearest resources to address potential threats.

Longer-term, the accumulated tracking data will undergo analysis to unveil movement patterns, identify high-risk areas and optimise patrol routes. This data-driven approach will empower Madikwe to make informed decisions, ultimately enhancing their conservation strategies and resource allocation.

Recent technological strides by Madikwe Futures have yielded several success stories, most notably the successful capture and arrest of known poachers. This achievement has significantly bolstered security, not only within the reserve but also in the adjacent local communities where crime and conflict stemming from the same poaching syndicates have surged. The elimination of these criminals is translating into a tangible reduction in rhino deaths within Madikwe, concurrently fostering a more tranquil environment for local residents. This, in turn, contributes to improved livelihoods and overall well-being for the community.

Madikwe is an unconnected landscape where there is only cell phone signal near community areas. To help communication, CCF has provided Push-To-Talk (PTT) Iridium Satellite phones for Madikwe's frontline rangers, helping them communicate efficiently and collaborate closely from anywhere. Madikwe reports that the phones are always crystal clear and have been paramount when communicating in and outside the reserve in tracking suspect poaching vehicles. CCF is happy to support Madikwe Game Reserve in protecting its wildlife and see it thrive as a vital conservation and ecological hub.

⁹ International Rhino Foundation. (2023). *State of the Rhino*. Retrieved from [https://rhinos.org/about-rhinos/state-of-the-rhino/#:~:text=On%20September%2021%2C%202023%2C%20the,species%20in%20over%](https://rhinos.org/about-rhinos/state-of-the-rhino/#:~:text=On%20September%2021%2C%202023%2C%20the,species%20in%20over%20)

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

20a%20decade

7. Advance our impact assessment framework for conservation technologies.

In our ongoing efforts to drive effective conservation technologies, one significant hurdle we've encountered is the absence of a robust evaluation framework to gauge the impact of technology within a conservation context. At CCF, we have recognised the critical need for a comprehensive Impact Measurement Framework for Conservation Technologies to accomplish the following:

1. Demonstrate value: assist protected area managers in showcasing the tangible benefits of technology, enabling them to make a compelling case for implementing the right tools and securing funding.
2. Ensure efficacy: guarantee that technology interventions deliver the intended conservation benefits. Showing evidence that technology has improved management effectiveness.
3. Optimise resource use: prevent the wastage of cost, time and resources while reducing the reporting burden on ranger teams.

In Phase 1 of this project, CCF collaborated with impact measurement experts Conservation Alpha, along with a consortium of conservation experts, NGOs and technology companies to lay the groundwork for this framework. This initial phase focused on defining an overarching taxonomy and shaping the framework's early iterations. We categorised the desired management outcomes, grouped the technologies to achieve them and listed the indicators to measure the technology's performance in different contexts.

Toward the end of the period, we embarked on Phase 2, working in close partnership with the Sabi Sand Nature Reserve (SSNR) in South Africa to validate, test and refine our framework by applying it to real-world interventions and use-cases across the reserve. Technologies were assessed against initial indicators including the accuracy of early threat detection, the speed of information relay for management decisions and the quality and reliability of information for informed action. SSNR's advanced digital infrastructure, connectivity, wide range of deployed sensors and wealth of data on incidents and technology activity, provides an ideal testbed for our framework.

With new funding, our ultimate goal is to test and refine the impact framework across enough sample sites and refine it for further use cases, so it can adapt to various geographies, challenges and conservation strategies. Once complete, this framework will be shared openly with the conservation community to ensure all conservation technology practitioners can benefit, to help shape, develop and deploy impactful solutions.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

8. Sustain existing CCF supported technology solutions in historical partner sites

Through 2022-2023, Connected Conservation Foundation's local engineer partners in Dimension Data have continued working across field projects to assist with the maintenance and administration of technology solutions that are now progressing into their second and third phases.

CCF and partners have provided essential support to field teams throughout the period. A notable example includes supporting a unique platform for sensor integrations, a critical component that ensures data can be transferred from the field into EarthRanger for visualisation. This ongoing collaboration helps teams quickly comprehend the value of newly installed sensors for conservation purposes. Helping all parks manage the recent proliferation of LoRaWan sensors, which has led many of our partners to adopt new monitoring methods.

9. Bring technology innovation to the ground, for real-world testing against conservation outcomes

Our commitment to technological innovation is grounded in practical evaluation and testing of new conservation technologies against real-world conservation scenarios and target outcomes.

In collaboration with 51 Degrees, Dimension Data, and our field partners, trials include testing of an array of innovative new LoRa enabled-sensors for security, monitoring and improved operations. These trials have been instrumental in deployment of effective low-cost, low-power sensors across protected areas. New additions include tracking of livestock movements and environmental monitoring sensors that enable NRT to manage forage and water sustainably, especially during periods of extreme drought and heightened pressure on natural resources.

In Madikwe and Sabi Sand Nature Reserve, teams are actively exploring the application of new sensors for various purposes, including ranger and canine tracking, monitoring fence voltage, panic alarms, gate openings and vehicle access. Ongoing modernisation and support of the LoRa integration platform by Dimension Data has facilitated the rapid scalability and onboarding of new proven sensors to all parks. This testing framework and adaptability has empowered our partner sites to expand specific conservation use cases and drive innovations.

Regular communication of results with all our field partners ensures an understanding of and sharing any new benefits derived from technology interventions.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

10. Build conservation technology capacity for local engineers and conservation field staff

Through our partnerships, we collaborate with local organisations in-country, empowering them with technology capabilities and skills for enhanced biodiversity conservation. With Dimension Data, we have provided ongoing assistance and training to conservation teams in the onboarding and configuration of new on-the-ground sensors.

Additionally, at the end of the fiscal year 2022-23, CCF began a satellite capacity programme, providing support and training to our Satellites for Biodiversity Award grantees operating in Kenya, Papua New Guinea, Namibia and Thailand. One-to-one support has started on successfully tasking, capturing, downloading, extracting, accessing high-resolution satellite imagery, thereby positioning them for success in their conservation projects. CCF and partners also started supporting field teams by ensuring they have software and resources needed for their data analysis and mapping needs. This work will continue in the next period.

CCF encourages sharing of knowledge and best practice between sites and gives direct one-to-one specialist training for conservation partners on the ground. Through working on joint projects and facilitating skill developmental support, we foster local capacity and their autonomy in leading future conservation technology initiatives.

11. Share and exchange knowledge and experience widely

CCF acknowledges the vital role of sharing the latest technology knowledge and learnings from the private and public sector for biodiversity preservation. We actively engage with key sectors at prominent events.

Our team presented at major technology and conservation events in the UK and abroad, such as the UK Tech Conference in London, sharing learnings and showcasing the impact of private and NGO collaboration in conservation technology. Our Executive Director participated in the Airbus Digital Recruitment Day, reaching a huge global audience and many representatives from France, Germany, Spain and the UK to showcase our work. As part of this event, CCF engaged with current Airbus employees to encourage leadership in biodiversity impact management and work to influence businesses on key environmental and climate issues.

We also prioritise sharing and learning. We disseminate our research findings and insights while encouraging others to do the same. Our team has taken part in significant events such as the Earth Ranger conference in South Africa in 2022 and the IUCN's Human-Wildlife Conflict and Coexistence Conference in Oxford in 2023, alongside participating in workshops and online webinars throughout the year.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

12. Develop new partnerships and a refreshed CCF strategy

In late 2022, CCF faced a new challenge when NTT.ltd ended their official partnership and core funding, to refocus on humanitarian work. Nevertheless, CCF remains unwavering in its commitment to the preservation of species and habitats through technology. We embarked on a strategic reorientation, reshaping CCF's approach.

Our overarching objective remains to forge alliances between private corporations, donors, and local conservation partners, to help protect wildlife and natural ecosystems, and empower community-led conservation through technology. With continued support from Cisco and Airbus Foundation, we will continue to provide the digital infrastructure countries, conservation actors and protected areas need to achieve relevant 30x30 targets. In addition to anti-poaching efforts, the strategy now encompasses a wider set of ambitious goals to tackle further extinction-drivers. Furthermore, assisting protected areas with monitoring and restoring healthy ecosystems that remove Co2 from our climate; empowering community-led conservation initiatives; and fostering positive coexistence between communities and wildlife. As our partners contend with the impacts of climate change and shifts in animal and human behavior, novel challenges are arising, where technology and collaboration are providing solutions.

This has also involved formulating comprehensive strategies for donor engagement, communication, marketing, fundraising and operations. Additionally, CCF has driven efficiencies across our operations, and, whenever feasible, brought capabilities in-house.

Addition of new partners

In early 2023, CCF were delighted to have secured a partnership agreement with Actility, a world leader in Low-Power Wide-Area Networks (LPWAN) industrial-grade connectivity solutions for the Internet of Things (IoT). Actility is now working with CCF to offer their Things Network software licenses and support for all our field projects.

Additionally CCF has further solidified the alliance between sports and conservation by deepening our connection with Birdies4Rhinos, a rapidly expanding group of 22 global golfers dedicated to fundraising for CCF. They generously donate for each birdie they score.

In the past fiscal year, we were thrilled to welcome two prominent new players, Tommy Fleetwood and Paul Marks, into the Birdies4Rhinos family, bolstering our fundraising support for the next period. The team continues to represent rhino conservation and the vital role conservation technology is playing.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

13. Grow global awareness of CCF

Our refined communications strategy focuses on spotlighting our local partners' work first, then showcasing how CCF helps. We are dedicated to assisting in-country partners in scaling their projects, expanding their own brand's reach, and sharing their valuable insights with a broad audience, both locally and internationally.

We continued to grow our social media presence, showcasing CCF's interconnected stories of impact and how our partners are growing in the conservation technology landscape.

We have nurtured and strengthened our relationships with the communication teams of our esteemed partners, including Cisco, NRT, Actility, Airbus Foundation, Sabi Sand Nature Reserve, Madikwe Futures, African Parks and our most recent Biodiversity Satellite Award grantees. CCF has focused on creating content that centers around local voices, energy, struggles and triumphs, ensuring that our joint impacts and partnership collaboration is at the center of our storytelling.

Increasing visibility

Our communication and storytelling work has included:

Advancing biodiversity conservation from space: We went big with the launch of our Satellites for Biodiversity grant in partnership with Airbus Foundation, to attract a wealth of applications. This generated interviews in prominent publications including MongaBay and features in respected platforms such as News Space Africa, IT Web, Catapult Satellite Applications, Tech UK, TS2, and Envrio Link. The social media campaign video was shared by some of the biggest players in the Earth Observation community.

Showcasing success in pioneering Northern Kenya's IoT conservation network: We took pride in sharing the success of our work in helping Northern Kenya establish Africa's largest landscape-wide IoT Conservation Network. This achievement significantly boosted our media and social media presence, with highlights in well-regarded publications like the World Economic Forum, RFID Journal, Digital CxO, Fast Company, Control Drives Automation, and TelecomPaper.

Growing our social media reach and engagement

CCF saw a dramatic rise in engagement rates, helping us become more well known on the world stage. (565% engagement increase across Facebook posts, 35% across Instagram and 19% on Twitter. LinkedIn supporters grew by 259%, Twitter by 96% and 85% for Instagram). Our strategic focus on utilisation of video assets and ensuring all partners are tagged and celebrated throughout our communications, has resulted in heightened engagement with our content. By expanding our coverage through social media and deepening our engagement with existing connections, we aspire to help promote the hard work, successes and calls for action of our field partners, fostering a collective community approach.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

How do these activities relate to our longer-term aims and objectives?

On the road to protecting 30% of the planet by 2030, over the next seven years, CCF is committed to equipping more protected areas with impactful technologies to help recover and protect 10,000,000 hectares of intact ecosystems, preserve 50+ threatened species and benefit the local people living in or around reserves.

All activities during the period have helped CCF improve our capabilities to deliver these longer-term aims, across three focus areas:

1. Implementation of robust, proven technologies - to help our partners monitor and protect wildlife and natural ecosystems, empower community-led beneficiation initiatives and improve conservation management operations across vast biodiverse areas.
2. Catalyse and unite investments, resources and supporters to address our local partner's technology needs and challenges.
3. Support development of local technical capacity to use and maintain appropriate technologies.
4. Bring technology innovation to the ground, evaluate its potential to deliver conservation outcomes.

Significant steps achieved this year to realise our longer-term aims, include:

- Deploying LoRaWan network coverage for 20 further community-led conservancies in Kenya.
- Leveraging donated satellite imagery. This is enabling rapid protection and monitoring of exponential additional hectares. We've grown our partnership activities with The Airbus Foundation to make this critical data more accessible to biodiversity conservation globally.
- Building trust with diverse actors, as a credible collaborating partner, offering valuable technical design and support to bring the right solutions to more protected areas.
- Improving our brand to secure new, larger donations and technology partners, who can provide valuable capabilities.

Public benefit

The above activities have been undertaken to help preserve our planet's rich biodiversity and natural resources. The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Achievements and performance

Since it was founded, CCF has enabled landscape-wide technology solutions for the protection and monitoring of threatened species and ecosystems across a total of **5,600,000 hectares, in 29 conservancies, within Kenya, South Africa, and Zambia.**

This year, our partnerships have equipped new areas with game-changing technologies to manage and protect an additional 600,000 hectares rich in biodiversity, alongside connecting the central operations room of 14 African Parks Sites across 8 new countries. Additionally, the Satellites for Biodiversity award has paved the way for providing high-resolution satellite imagery to help monitor and protect an exponential number of new hectares during both this and the next period.

Achievements summarised in stats for this period only:

- **35+ threatened species protected and managed:** including the critically endangered black and white rhino, African elephant, pangolin, leopard, lion, hippo, cheetah, wild dog, brown hyena, hirola and Southern Ground Hornbill, are better managed and protected using technology.
- **20 new Northern Rangeland Trust (NRT) community-led conservancies:** connected with LoRaWan to establish Africa's largest IoT conservation network in Kenya, enhancing security, rangeland management and connectivity for rhino, elephant and lion populations.
- **Zero poaching in Kenya during 2022:** where NRT's teams, supported by CCF's donated technologies, operate. This is reported by Kenya Wildlife Service, who states enhanced surveillance has helped protect animals against poaching.
- **1900 km² of high-resolution satellite imagery:** provided to Northern Rangeland Trust for monitoring the Lorian Swamp Ecosystem in Kenya.
- **7 transformative projects:** Selected through the 'Satellites for Biodiversity' grant with the Airbus Foundation, attracting global high-quality applications to monitor and safeguard endangered species and habitats.
- **14 of African Park's Headquarters:** connected with reliable internet, across 8 countries, including Angola, Benin, Central African Republic, Chad, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda and Zambia.
- **100+ new rangers:** equipped with connectivity for improved communications to keep themselves and wildlife safe, now totalling 250+ rangers.
- **6000 new hectares connected with LoRaWan:** At Madikwe Game Reserve, South Africa, to equip key parts of the park with cutting-edge sensing technologies, with location trackers procured.
- **5 satellite-enabled radios:** for Madikwe's frontline rangers, improving communication efficiency within the reserve.
- **1 new partner:** Actility's support added to CCF, offering software support and LoRa gateway licenses for all field partners.
- **2 new Birdies4Rhinos sponsors:** Professional golfers Tommy Fleetwood and Paul Marks joined as Birdies for Rhinos as fundraising ambassadors, utilising the golfing industry to raise funds and awareness for CCF's rhino conservation.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Review of charitable activities undertaken

Throughout this timeframe, CCF has substantially expanded its provision of technology support and equipment to numerous protected areas. This expansion aims to enhance the protection and management of a growing array of intact ecosystems and endangered species, contributing to the sustainability of natural resources and fostering improved livelihoods within local communities.

Remarkably, CCF accomplishes this with just two dedicated, part-time, core staff members. They provide the framework that enables technology companies to deliver invaluable capabilities to protected areas, supporting both conservation and community initiatives. Despite recent challenges, CCF's impactful work showcases the profound impacts that can be achieved through collaborative partnerships and dedicated efforts.

Review of principle activities:

In delivering the activities listed in section 'Objectives, strategies and activities', CCF has maintained excellent relationships with existing and new partners to achieve our combined targets. We have also built trust in CCF within the conservation technology space, where we have gained a reputation for collaboration and valued technical expertise, as a credible supportive partner.

The CCF name is now more widely known. This has been demonstrated by increasing invitations to speak at a variety of conservation conferences (seen during the next period), to share our groundbreaking and impactful work.

The value of our contribution has also been demonstrated by increasing demand for our assistance. In 2023, CCF saw a long list of local conservation partners approaching the organisation in need of help. To accommodate this demand, CCF has formulated a Strategic Programme Committee and investment framework criteria, to review strategic engagement of new resources with new global project partners.

Fundraising performance achieved against fundraising activities set

During this accounting period, Connected Conservation Foundation fundraising performance was significantly reduced. Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corporation (NTT Ltd) ended its partnership agreement with CCF to refocus on climate and humanitarian issues, instead of biodiversity.

In light of this reduction in annual income, CCF defined a new fundraising strategy and began sourcing new partnerships and donors to support the roadmap of planned activities. This was executed and the results will fall in the next period. As a result of these changes, CCF's grant making was reduced, with plans to increase again in 2022-2023, in line with new income.

Investment performance achieved against investment activities set

No investments have been made in this accounting period and no material financial investments are held.

Factors relevant to achievement of objectives

Adequate funds have been raised to bridge this period of partnership changes, cover core costs and carry out all planned activities. Some reserves have been used to support planned activities, fundraising and strategy work, ensuring no compromises to ongoing project roadmaps and impacts.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Financial review

Our total income for our third year of operation was £31,126. Income and donations from corporate partnerships and individual giving totalled £31,126.

Our expenditure was £166,242. This year, monetary grants to conservation partners were reduced until CCF secures a new primary sponsor, yet significant donations of valuable equipment to protected areas continued. £90,338 was spent on; staffing costs for the wider team to programme manage implementation of donated technologies to field projects; development of technical capacity, technical support, logistics, fundraising and communications. Other expenses were allocated to cover IT running costs and the development of an impact measurement framework to understand the conservation return of CCF and partners technology investments.

Policy on reserves

The charity has no formal reserves policy. Reserves held by the charity are monitored and regularly reviewed by the trustees to ensure that the level of reserves held will sufficiently cover expected levels of future expenditure.

On 31 March 2023 the charity holds total funds of £230,190. All of these funds are unrestricted, and therefore total free reserves for the charity are £230,190.

Principal funding sources

CCF is extremely grateful to our supporters and donors who have helped during this period. Without their collaboration, none of our achievements are possible. We would like to thank:

Funding

- Birdies4Rhinos
- Airbus Foundation

Facilitated equipment donations to protected areas

- Cisco System PLC
- Actility

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Plans for future periods

Aims and key objectives for future periods

In the next accounting period, the Connected Conservation Foundation aims to continue its work, to equip environmental professionals with tools to protect and manage more threatened species and natural ecosystems in important biodiverse geographies.

Specific objectives induce:

1. Expand monitoring and management of species and their habitats using high resolution satellite imagery - Equipping Round 1 winners and launching Round 2 of the Satellites for Biodiversity Award

Having observed a remarkable quantity and caliber of applications during our award initiative, we are dedicated to initiating a second iteration of the Satellites for Biodiversity Award. Four winners will receive access to the most advanced optical satellite imagery at 30cm spatial resolution from Airbus Pléiades Neo and 50cm from Pléiades, alongside \$6,000 USD of financial funding, access to Airbus' Archive Library on request, free ESRI software and support and guidance from leading experts at Connected Conservation Foundation and Airbus Foundation.

This commitment will broaden our assistance to a more extensive array of global organisations engaged in vital conservation endeavors.

2. Unlock the power of coupling high-resolution satellite imagery and Artificial Intelligence (AI) for nature through the Satellite Sandbox programme.

This initiative will facilitate the testing of conservation applications, ideas and concepts, while hastening model output and insights. By leveraging our existing partnership with Airbus Foundation and forming new connections with AI experts and field partners, the program seeks to align expectations on what impacts are achievable with AI and high resolution imagery, with the practicalities of on-the-ground challenges.

The programme will capture 30 cm satellite imagery of the Maasai Mara ecosystem in Kenya, and engage multiple field and technology partners working in the region to advance novel conservation approaches utilising this data. The sandbox will enhance the accessibility of this imagery for various partners. Empowering them to exchange and test the suitability of new AI models for diverse monitoring use cases on the Maasai Mara's high-resolution satellite data, thereby contributing to wildlife conservation, ecosystem health, integrity, connectivity and early threat detection.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

3. Improve human wildlife coexistence in Chobe National Park, Botswana, through LoRaWan.

Recognised for its rich biodiversity, Chobe National Park, Botswana, faces challenges including human-wildlife conflicts, particularly with elephants (where there are more elephants than people¹⁰), lions and buffalo. Working with partners Conservation International, 51 Degrees, the Department of Wildlife and National Parks (DWNP), EarthRanger and Cisco, we aim to help address these issues by introducing a comprehensive network infrastructure, including a LoRaWan network, servers, internet links and IoT integration platform that will support a range of LoRa-enabled sensors. CCF will also enable ongoing technical support remotely to assist the park's management teams.

Through the strategic implementation of cutting-edge technologies, the project will strive to improve the effectiveness of protected area management operations, elevate wildlife monitoring capabilities, and contribute to fostering peace and security in the region. The collaborative effort will involve equipping local teams with the necessary skills to proficiently utilise and maintain these new technologies. CCF will fund and train an on-the-ground Network Engineer to maintain these solutions in the field. Emphasis will be placed on cultivating collaboration, sharing both successes and challenges, and instilling a culture of inclusion among participating organisations.

¹⁰ Garvin, S. (2017). *The jumbo problem of living with elephants: Varying perspectives on human-elephant conflict in Chobe District, Botswana*. *Tropical Resources*, 36, 9-16.4. *Advance our impact monitoring framework for conservation technologies - Phase 2*

4. Advance our impact monitoring framework for conservation technologies - Phase 2

Our Technology Impact Assessment Framework will continue to be validated through the application to incidents within Sabi Sand Nature Reserve, to refine the methodology and indicators for further use cases. New funding is needed to complete this work. CCF will be fundraising to refine the framework ready for dissemination across the conservation community for widespread benefit.

5. Expand CCF's international operations

We will establish a new registered charitable entity in South Africa, deepening our local roots, enabling us to tailor our conservation initiatives to address region-specific challenges. By anchoring ourselves in this locale, we aim for a more local impact, aligning with the needs of the South African context and building relationships with key funders and stakeholders in the region.

Additionally, we plan to grow our team by recruiting a GIS & Data Science Specialist. This individual will drive the implementation of cutting-edge technology in remote sensing projects, collaborating globally with local conservation teams and technology partners such as Cisco and Airbus Foundation.

6. Planning and preparation to equip new protected areas with game-changing technologies and build new local technical capacity

Our team will engage with new protected areas who have applied for CCF support. Working to understand their unique requirements, and their alignment with our conservation goals and strategy. Our ongoing emphasis on fundraising initiatives with technology partners and donors, will ensure we can help more protected areas with tools and capacity in new biodiverse regions.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Activities planned to achieve aims

To achieve the above CCF will:

1. Execute the first round of the grant program in partnership with the Airbus Foundation. Additionally, design, coordinate, and launch the second round of the Satellites for Biodiversity Award.
2. Collaborate with the 51 Degrees implementation team, to deploy LoRaWan networks and sensors in Chobe National Park, Botswana.
3. Strategically engage, assess, plan and fundraise for expanding the LoRa Network to encompass additional conservancies in Kenya, Uganda, South Africa and Namibia.
4. Continue research and development to offer valuable sensors and technology applications
5. Continue ongoing support for existing technology installations.
6. Evaluate projects using our Technology Impact Measurement Framework and collaborate with local partners to enhance the application, performance, and measurement of technology interventions.

Structure, governance and management

Nature of governing document

Connected Conservation Foundation is a charitable company (company number 11632911) limited by guarantee and a registered charity (charity number 1183328). Its governing document is its Articles of Association.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

Trustees were recruited based on their experience and expertise in the context of wildlife conservation and technology. Directors have also been chosen to represent the views of contributing partners. All Directors are willing to act as a director and have been nominated in writing by the founding member. They have been appointed by resolution of the Directors.

Induction and training of trustees

All trustees are kept up to date on the strategy and financial aims for the upcoming periods and this is agreed by all Directors. There have been no changes to the list of representatives on the Board of Directors.

Arrangements for setting key management personnel remuneration

Policies around setting remuneration, include an assessment of competitive pay for executive level staff in Foundations. The Foundation has set benchmarked salary bands to attract and retain appropriate personnel and ensure transparency and fairness in the use of charity resources. Payroll and associated benefits for newly recruited staff have been established with accounting firm Stewart & Co Accountants LLP.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Organisational structure

The Board of the Foundation is made up of 4 unpaid Trustees. Mr B Watson is the Executive Chairman and Founder of the Connected Conservation Foundation and will table decision-making with the Board of Directors. The following types of decisions are taken by the charity's Trustees and remaining decisions are delegated to staff.

Director decisions include:

- agreeing strategy;
- approving major commitments;
- financial review and approval;
- partnership engagement and due diligence;
- senior level recruitment;
- risk management and mitigation.

CCF's Executive Director reports into the Executive Chairman and provides inputs to the Board for informed decision-making. Foundation staff will report into the Executive Director and be responsible for day-to-day decision-making, to execute operations, project delivery, marketing and communications.

All other decisions are delegated to the staff.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Major risks and management of those risks

CCF has reworked the identification of risks within the risk register. We've reviewed these with specified members of the senior team and Trustees, to help track, manage and drive mitigation strategies. The designated risk owner reports on each risk, at required intervals, to all Trustees and Senior Leads.

The Trustees review the Charity's Risk Register annually at its AGM and consider the following:

Financial risk

All trustees are kept up to date on the strategy and financial aims for the upcoming periods and this is agreed by all Directors. There have been no changes to the list of representatives on the Board of Directors.

Political instability

Government changes in Botswana have delayed the Chobe National Park project to the next period. CCF is ensuring this project remains in the portfolio and has worked tirelessly to find new partners so the donated equipment and technologies are deployed for their original purpose. By building a trusted network of established partners, CCF is assured that donated tools will always and only be used for impact to protect endangered species and benefit local communities.

Matched technology donations from corporate partners

With NTT.Ltd leaving the partnership, there is a risk that other corporate partners will also cease to donate technologies to protected areas, in the same way as before. CCF has worked hard to reassure Chuck Robbins, the CEO of Cisco, and Francine Katsoudas, Head of Marketing to secure further future donations of Cisco technologies, which will fall in the next period.

Covid-19 Pandemic

Planned implementations, logistics and support procedures are now normalised. This has been removed as a risk, for now.

Working overseas with changing political frameworks

Unpredictable contexts in working overseas can impact our activities. There are several unpredictable political, social and economic situations in some countries we work in. This can impact technology and equipment donations from our corporate partners. CCF works closely with our corporate partners Cisco and Airbus Foundation to preempt any export control bans on equipment to certain countries. Ensuring that our supported projects foresee and overcome challenges in supply of donated equipment to their region. CCF has found work around solutions for these emerging scenarios and will continue to work closely to mitigate these risks in the future.

The Board is confident that the appropriate steps have been taken to mitigate the potential impact of these risks occurring.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Small companies provision statement

This report has been prepared in accordance with the small companies regime under the Companies Act 2006.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 14 December 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

 SIGNED SECURELY
18/12/2023 at 5:40:53 PM UTC

.....
Mr B Watson
Trustee

Connected Conservation Foundation

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of Connected Conservation Foundation for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

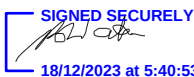
Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards, comprising FRS 102 have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that can disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by the trustees of the charity on 14 December 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

 SIGNED SECURELY
18/12/2023 at 5:40:53 PM UTC

.....
Mr B Watson
Trustee

Connected Conservation Foundation

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Connected Conservation Foundation (‘the Company’)

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity’s trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (‘the 2006 Act’).

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity’s accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (‘the 2011 Act’). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner’s statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of Connected Conservation Foundation as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a ‘true and fair view’ which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



.....
Lucy Evans, FCA

Stewart & Co. Chartered Accountants
Knoll House
Knoll Road
Camberley
Surrey
GU15 3SY

14 December 2023

Connected Conservation Foundation

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2023 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Total 2023 £
Income and Endowments from:			
Donations and legacies	3	31,126	31,126
Total income		31,126	31,126
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities	14	(129,015)	(129,015)
Total expenditure		(129,015)	(129,015)
Net expenditure		(97,889)	(97,889)
Other recognised gains and losses			
Other gains/losses	15	20,663	20,663
Net movement in funds		(77,226)	(77,226)
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward		307,416	307,416
Total funds carried forward	9	230,190	230,190
		Unrestricted funds £	Total 2022 £ (As restated)
Income and Endowments from:			
Donations and legacies	3	200,866	200,866
Total income		200,866	200,866
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities	14	(166,242)	(166,242)
Total expenditure		(166,242)	(166,242)
Net income		34,624	34,624
Other recognised gains and losses			
Other gains/losses		(489)	(489)
Net movement in funds		34,135	34,135
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward		273,281	273,281
Total funds carried forward	9	307,416	307,416

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.
The funds breakdown for 2022 is shown in note 9.

The notes on pages 32 to 41 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Connected Conservation Foundation

(Registration number: 11632911) Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £ (As restated)
Current assets			
Debtors	6	2,049	-
Cash at bank and in hand	7	<u>235,526</u>	<u>312,893</u>
		237,575	312,893
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	8	<u>(7,385)</u>	<u>(5,477)</u>
Net assets		<u>230,190</u>	<u>307,416</u>
Funds of the charity:			
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		<u>230,190</u>	<u>307,416</u>
Total funds	9	<u>230,190</u>	<u>307,416</u>

For the financial year ending 31 March 2023 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The financial statements on pages 30 to 41 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 14 December 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

 SIGNED SECURELY
18/12/2023 at 5:40:53 PM UTC

.....
Mr B Watson
Trustee

The notes on pages 32 to 41 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

1 Charity status

The charity is limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

The address of its registered office is:

13 St Luke's Street

Chelsea

London

SW3 3RS

2 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102). They also comply with the Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011.

Basis of preparation

Connected Conservation Foundation meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

The financial statements are prepared in GBP, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The previous year's accounts were prepared in USD, the figures have been restated.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

The trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of one year from the date of approval of the financial statements.

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Changes in accounting policy

Income and endowments

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of the income receivable can be measured reliably.

Donations and legacies

Donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance by the charity before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Support costs

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, for example, allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Trade debtors

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Borrowings

Interest-bearing borrowings are initially recorded at fair value, net of transaction costs. Interest-bearing borrowings are subsequently carried at amortised cost, with the difference between the proceeds, net of transaction costs, and the amount due on redemption being recognised as a charge to the Statement of Financial Activities over the period of the relevant borrowing.

Interest expense is recognised on the basis of the effective interest method and is included in interest payable and similar charges.

Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless the charity has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least twelve months after the reporting date.

Foreign exchange

Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate of exchange at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at the balance sheet date are reported at the rates of exchange prevailing at that date.

The results of overseas operations are translated at the average rates of exchange during the period and their balance sheets at the rates ruling at the balance sheet date. Exchange differences arising on translation of the opening net assets and results of overseas operations are reported in other comprehensive income and accumulated in equity (attributed to non-controlling interests as appropriate).

Other exchange differences are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which they arise except for:

- 1) exchange differences on transactions entered into to hedge certain foreign currency risks (see above);
- 2) exchange differences arising on gains or losses on non-monetary items which are recognised in other comprehensive income; and
- 3) in the case of the consolidated financial statements, exchange differences on monetary items receivable from or payable to a foreign operation for which settlement is neither planned nor likely to occur (therefore forming part of the net investment in the foreign operation), which are recognised in other comprehensive income and reported under equity.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Financial instruments

Classification

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial liabilities and equity instruments are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the charity after deducting all of its liabilities.

Recognition and measurement

All financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs), except for those financial assets classified as at fair value through profit or loss, which are initially measured at fair value (which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs), unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction. If an arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, the financial asset or financial liability is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are only offset in the statement of financial position when, and only when there exists a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and the charity intends either to settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Financial assets are derecognised when and only when a) the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire or are settled, b) the charity transfers to another party substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset, or c) the charity, despite having retained some, but not all, significant risks and rewards of ownership, has transferred control of the asset to another party.

Financial liabilities are derecognised only when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expires.

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds £
Donations and legacies;		
Donations	31,126	31,126
Total for 2023	31,126	31,126
Total for 2022	200,866	200,866

Connected Conservation Foundation

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

4 Independent examiner's remuneration

	2023 £	2022 £
Examination of the financial statements	<u>2,400</u>	<u>2,225</u>

5 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

6 Debtors

	2023 £
Prepayments	<u>2,049</u>

7 Cash and cash equivalents

	2023 £	2022 £ (As restated)
Cash at bank	<u>235,526</u>	<u>312,893</u>

8 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £ (As restated)
Other taxation and social security	2,298	1,925
Other creditors	2,687	1,863
Accruals	<u>2,400</u>	<u>1,689</u>
	<u>7,385</u>	<u>5,477</u>

Connected Conservation Foundation

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

9 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Other recognised gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
Unrestricted funds					
<i>General</i>					
General	307,416	31,126	(129,014)	20,662	230,190
	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Other recognised gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2022 £
Unrestricted funds					
<i>General</i>					
General	273,282	200,866	(166,241)	(491)	307,416

10 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds at 31 March 2023 £
Current assets	237,575	237,575
Current liabilities	(7,385)	(7,385)
Total net assets	230,190	230,190
	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds at 31 March 2022 £ (As restated)
Current assets	312,893	312,893
Current liabilities	(5,477)	(5,477)
Total net assets	307,416	307,416

Connected Conservation Foundation

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

11 Financial instruments

Categorisation of financial instruments

	2023	(As restated) 2022
	£	£
Financial assets measured at amortised cost	235,526	312,893
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	(2,699)	(1,922)

12 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the year. Last year, Mr B Watson was reimbursed £916 for travel expenses.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

13 Analysis of governance and support costs

	NRT Project £	Madikwe £	Core £	Total 2023 £	(As restated) Total 2022 £
Support Costs					
Bank charges	-	-	433	433	556
Computer and Website costs	1,443	1,443	2,886	5,772	27,669
Staff Costs	22,585	22,585	45,169	90,339	58,875
Legal & professional fees	-	-	854	854	328
Other expenses - Travel	2,616	2,616	5,233	10,465	8,196
Measurement & Evaluation	2,542	2,542	-	5,084	6,154
	<u>29,186</u>	<u>29,186</u>	<u>54,575</u>	<u>112,947</u>	<u>101,778</u>
Governance costs					
Independent examiner fees					
Examination of the financial statements	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,400</u>	<u>2,400</u>	<u>2,225</u>
	<u><u>29,186</u></u>	<u><u>29,186</u></u>	<u><u>56,975</u></u>	<u><u>115,347</u></u>	<u><u>104,003</u></u>

Connected Conservation Foundation

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

14 Expenditure on charitable activities

Analysis by fund

		Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds £
NRT Project Grant		9,811	9,811
Madikwe Grant		3,857	3,857
Allocated support costs (NRT, Madikwe & Core)	13	107,863	107,863
Governance costs	13	2,400	2,400
Total for 2023		<u>123,931</u>	<u>123,931</u>
Total for 2022		<u>166,242</u>	<u>166,242</u>

Analysis by type

	Activity undertaken directly £	Activity support costs £	Total expenditure £
Total for 2022	<u>86,169</u>	<u>141,782</u>	<u>227,951</u>

15 Other recognised gains/losses

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £ (As restated)
Foreign currency (gains)/losses	(20,663)	(20,663)	489
	<u>(20,663)</u>	<u>(20,663)</u>	<u>489</u>

Connected Conservation Foundation

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

16 Staff costs

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management / leadership team) employed by the charity during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

	2023 No	2022 No
Administrative	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>

The number of employees whose emoluments fell within the following bands was:

	2023 No
£60,001 - £70,000	<u>1</u>

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £90,338 (2022 - £55,874).

The Executive Director, as the highest paid member of staff, received benefits totalling £62,966 (2022 - £Nil).

17 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any other benefits from the charity during the year. Last year Mr B Watson was reimbursed £916, for travel expenses.

Accounts

Company registration number: 11632911

Charity registration number: 1183328

Connected Conservation Foundation

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

Stewart & Co Accountants LLP
Knoll House
Knoll Road
Camberley
Surrey
GU15 3SY

Connected Conservation Foundation

Contents

Trustees' Report	1 to 21
Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities	22
Independent Examiner's Report	23
Statement of Financial Activities	24
Balance Sheet	25
Notes to the Financial Statements	26 to 35

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees and officers

The trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Trustees:	Mr D D Ward Mr A L Rhodes Mr J E M Baille Mr B Watson
Charity Registration Number:	1183328
Company Registration Number:	11632911
Registered Office:	1 King William Street London England EC4N 7AR
Independent Examiner:	Stewart & Co Accountants LLP Knoll House Knoll Road Camberley Surrey GU15 3SY

Objectives and activities

Objects of the charity

The charity's objects, as set out in its Articles of Association, are

- To promote, for the benefit of the public, the conservation, protection and improvement of wildlife, in particular but not exclusively through the development and application of innovative technology; and
- Such other purposes, determined by the trustees, at their sole discretion as are exclusively charitable under the laws of England and Wales.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Aims of the charity

We are in a state of planetary emergency. We're facing interconnected challenges of biodiversity loss, climate change, zoonotic disease exposure and land degradation. The abundance of life on Earth is being driven to extinction. WWF's Living Planet Report 2021¹, shows an average 69% decline in global wildlife populations since 1970. The findings are stark. Our natural ecosystems - which sustain a magnitude of remarkable biodiversity and our very existence - are fragile and under significant threat.

Urgent and united global action is required. The United Nations is calling for world governments to protect 30% of the planet by 2030. Technology has a critical role to play in helping reach this target and stopping the sixth mass extinction of life on Earth. We must bring together capabilities and resources to equip teams with efficient and effective tools to scale up the implementation of conservation actions, steer sustainability strategies, mitigate threats and capture the benefits.

Connected Conservation Foundation (CCF) works to protect and restore wildlife populations and natural ecosystems through technology. Our vision is to equip those at the forefront of environmental protection with game-changing conservation technologies. By 2030, using technology, we can help protect over 30 million hectares of natural habitat and conserve 50+ threatened species whilst improving the lives of more than 10,000 local people living in and around reserves. Helping organisations work towards the UN's targets to protect 30% of the planet by 2030. Securing wild spaces for wildlife, ecosystems and humanity to thrive.

CCF contributes to the following UN Sustainable Development Goals:

4: Life on Land. Stopping wildlife poaching and human-wildlife conflict, where technology gives an early warning of threats to prevent the deaths of wildlife and local people.

13: Climate action. Strengthening resilient ecosystems, where technology helps manage habitats and natural resources sustainability for wildlife and local people. Where healthy habitats remove CO2 from our climate.

15: Quality education. Increasing training and opportunities for local people to grow their technical skills and capabilities.

16: Peace and Justice. Bringing peace and security to local communities and those at the forefront of nature protection, to keep them safe.

¹ WWF's Living Planet Report (2022)

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Our technology solution

Since 2015, the Connected Conservation initiative has been working to unite the capabilities of technology companies (including Cisco, NTT.Ltd, Airbus Foundation and Microsoft) to provide impactful conservation technology solutions to local conservation partners across Africa.

Working closely with local field partners, we support ground teams to design and implement appropriate, landscape-scale, technical solutions for conservation, environmental management and community co-existence. We now have long-running projects in nine protected areas across Kenya, South Africa and Zambia. Our work is helping protected area managers restore and protect over 30+ threatened species including, black and white rhinos, African elephants, pangolins, leopards, lions, hippos, cheetahs, wild dogs, brown hyenas and the southern ground hornbill.

Protected areas have a wide range of operating capabilities and levels of technical maturity. We help parks with a variety of technology needs; from simply installing and enabling reliable internet connectivity at reserve headquarters; to implementing a large-scale, communication and connectivity backbone network across large and remote areas; to an advanced proactive solution that can pre-empt threats and issues via a network of sensors and cameras. These technologies enable conservation managers to track people, rangers, visitors, vehicles, natural resources and wildlife across huge landscapes. Real-time data is transferred to a central operations room, giving rangers 24/7 visibility across their reserve and early warnings of conservation threats, to help stop any issues before they can occur.

Throughout 2021-22, CCF and partners have upscaled our deployed network connectivity and communications infrastructure across an additional 3,000,000 hectares of unique and precious habitat. Now, a combined total of approximately 5,000,000 hectares of wilderness is protected with technology solutions. Moreover, this year, we've expanded our collaborations to increase support to five new protected areas in Kenya and have helped equip three new central operations rooms.

We're also helping empower over 150 rangers with crucial communications and data collection devices, keeping them safe whilst protecting threatened species and delivering peace and security to local communities.

Conservation challenges we seek to address

Technology enables our partner's conservation teams to multiply their capacity and increase the speed of decision-making and response times, significantly enhancing the effectiveness of conservation management interventions. We strive to help strengthen their capabilities to address the following challenges:

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

1. Protecting species and supporting peace and security

The Illegal Wildlife Trade (IWT) threatens many endangered species. Poaching rates have recently surged in South Africa, in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic, due to a lack of tourism and reduced local law enforcement capacity. In 2021, 451 rhinos were killed in South Africa² - the first time in six years where the country has recorded an increase in rhino poaching incidents. Furthermore, around 150 rangers worldwide die each year protecting wildlife, with poacher conflicts responsible for 50% to 70% of ranger deaths on the job³. New data from TRAFFIC confirms that at least 23.5 tonnes of pangolins and their parts were trafficked in 2021 alone⁴. Elephants also remain a target of poaching syndicates across the continent.

IWT weakens the rule of law, as local officials and community members are incentivised to participate in criminal networks due to disproportionate economic rewards available, undermining peace and security within local communities. IWT impacts livelihoods too. The loss of flagship and iconic species threatens local wildlife-based economies dependent on tourists seeking experiences with majestic species.⁵

CCF technologies are supporting law enforcement and anti-poaching teams to reduce wildlife and ranger deaths by substantially increasing the chances of detecting and apprehending suspects.

2. Improving coexistence between humans and wildlife

As human populations increase and space for nature declines, human-wildlife conflict (HWC) is becoming a predominant threat to wildlife and local people. More than ever, species including elephants, lions and hyena, are sharing space with local communities, resulting in injury and death of people and wildlife, damage to property and crops, alongside a dramatic increase in livestock predation.

There is increasing competition between wildlife and local communities for grazing and water resources. This is predicted to escalate as the world feels the effects of climate change⁶. Furthermore, in retaliation, people's anger and frustration leads to local people using poison to kill or injure wildlife.

What is often lacking in these situations is data indicating where and what the problems are in order to preempt conflict. Early-warning technologies can help conservancies collect this data and enable communities to mitigate HWC events. Additionally, aerial and sensor data helps our partners map changes in water resources, human settlements, grasslands, invasive plant species and wildlife corridors. This data helps managers predict conflict zones, plan response plans to climate-driven events and inform management plans for the sustainable and shared use of resources.

² Save The Rhino 2022, Poaching Statistics [online] Viewed 01 Aug, 2022

³ The Thin Green Line Foundation [online] Viewed 01 Aug, 2022

⁴ TRAFFIC [online] Viewed 01 Aug, 2022

⁵ Greg L. Warchol (2004) The Transnational Illegal Wildlife Trade, Criminal Justice Studies, 17:1, 57-73, DOI: 10.1080/08884310420001679334

⁶ Briana. Abrahms (2021) Human-wildlife conflict under climate change, Science; Vol 373, No. 6554, DOI: 10.1126/science.abj4216

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

3. Restoring healthy habitats and resilient ecosystems

Ecosystems support all life on Earth. With only 15% of Earth's landmass protected, the United Nations is calling for world leaders to increase protected areas to 30% of the planet by 2030. Technologies are vital in helping achieve these goals as they can prevent, halt and reverse the degradation of ecosystems and restore natural processes that remove Co2 from the climate, create suitable habitats for endangered species, whilst sustaining water, soil and vegetation for local people.

Encroachment from agriculture and livestock farming is threatening grasslands, forests, and savannahs. There is increasing competition for grazing, whilst climate change is exacerbating flooding and drought. By making environmental monitoring technologies available (including high-resolution satellite imagery and network sensors), we're enabling conservationists to monitor wildlife and map natural ecosystems, alongside getting early warning of illegal activities, such as charcoal burning or bush clearing. This crucial data feeds into management plans for sustainably using water, soil and vegetation, helping support people and wildlife to co-exist and thrive together.

4. Developing technical capacity to sustain technologies

Technology alone will not solve these conservation challenges. Tools need to be used effectively by local people to deliver the desired conservation outcomes. However, local conservation practitioners have varying levels of technical skills and knowledge to harness the technology and a lack of understanding of the best technologies for the job. Investment in people and their technical education must be sustained long-term to ensure the benefits are realised and continue beyond the technology implementation phase.

Objectives, Strategies and Activities

To address these challenges, we aim to:

1. Make effective technology and intelligence available to conservation teams at the forefront of environmental protection, aiding them to pre-empt, manage and mitigate conservation challenges.
2. Provide education and ongoing support to build local technical capacity and ensure technologies are locally and effectively managed.
3. Foster trust and collaboration across partners, conservationists, technologists and academia to accelerate the implementation of appropriate technologies.
4. Catalyze investment and accelerate sustainable solutions to scale long-lasting conservation impact.
5. Be conservation-led and governed by a robust technology impact measurement framework to ensure multi-partner investments consistently deliver planned conservation outcomes.

Our activities span ongoing work to equip conservation teams with technologies across nine protected areas, where communications, network connectivity and devices support conservation efforts. Supported projects are helping: stop rhino poaching in South Africa; enable prevention of illegal fishing in Zambia; monitor and manage wildlife health during extreme drought in Kenya; and conduct ecosystem monitoring to prevent habitat degradation, and improve wildlife and community co-existence across partner sites.

We've helped nature reserves design and acquire the right technologies for their needs and challenges, fundraising for proven technologies that scale up their conservation efforts. We've been successful in securing new investment and supporters. Whilst improving CCF's capabilities to join and target donated resources for exponential impacts.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

CCF's main activities against these objectives within the period

1. Expand our support to five new Protected Areas in Northern Kenya. Creating the largest network across park borders, bringing connectivity and sensing technologies to new community-led conservancies. Enabling conservation teams in these reserves to use technology to monitor wildlife, reduce human-wildlife conflict, stop illegal poaching, assist with environmental monitoring and support peace between local communities.
2. Extend connectivity and security technologies in Sabi Sand Game Reserve, South Africa. Developing and deploying new static and mobile technology solutions that help teams secure previously unprotected areas of the park and adapt their strategies to thwart changing poaching tactics, to stop poaching of rhinos and pangolins.
3. Equip Madikwe Game Reserve, South Africa, with new long-range thermal cameras to detect people entering the reserve and improve Madikwe's security operations to tackle escalating poaching threats.
4. Build conservation technology capacity for local reserve engineers and field staff.
5. Bring new innovations to the ground, trial and identify tools that improve conservation outcomes.
6. Enhance the Connected Conservation solution with resources and capabilities from new partners. Harnessing new emerging technologies.
7. Develop an impact monitoring framework for conservation technologies. To improve reporting on the effectiveness of technology interventions.
8. Grow our global awareness, communications, fundraising and operational capabilities.
9. Maintain current Connected Conservation technology solutions in partner sites.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

For this reporting period the main activities undertaken include:

1. Expand our support to Northern Rangelands Trust (NRT) across five new protected areas in Northern Kenya.

Through collaboration, a backbone network and wide range of devices have been deployed to improve protected area effectiveness in new sites. Sensors are providing real-time data and communications from remote locations ranging from radios, long-range high-resolution PTZ cameras, livestock trackers, fence sensors, vehicle trackers, water tank level detectors, weather stations and diesel tank probes. Since the network rollout, NRT has on-boarded 74 devices with hundreds more sensors planned for deployment in the next period, to help manage ecosystems and protect wildlife, including Black Rhino, elephants, lions, and cheetahs.

This real-time data is transmitted through the network across NRT conservancies and into NRT Centre's operations room, allowing teams on the ground to take quick and effective conservation actions to prevent conflict and protect species and rangers.

These technologies are helping the conservancies improve operations and deliver a range of conservation impacts, including empowering equitable community stewardship and sustainable management of ecosystem resources.

CCF has also supported ground-breaking methods for Wildlife Monitoring in NRT's remote Sera Wildlife Sanctuary. For the first time, the team has connected live streams of high-res PTZ RGB and thermal Cameras to monitor wildlife across five key watering holes. Sera is sadly suffering from a prolonged two-year drought, so these water holes have become crucial for animals to visit to survive.

The footage from these camera installations is being sent via a new high bandwidth network, travelling over 200 km across Kenya's arid and hostile bushland, to the central control room.

These cameras now enable teams to monitor the health of Sera's wildlife remotely, providing a thorough view of each animal's body condition, without needing to fly an hour to reach the project site. This revolutionary infield monitoring is enabling quicker decision-making on conservation interventions during challenging times.

2. Extend connectivity and security technologies in Sabi Sand Game Reserve, South Africa.

Sabi Sand Nature Reserve (SSNR) was pioneered by local landowners in the 1950s, encompassing 65,000 hectares. It shares a border with the world-renowned Kruger National Park. Between the two, there are no fences, allowing wildlife to roam freely across huge, dynamic natural landscapes. Sabi is home to the big five and has gained international recognition for its collaborative approach to protecting endangered species and ensuring that this unspoiled area retains its unique character for future generations.

We're continuing to support the Sabi Sand Nature Reserve team in safeguarding rhinos, elephants, pangolin and other species exposed to bushmeat poaching, and a recent increase in illegal wildlife trade activity in South Africa.

Now in Phase 3, we're helping develop and deploy new static and mobile technology security solutions that help teams safeguard previously unprotected areas of the park.

Alongside partners, we are extending Sabi's LoRaWAN network and deploying a new virtual fence line of sensors, a mobile mast connectivity solution, AI powered analytics on camera and drones. Boosting greater protection of new landscapes at SSNR.

This greater coverage, coupled with mobile intelligence solutions, is supporting SSNR to counter ever-changing poaching tactics and stay one step ahead.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

3. Equip Madikwe Game Reserve, South Africa, with new long-range thermal cameras to detect poachers

Madikwe Game Reserve (750km²) is one of the biggest and most ambitious rewilding projects in the history of South Africa, recovering landscapes and populations of white and black rhinos, elephants, giraffes, cheetahs, lions and African wild dogs, alongside 400+ species of birds. Fragmented farmland has been united, whilst fences have been removed and invasive sickle bush is being reduced to expand and create rich grasslands. More than 30 lodges have established tourism infrastructure, supporting over 1,000 jobs from the wildlife economy. Threatened species are recovering, and the community is benefiting.

Sadly, this achievement is being undermined by rhino poaching. Madikwe has significant populations of both white and black rhino, and is one of the few reserves whose rhinos have not been dehorned, making them a primary target by rhino poachers.

In 2021, CCF donated long-range thermal cameras, poles, solar power, batteries and antennas for three new PTZ installations. These have been tactfully implemented along the fenceline to monitor known poaching entry and exit routes along Madikwe's perimeter. Video feeds from these cameras have been integrated into the 24/7 operations room (365 days) and have been incredibly effective at detecting poachers entering the reserve. Every poacher who has passed in front of the thermal cameras has been immediately detected and stopped in their tracks.

CCF has also assisted Madikwe Futures in gathering its technology requirements to connect other areas of the park with a LoRaWAN network. We've funded the purchase of LoRa-enabled sensing devices and communication PTT radios, to connect and track vehicles and rangers within the park, as well as detect changes in the electricity voltage of the perimeter fence (which could indicate a potential incursion). In 2022-23, this real-time alerting data will be integrated into the operations room, giving immediate and early-warning alerts of suspicious activity.

4. Build conservation technology capacity for local reserve engineers and field staff.

We invest in long-term support and the development of the technical skills of our field partners. We encourage knowledge sharing and best practices between sites and fund specialist training for conservation technology leaders on the ground.

With each protected area differing in their unique challenges and landscape, CCF and partners help local teams understand the technologies on offer, including areas for improvement, vetting the benefits and navigating through the "hype".

Alongside mentorship, we're also investing in local people. This year, we've been delighted to support Northern Rangelands Trust's GIS and Wildlife department in undertaking third-party training to help our local partners build technical capacity. The team came away with new skills including remote sensing fundamentals, ArcGIS Pro, image classification, image analysis and its applications in change detection and environmental modelling, story maps, dashboards, web maps and Geoportal. The development of these new skills and software will enable NRT's team to help deal with their changing landscapes and sustainably manage natural resources.

CCF also ran an education and demonstrator event in Sabi Sand, South Africa in December 2021, to share lessons learned on applying conservation technologies. The Environmental Minister of Uganda attended alongside NTT.Ltd, Smart Parks and NRT's operational lead, researchers and ranger teams. It provided a valuable opportunity to interact with different experts and exchange knowledge on conservation technology projects.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

5. Bring new innovations to the ground, trial and identify tools that improve conservation outcomes.

Working with conservancies and NTT's engineers across our network, we're trialing and testing new technologies to evaluate their benefits for conservation, including:

a) Artificial Intelligence (AI) detection on video feeds from thermal cameras

CCF worked with Sabi Sand in a pilot phase to trial the application and integration of AI-powered surveillance into the Connected Conservation solution for anti-poaching efforts.

Over six months, we've collaboratively tested AI to monitor the video from thermal cameras 24/7 and generate automated alerts when animals or humans cross, so teams can respond quickly. This pilot is helping to understand the value of AI to assist with 24/7 surveillance and filtering of live video streams from strategically placed cameras within the reserve to detect intruders and raise real-time alerts. We're now analysing results before a joint decision will be made, between the participating organisations, on further implementation of this AI technology.

b) Nomadic masts

Together with partners, we've also developed an innovation called the 'The Nomad'. The Nomad is a mobile outpost, on an easy-to-move trailer, providing real-time visual capabilities, Wifi and LoRa connectivity, wherever it is deployed. It can be redeployed anywhere in under three hours. It offers Sabi Sand operations rapid access to connectivity, high-res visual data and communication from any remote area. Giving Sabi's anti-poaching teams visibility into currently unconnected areas of the reserve, to detect poachers and execute more complex security operations. By enhancing coverage, and adding portable intelligence solutions, we're helping Sabi Sand to counter ever-changing poaching tactics and stay one step ahead.

c) Drones

For the first time, together with Sabi Sand, we're trialing live streaming of video from autonomous drones. Unmanned Aerial Vehicles are deployed in response to poaching events and use thermal video detection to identify and track intruders. As the drone follows the movement of suspects, its position is broadcast in real-time to all anti-poaching units. This gives them an up-to-date understanding of the moment of poachers, as they attempt to leave the reserve.

6. Enhance the Connected Conservation solution with resources and capabilities from new partners. Harnessing new emerging technologies.

By uniting resources and capabilities from our technology partners: NTT.Ltd, Microsoft and Airbus Foundation, we've embarked on remarkable new developments. We've driven an innovative pipeline of new technologies, where our bold thinking and field-based insights are shaping emerging conservation technologies. These fall under two principle projects:

Project 1) Airbus Foundation: Exploring application of new high-resolution satellite data to various use cases to monitor wildlife and ecosystem health.

In July 2021, Airbus Foundation signed a five-year partnership agreement to join forces with CCF to couple Airbus' high-resolution satellite imagery and unmanned aerial vehicles, with CCF's on-the-ground conservation technologies, to protect endangered species and natural ecosystems.

We've united Airbus Foundation's satellite imagery, donated to CCF, with insights from our conservation field partners, to explore the value of high-resolution satellite imagery and AI for multiple conservation purposes including:

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

a) Modernising wildlife surveys and tracking the movement of large mammals

Wildlife surveys in savannah environments are typically done using aerial counts with manned aircraft, which often take months to conduct and are expensive in aircraft, hire, fuel, and manpower. Studies have shown satellite imagery and deep learning as a potentially viable monitoring technique in constrained use cases with set conditions especially over homogenous landscapes^{7, 8}.

With our partners NTT.Ltd, Airbus Foundation, Microsoft AI for Earth, Madikwe Futures Company NPC and Northern Rangelands Trust (NRT), we've investigated the feasibility of using AI-powered techniques and satellite images in ecology studies and to modernise wildlife surveys methods.

This field-based study set out to compare the accuracy of different methods to identify large mammals using the highest resolution satellite imagery available from Airbus (namely Pléiades and Pléiades Neo). The project found both AI and human detection on satellite imagery across the heterogeneous landscape presents many opportunities for error and variable results.

Conservation teams at NRT and Madikwe Game Reserve, concluded the accuracy of both AI and human detection of species on satellite imagery was not satisfactory in comparison to or to replace traditional wildlife survey techniques. Findings have been summarized in a soon-to-be published report, falling in the next period.

Our next phase of this project will focus on identifying the species and situations, where 50cm and 30 cm resolution satellite imagery can be of value in locating other animals in homogenous, hard-to-reach environments and what additional value it can bring to biodiversity conservation efforts. It was found that when isolating scenarios to areas with only one known species found in a homogenous nature for example in open areas, the potential for more accurate results can be expected.

A notable outcome and learning of this recent study considers using the model to provide a heatmap of potential sightings as an indicator of 'where to look' with the human-eye in a satellite image. Field teams believe this would be useful for certain use cases, including, locating hard-to-find colonies or herds of certain species in remote areas. Future work will advance this line of research.

b) Map and baseline ecosystem health and interconnectivity, to establish new protected areas

Our most recent project with Airbus Foundation has taken satellite images of the extensive Lorian ecosystem for Northern Rangelands Trust (NRT). This high-resolution satellite imagery of 1900 km² has enabled NRT researchers to plan conservation activities. These will give a baseline to measure ecosystem recovery over the next ten years for NRT and partners' conservation projects. The project will use the data to define new protected areas, where research will survey species, and categorize and map vegetation types, including the status of the invasive *Prosopis juliflora* tree, alongside hydrology channels and human settlements.

Furthermore, Kenya government agencies including Museum Kenya, Kenya University and the Kenya Wildlife Service, will use insight from this imagery for planning mitigation of human-wildlife conflict events between elephants, lions and local people. This will play a profound role in establishing wildlife corridors where species and communities can co-exist together.

⁷ Duporge, I., Isupova, O., Reece, S., Macdonald, D. and Wang, T., 2020. Using very-high-resolution satellite imagery and deep learning to detect and count African elephants in heterogeneous landscapes. *Remote Sensing in Ecology and Conservation*, 7(3), pp.369-381.

⁸ Xue, Y., Wang, T. and Skidmore, A., 2017. Automatic Counting of Large Mammals from Very High-Resolution Panchromatic Satellite Imagery. *Remote Sensing*, 9(9), p.878.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

c) Mapping roads and creating up-to-date maps

Airbus satellite imagery is helping ground teams monitor and manage the balance between tourism, conservation and security. We've started producing annual satellite captures to help create up-to-date reserve maps. This new visibility is providing managers with valuable data to decide where to deploy and relocate resources and anti-poaching technologies, including cameras at weak spots so rangers can get an early warning of threats.

Identifying new and changing road networks from these images, is also giving teams early warnings of potential extraction and conflict activities, including poaching, charcoal burning and bush clearing - guiding the team on where new road connectivity is needed within the park. The images also help identify which new roads are encroaching into species' strongholds so that managers can prioritize where to close off or repair roads.

Project 2) Improving the Connected Conservation integration platform, making it quick and easy for field teams to plug and play new third-party, LoRa-enabled, sensing devices.

CCF and NTT.Ltd, partnered with Microsoft to co-finance and co-develop an IOT sensor integration platform that enables field partners to onboard new sensors quickly and easily, with a low-code approach, for rapid data visualisation in Earth Ranger. This project improves the scalability of the existing Connected Conservation solution, where a new device type can be on-boarded in under an hour. So far, collection and decoding for up to 10 different sensor types have been completed. Each time a conservancy integrates a new sensor, this new device option becomes available to all other partner reserves.

7. Develop an impact monitoring framework for conservation technologies

One barrier to successfully scaling effective conservation technologies is the lack of an effective evaluation framework for understanding the impact of technology within the conservation context. To overcome this, CCF recognised the need for a robust Impact Measurement Framework for Conservation Technologies to:

- Help protected area managers demonstrate the benefits of technology to manage and build a business case for implementing the right tools.
- Ensure any technology intervention delivers the planned conservation outcomes.
- Reduce wasted time and resources and relieve the burden of reporting

CCF and Conservation Alpha united conservation experts and technology companies to define a new framework. Participants included African Parks, Sabi Sand Nature Reserve, SANParks, Northern Rangelands Trust, 51 Degrees, NTT.Ltd, Terra-Nautics, Conserve Global and Bhejane 360 in a collaborative workshop on 9 February 2022. We documented the outputs and first iterations of the framework. We then scoped these to develop a taxonomy to better measure how technology brings:

- Improved operational effectiveness
- Improved cost-effectiveness
- Reduced risk for the organisations, park, wildlife or staff

Working with our partners, we're now moving into Phase 2 to apply, test and refine the Impact Framework in SSNR and NRT. The framework will be shared openly with the conservation community, allowing all practitioners to benefit and help ensure impactful solutions are developed and deployed.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

8. Grow global awareness, communications, fundraising and operational capabilities.

CCF has become an established leader in technology and conservation. Connected Conservation was recognised at the highest level by the Secretariat at COP15 in Kunming during September, 2021. Featuring alongside other leading Biodiversity Conservation Initiatives, we're being showcased as a noteworthy conservation practice in the new '100+ Biodiversity Positive Practices and Actions Around the World' book. Our collaborative work has also been nominated twice for 2022's prestigious Earthshot Prize under their 'Protect and Restore Nature' Award.

We're also strengthening the alliance between sport and nature by deepening our relationship with Birdies4Rhinos, a group of twenty-one international golfers who are fundraising for CCF, making a donation for every birdie they score.

European Tour players, Justin Walters and Dean Burmester, are inviting more players to join them, including most recently, the Olympic Champion and US Open champion, Justin Rose. Increasingly, well-followed players are using their social media platforms and agents to raise awareness of rhino poaching.

Storytelling for Connected Conservation can unlock new funding and partnerships. In February 2022, CCF found the right marketing professional to join the team to tell our story. Welcoming our Communications and Fundraising Manager on board, we're delivering our marketing strategy and deepened how corporate collaboration can deliver impact solutions for protected areas managers worldwide.

We've been accelerating our social media presence throughout 2022 and developing content strategies that tell CCF's stories of supporting and equipping our partners.

Our team members have also presented at iconic events including the Earth Ranger conference in South Africa in 2021. Through these events, we've shared our learnings with others, helping others on their technology journey and advancing best practice approaches within the conservation community.

9. Maintaining current Connected Conservation technology solutions in partner sites.

Through 2021-2022, CCF's local engineer partners in Dimension Data have donated resources to work across all field projects to assist with the ongoing maintenance and management of the technology solutions deployed in Phases 1 and 2. Each quarter, the team services field partners' air conditioning units, generators and uninterrupted power supplies (UPS). The team also remotely monitors crucial network elements including servers, switches, routers, firewalls and point-to-point radios.

Monthly and fortnightly meetings are held with each site, providing mentorship, technical support and direction. Consultancy across a broad spectrum is offered by our technology partners, Dimension Data Kenya and South Africa, guiding reserves through decision-making, servicing and planning and ensuring all systems are in frequent use, reliable and operating to their full capabilities.

Our engineer partners also provide assistance and replacement of damaged kits caused by lightning strikes. On average, three storms a year damage equipment.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

How do these activities relate to our longer-term aims and objectives?

Long-term, we aim to equip conservation managers with appropriate and impactful tools to help recover and protect 50+ threatened species, across 10,000,000 hectares and benefit 10,000 local people living in or around reserves, situated in underserved geographies.

All activities during the period have helped CCF improve our capabilities and approach to deliver longer-term aims, across three focus areas:

1. Landscape-wide implementation of robust, proven technologies - to help our partners stop poaching, manage vital ecosystems and improve conservation operations across vast areas.
2. Catalyze investment and supporters to address our conservation partner's technology needs. CCF unites capabilities and targets technology resources for maximum conservation impact.
3. Bring innovation to the ground, harnessing emerging technologies and evaluate their potential to deliver conservation outcomes.

Significant steps achieved this year to realise our longer-term aims, include:

- Leveraging donated satellite imagery. This is enabling rapid protection and monitoring of exponential additional hectares. We've secured a five-year partnership with The Airbus Foundation to apply this critical data to biodiversity conservation globally. Already, the partnership has enabled poaching incidents to be detected from space and supports the case for the declaration of new protected areas in Northern Kenya.
- Upgrading our technology solutions and platform to enable future scaling and expansion.
- Building trust with conservancies, to expand our work, so we can help more protected areas.

Public benefit

The above activities have been undertaken to preserve our planet's rich biodiversity and natural resources.

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Achievements and performance

The increase in species numbers and habitat health improves over long periods. Therefore, metrics on an impact pathway help us validate the intermediary success of individual projects year-on-year.

This year, our partnerships have scaled up to equip conservation managers with game-changing technologies to manage and protect an additional 3,000,000 hectares of wild ecosystems. We're also growing partnerships with Sabi Sand Nature Reserve, Northern Rangelands Trust, Lewa Wildlife Conservancy, Ol Jogi, Loisaba and Madikwe Game Reserve.

Achievements in stats:

- 30 threatened species are better managed and protected using technology, including the black and white rhinos, African elephant, pangolin, leopard, lion, hippo, cheetah, wild dog, brown hyena and giraffe.
- The addition of 3,000,000 new hectares connected, now totalling approximately 5,000,000 hectares of wilderness, better managed and secured across unique habitats in Kenya, South Africa, and Zambia.
- Five new conservancies have been equipped with network connectivity and LoRaWAN. With a total of nine reserves now enabled with networks and real-time data coming into operation centres for better analysis, informed conservation action and research.
- A further 50 rangers are now equipped with connectivity and communications to keep themselves and wildlife safe, totalling 150+ rangers.
- Response times have been reduced from 30 to 7 minutes in Sabi Sand Nature Reserve, with real-time data bringing improved management and protection.
- There have been zero rhinos poached in Kenya since 2021, where teams are supported by CCF's technologies.
- 12 poaching incursions were thwarted in SSNR this year with the help of our technology. If each incursion potentially equals a rhino death, Sabi Sand has saved 12 rhinos from harm.
- Zero poachers went undetected when passing Madikwe's newly installed long-range thermal cameras. Each inclusion has been immediately spotted and stopped.
- Six new high-resolution cameras are now sending live stream video over 150 km from Sera Wildlife Sanctuary to NRT Centre, to monitor the health of endangered species, in inaccessible areas, at times of severe drought.
- 3000km² of wilderness in Madikwe and NRT has been better managed and protected using high-res satellite imagery, adding a critical data source to the Connected Conservation Solution.
- Three deceased rhinos were sadly detected from space in high-resolution satellite imagery, assisting in the criminal intelligence in the poaching incident investigation.
- Two new corporate partners have added support to CCF for the period: Airbus Foundation and Microsoft. We're grateful to all our partners for the growth in support to make all these achievements possible.
- Four new innovative solutions are being developed, trialed and evaluated against conservation outcomes.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Review of charitable activities undertaken

From 2021 to 2022, the world's economies began to recover from the Covid Pandemic. Whilst travel restrictions began to ease in April 2021, the supply chains of technology companies remained stagnant. A backlog in shipping and equipment delivery meant further challenges and delays to the implementation of Connected Conservation solutions. Throughout the year, the situation improved significantly and CCF was able to deliver on its plans to equip conservation teams with technologies that help them achieve more impact, faster.

Despite the challenges, the CCF team has worked tirelessly, with limited resources, to support our local partners, their communities, and our stakeholders to deliver their combined conservation impacts. We've scaled considerably during the year to help more local conservation partners.

Review of principle activities:

1. Maintain the existing Phase 1 technology implementation in Lewa Wildlife Conservancy, and deploy Phase 2 expansion across five neighbouring conservancies in Northern Kenya.

The total area connected in Northern Kenya Lewa Wildlife conservancy now covers 3,000,000 hectares. CCF partners have helped maintain the Phase 1 technology that was deployed in 2019, whilst also implementing the extension across five new conservancies including: Lewa, Sera, Ol Jogi, Loisaba and NRT Centre. This now brings digital communications and connectivity to the conservation management teams across all reserves. Over 100 rangers who work in the region are now equipped with digital radios, network sensors and real-time information for improved situational awareness. Ongoing technical consultancy and support has helped build local technical skills and capacity of on-the-ground conservation technology leaders.

2. Maintain the existing Phase 1 & 2 Technology Solution in the Pilot Project, South Africa and deploy Phase 3 extension into new areas of the reserve

Before the Connected Conservation pilot project was implemented, this South African Private Game Reserve lost rhinos to poaching at a rate of one rhino per week. In the first 18 months of deployment, the pilot project reduced rhino poaching by 96%. Furthermore, between 2017 and 2018, not one single animal was poached. Response times to alerts on suspicious activity were also reduced from 30 to just 7 minutes anywhere in the park, helping rangers quickly intervene and stop poaching before it could occur.

During 2019, poachers changed their tactics to avoid security measures, and poaching incidents increased again. In 2020-21, the technology was repositioned to stay one step ahead, helping to reduce the rate of poaching. In 2021-2022, 12 potential poaching incursions in Sabi Sand Nature Reserve were detected with the help of Connected Conservation technologies. If each incursion potentially equals a rhino death, SSNR saved 12 rhinos from harm during this period.

Our ongoing technical consultancy and support have also facilitated SSNR to maintain 100%, around-the-clock operation of security technologies. Giving an early warning of poaching incursions through fence alarms, cameras and drone detection technologies. Additionally, CCF has helped Sabi access and trial four new impactful conservation technology solutions, two of which have been rolled out effectively.

Fundraising performance achieved against fundraising activities set

During this accounting period Connected Conservation Foundation raised corporate and philanthropic donations in line with fundraising targets to implement the planned activities, principally from Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corporation (NTT) Ltd.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Investment performance achieved against investment activities set

No investments have been made in this accounting period and no material financial investments are held.

Factors relevant to achievement of objectives

Adequate funds have been raised to carry out planned activities within this accounting period.

Following the Covid related delays to our project implementation, Phase 2 with NRT and Phase 3 of Sabi Sand Nature Reserve have now been deployed. Deployment of networks for Madikwe Game Reserve will fall in the next period. Commitment has been made by CCF to complete all phases of work against our shared roadmap.

Financial review

Our total income for our third year of operation was \$275,430. Income and donations from corporate partnerships totalled \$275,000 with \$430 of income from individual giving.

Our expenditure was \$238,913. Our primary expenditure of \$86,169 was allocated to grants direct to conservation partners for the purchase of technologies to meet their challenges and needs and develop their technical capabilities to use conservation tools. \$37,940 was spent on developing the CCF website and marketing materials, which were launched in the previous period, with invoicing falling within this financial year. \$80,729 was spent on; staffing costs for the wider team to catalyze investment; programme management of field projects; fundraising and communications and the development of technical capacity in the field. Other expenses were allocated to cover IT costs and the development of an impact measurement framework to understand the conservation return of CCF technology investments.

Policy on reserves

The charity has no formal reserves policy. Reserves held by the charity are monitored and regularly reviewed by the trustees to ensure that the level of reserves held will sufficiently cover expected levels of future expenditure.

On 31 March 2022 the charity holds total funds of \$404,989. All of these funds are unrestricted, and therefore total free reserves for the charity are \$404,989.

Principal funding sources

CCF is extremely grateful to our supporters and donors, without which none of our achievements are possible. We would like to thank:

- Dimension Data Proprietary Limited
- Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corporation (NTT) Limited
- Birdies for Rhinos
- Microsoft
- Airbus Foundation

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Plans for future periods

Aims and key objectives for future periods

In the next accounting period, the Connected Conservation Foundation aims to continue its work, to equip environmental professionals with tools to protect and manage more threatened species in new geographies.

Specific objectives induce:

a) Reduce poaching in Madikwe Game Reserve, South Africa.

Madikwe urgently needs new early warning technologies to help tackle the dramatic rise in rhino poaching. With only 6,195 black rhinos left in Africa⁹, this rate of poaching across the continent would mean this iconic species could go extinct in five years.

CCF and partners will help Madikwe deploy a LoRaWAN network into Madikwe Game Reserve located next to the Botswana border. This new connectivity will allow the implementation of network sensors, including fence alarms and vehicle trackers, to raise early warnings on incursions to help eradicate rhino poaching.

b) Improve human wildlife coexistence in Kafue, Zambia.

In Kafue National Park, Zambia, African Parks have been granted conservation management of this spectacular landscape. CCF will onboard African Parks as a new CCF conservation partner and plan the distribution of new technologies from the Dimension Data office in Botswana to Kafue, Zambia. New deployments will build on CCF's existing Phase 1 project in the region to expand the network to new areas of the reserve and help establish a new operating centre in the central region. Equipment will help African Parks rangers extend conservation management and protection of this wilderness, aiming to reduce human-wildlife conflict in key areas.

c) Improve wildlife and ecosystem management across additional NRT member conservancies

NRT is looking to upscale technologies by increasing area connectivity coverage and bringing more community-led conservancies onto the LoraWAN network. CCF will help local partners in NRT extend their coverage to improve conservation efforts across the landscape with long-term plans to scale out to over 20 conservancies and national parks in Kenya.

Significantly increasing the number of connected hectares and the donation of more sensing devices, will increase capabilities for real-time information across the region. New conservation challenges will also be explored, including tracking grazing herds between conservancies, to ensure rotation grazing plans are followed so grasslands and soils remain healthy and sustained for both wildlife and local livestock.

Sensing technology may also help bring accountability to NRT's ecosystem management plans and help NRT prove that vegetation across the reserve is removing Co2 from the climate. Validating the level of Co2 removal is essential to unlocking finance from carbon credits schemes, which will bring essential funding to conservancies and local people, who are living on the front lines of climate change.

⁹ Save The Rhino 2022, Poaching Statistics [online] Viewed 01 Aug, 2022

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

d) Bring reliable Connectivity to all Park HQs across 19 African Parks, for improved conservation operations

Communication and connectivity are vital to modern-day park management. A reliable internet connection is at the heart of conservation operations and is essential to African Parks for wildlife management and protection and thriving community coexistence. Tackling the current connection instability in African Park's remote regions will ensure zero downtime connectivity - a vital requirement to keep wildlife, staff and local people safe.

CCF and partners will help African Parks secure and deploy 24 enterprise-level Meraki router devices across their 19 sites, including in countries Chad, Benin, Angola, and Malawi. The equipment will help teams better manage their connectivity and operations, enabling African Parks to manage the use of bandwidth in all parks remotely from one location, ensuring bandwidth and data are 100% dedicated to vital conservation work.

e) Improve monitoring and management of species and their habitats using high resolution satellite data

Launch of our 'Satellites for Biodiversity Award'

We will launch a new global grant award, 'Satellites for Biodiversity' in partnership with Airbus Foundation, to accelerate the use of high-resolution satellite imagery for biodiversity conservation. The grant will support global projects looking to monitor and manage threatened species and their habitats. Proposed solutions may include wildlife monitoring of colonies and groups of species in hard-to-reach areas, mapping wildlife habitats, supporting protected areas for sustainable management of resources, understanding migration routes and changing human settlements to help improve human and wildlife coexistence.

Following on from our research (see section 6a), applicants will be welcomed to apply to continue this line of work in new geographies, to further understand where these technologies can enhance habitat and species monitoring in new situations and geographies.

Winners will receive access to the most advanced optical satellite imagery at 30cm spatial resolution from Airbus Pléiades Neo and 50cm from Pléiades, \$5,000 USD of financial funding, access to Airbus' Archive Library on request, free ESRI software and support and guidance from leading experts at Connected Conservation Foundation & Airbus Foundation.

f) Secure new supporters and collaborators

Fundraising during the next period will continue to help more parks secure game-changing technologies

Activities planned to achieve aims

To achieve the above CCF will:

- a) Work with the Dimension Data implementation team in South Africa to roll out LoRaWan networks and sensors in Madikwe Game Reserve. Providing ongoing support and assistance
- b) Organise the shipping of new network equipment from Botswana to Zambia for implementation by African Parks in Zambia
- c) Secure donations from Cisco for Meraki router devices, organise logistics, to equip African Parks HQs in 19 sites
- d) Design, coordinate and run a new grant programme in collaboration with the Airbus Foundation
- e) Scope, plan and rollout extension of the LoRa Network across NRT conservancies
- f) Continue to support all our existing technology installations
- g) Evaluate projects and work with local partners to improve application, performance and maintenance of technologies

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Structure, governance and management

Nature of governing document

Connected Conservation Foundation is a charitable company (company number 11632911) limited by guarantee and a registered charity (charity number 1183328). Its governing document is its Articles of Association.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

Trustees were recruited based on their experience and expertise in the context of wildlife conservation and technology. Directors have also been chosen to represent the views of contributing partners. All Directors are willing to act as a director and have been nominated in writing by the founding member. They have been appointed by resolution of the Directors.

Induction and training of trustees

Two meetings were held to update the Board of Directors on the charity's progress and develop ongoing strategy. Mr B Watson and Mrs S. Maxwell presented the strategy and financial aims for the upcoming periods and this was agreed by all Directors. There have been no changes to the list of representatives on the Board of Directors.

Arrangements for setting key management personnel remuneration

Policies around setting remuneration, include an assessment of competitive pay for executive level staff in Foundations. The Foundation has set benchmarked salary bands to attract and retain appropriate personnel and ensure transparency and fairness in the use of charity resources. Payroll and associated benefits for newly recruited staff have been established with accounting firm Stewart & Co Accountants LLP.

Organisational structure

The Board of the Foundation is made up of 4 unpaid Trustees. Mr B Watson is the Executive Chairman and Founder of the Connected Conservation Foundation and will table decision-making with the Board of Directors. The following types of decisions are taken by the charity's Trustees and remaining decisions are delegated to staff.

Director decisions include:

- agreeing strategy;
- approving major commitments;
- financial review and approval;
- partnership engagement and due diligence;
- senior level recruitment;
- risk management and mitigation.

CCF's Executive Director reports into the Executive Chairman and provides inputs to the Board for informed decision-making. Foundation staff will report into the Executive Director and be responsible for day-to-day decision-making, to execute operations, project delivery, marketing and communications.

All other decisions are delegated to the staff.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Major risks and management of those risks

CCF has reworked the identification of risks within the risk register. We've reviewed these with specified members of the senior team and Trustees, to help track, manage and drive mitigation strategies. The designated risk owner reports on each risk, at required intervals, to all Trustees and Senior Leads.

The Trustees review the Charity's Risk Register annually at its AGM and consider the following:

Financial risk

In recent years, there have been significant changes to corporate, philanthropic and government funding. The global pressures of recovering from the Covid Pandemic, inflation, the Ukraine war, Brexit and the energy crisis has impacted fundraising success. Increasingly, CCF has seen a shift in corporate focus from biodiversity to humanitarian or climate change relief efforts. We anticipate the next period will be more challenging to bring income opportunities into CCF. CCF is now concentrating on building relationships and bringing in a new primary corporate sponsor and diversifying income streams.

Corruption within local organizations remains a continual risk. CCF has developed due diligence processes, documentation, checks and balances to assess new partners and manage our trusted relationships.

Political instability

Government changes in Botswana have prevented a previously announced project from going ahead. The intended project site sadly lost all rhinos to poaching, so the planned anti-poaching security technologies delivered to Wilderness Safaris Botswana were no longer of value in the planned reserve. CCF is ensuring this equipment will not be wasted and are arranging to transfer the kit to an alternative site in Zambia, whilst remaining owned by the Wilderness Safaris Group. By building a trusted network of established partners, CCF is assured that donated tools will always and only be used for impact to protect endangered species within the partner network.

Covid-19 Pandemic

At the beginning of the period, travel restrictions slowed and sometimes halted our ability to deploy technology solutions in the field, delaying progress in line with original schedules. Local engineers were unable to travel to protected areas in remote locations to install equipment. Any return to Covid restrictions will have a significant impact on CCF's delivery roadmap. CCF is working tirelessly to complete all planned implementations while the situation is normalised.

Working overseas with changing political frameworks

Unpredictable contexts in working overseas can impact our activities. There are several unpredictable political, social and economic contexts in some countries we work in.

We watch the situation in each country, liaising with Dimension Data's in-country offices regarding the current situation. We work with these teams to develop scenario planning. Risk management is performed to safeguard our staff and colleagues, and is conducted at regular intervals during our projects. We always reflect on the design and approach of our programmes. This year, changes to government policy on data security and control have halted the implementation of projects in Botswana. CCF is working to resolve this with future projects, so due diligence is done on all contextual conditions to ensure projects will be successful.

The Board is confident that the appropriate steps have been taken to mitigate the potential impact of these risks occurring.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Small companies provision statement

This report has been prepared in accordance with the small companies regime under the Companies Act 2006.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 19 December 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

SIGNED SECURELY
Bruce Watson
20/12/2022 at 5:13:50 AM UTC

.....
Mr B Watson
Trustee

Connected Conservation Foundation

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of Connected Conservation Foundation for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards, comprising FRS 102 have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that can disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by the trustees of the charity on 19 December 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

SIGNED SECURELY
Bruce Watson
20/12/2022 at 5:13:50 AM UTC

.....
Mr B Watson
Trustee

Connected Conservation Foundation

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Connected Conservation Foundation (‘the Company’)

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity’s trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (‘the 2006 Act’).

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity’s accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (‘the 2011 Act’). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner’s statement

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of ICAEW, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of Connected Conservation Foundation as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a ‘true and fair view’ which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



.....
Lucy Evans, FCA

Stewart & Co. Chartered Accountants
Knoll House
Knoll Road
Camberley
Surrey
GU15 3SY

19 December 2022

Connected Conservation Foundation

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2022 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted funds \$	Total 2022 \$
Income and Endowments from:			
Donations and legacies	3	275,430	275,430
Total income		<u>275,430</u>	<u>275,430</u>
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities	13	(227,951)	(227,951)
Total expenditure		<u>(227,951)</u>	<u>(227,951)</u>
Net income		47,479	47,479
Other recognised gains and losses			
Other gains/losses	14	(2,511)	(2,511)
Net movement in funds		44,968	44,968
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward		360,021	360,021
Total funds carried forward	8	<u>404,989</u>	<u>404,989</u>
	Note	Unrestricted funds \$	Total 2021 \$
Income and Endowments from:			
Donations and legacies	3	266,741	266,741
Total income		<u>266,741</u>	<u>266,741</u>
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities	13	(36,333)	(36,333)
Total expenditure		<u>(36,333)</u>	<u>(36,333)</u>
Net income		230,408	230,408
Other recognised gains and losses			
Other gains/losses		9,947	9,947
Net movement in funds		240,355	240,355
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward		119,666	119,666
Total funds carried forward	8	<u>360,021</u>	<u>360,021</u>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.
The funds breakdown for 2021 is shown in note 8.

The notes on pages 26 to 35 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Connected Conservation Foundation

(Registration number: 11632911) Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2022

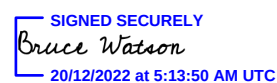
	Note	2022 \$	2021 \$
Current assets			
Cash at bank and in hand	6	412,205	363,906
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	7	<u>(7,216)</u>	<u>(3,885)</u>
Net assets		<u>404,989</u>	<u>360,021</u>
Funds of the charity:			
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		<u>404,989</u>	<u>360,021</u>
Total funds	8	<u>404,989</u>	<u>360,021</u>

For the financial year ending 31 March 2022 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The financial statements on pages 24 to 35 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 19 December 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

 SIGNED SECURELY
Bruce Watson
20/12/2022 at 5:13:50 AM UTC

.....
Mr B Watson
Trustee

The notes on pages 26 to 35 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

1 Charity status

The charity is limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

The address of its registered office is:

1 King William Street
London
England
EC4N 7AR

2 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102). They also comply with the Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011.

Basis of preparation

Connected Conservation Foundation meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

The financial statements are prepared in USD, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest \$.

For the purposes of the Annual Return submitted to the Charity Commission, the exchange rate used to translate these financial statements to GBP is 1.1331, being the exchange rate at the date these accounts were prepared.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

The trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of one year from the date of approval of the financial statements.

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

Income and endowments

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of the income receivable can be measured reliably.

Donations and legacies

Donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance by the charity before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Support costs

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, for example, allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

Borrowings

Interest-bearing borrowings are initially recorded at fair value, net of transaction costs. Interest-bearing borrowings are subsequently carried at amortised cost, with the difference between the proceeds, net of transaction costs, and the amount due on redemption being recognised as a charge to the Statement of Financial Activities over the period of the relevant borrowing.

Interest expense is recognised on the basis of the effective interest method and is included in interest payable and similar charges.

Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless the charity has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least twelve months after the reporting date.

Foreign exchange

Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate of exchange at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at the balance sheet date are reported at the rates of exchange prevailing at that date.

The results of overseas operations are translated at the average rates of exchange during the period and their balance sheets at the rates ruling at the balance sheet date. Exchange differences arising on translation of the opening net assets and results of overseas operations are reported in other comprehensive income and accumulated in equity (attributed to non-controlling interests as appropriate).

Other exchange differences are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which they arise except for:

- 1) exchange differences on transactions entered into to hedge certain foreign currency risks (see above);
- 2) exchange differences arising on gains or losses on non-monetary items which are recognised in other comprehensive income; and
- 3) in the case of the consolidated financial statements, exchange differences on monetary items receivable from or payable to a foreign operation for which settlement is neither planned nor likely to occur (therefore forming part of the net investment in the foreign operation), which are recognised in other comprehensive income and reported under equity.

Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Financial instruments

Classification

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial liabilities and equity instruments are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the charity after deducting all of its liabilities.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

Recognition and measurement

All financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs), except for those financial assets classified as at fair value through profit or loss, which are initially measured at fair value (which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs), unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction. If an arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, the financial asset or financial liability is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are only offset in the statement of financial position when, and only when there exists a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and the charity intends either to settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Financial assets are derecognised when and only when a) the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire or are settled, b) the charity transfers to another party substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset, or c) the charity, despite having retained some, but not all, significant risks and rewards of ownership, has transferred control of the asset to another party.

Financial liabilities are derecognised only when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expires.

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds General \$	Total funds \$
Donations and legacies;		
Donations	<u>275,430</u>	<u>275,430</u>
Total for 2022	<u>275,430</u>	<u>275,430</u>
Total for 2021	<u>266,741</u>	<u>266,741</u>

Connected Conservation Foundation

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

4 Independent examiner's remuneration

	2022 \$	2021 \$
Examination of the financial statements	<u>2,225</u>	<u>2,439</u>

5 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

6 Cash and cash equivalents

	2022 \$	2021 \$
Cash at bank	<u>412,205</u>	<u>363,906</u>

7 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022 \$	2021 \$
Other taxation and social security	2,536	1,341
Other creditors	2,455	319
Accruals	<u>2,225</u>	<u>2,225</u>
	<u>7,216</u>	<u>3,885</u>

Connected Conservation Foundation

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

8 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2021 \$	Incoming resources \$	Resources expended \$	Other recognised gains/(losses) \$	Balance at 31 March 2022 \$
Unrestricted funds					
<i>General</i>					
General	<u>360,021</u>	<u>275,430</u>	<u>(227,951)</u>	<u>(2,511)</u>	<u>404,989</u>
	Balance at 1 April 2020 \$	Incoming resources \$	Resources expended \$	Other recognised gains/(losses) \$	Balance at 31 March 2021 \$
Unrestricted funds					
<i>General</i>					
General	<u>119,666</u>	<u>266,741</u>	<u>(36,333)</u>	<u>9,947</u>	<u>360,021</u>

9 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds General \$	Total funds at 31 March 2022 \$
Current assets	412,205	412,205
Current liabilities	<u>(7,216)</u>	<u>(7,216)</u>
Total net assets	<u>404,989</u>	<u>404,989</u>
	Unrestricted funds General \$	Total funds at 31 March 2021 \$
Current assets	363,906	363,906
Current liabilities	<u>(3,885)</u>	<u>(3,885)</u>
Total net assets	<u>360,021</u>	<u>360,021</u>

Connected Conservation Foundation

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

10 Financial instruments

Categorisation of financial instruments

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Financial assets measured at amortised cost	412,205	363,906
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	(4,680)	(2,544)

11 Related party transactions

During the year the charity made the following related party transactions:

Mr B Watson

(Mr B Watson is a trustee)

Mr B Watson was reimbursed for travel expenses for \$1,256 (2021: \$Nil). At the balance sheet date the amount due to/from Mr B Watson was \$Nil (2021 - \$Nil).

Connected Conservation Foundation

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

12 Analysis of governance and support costs

	NRT Project \$	Madikwe \$	Core \$	Total 2022 \$	Total 2021 \$
Support Costs					
Bank charges	-	-	762	762	198
Computer and Website costs	9,485	9,485	18,970	37,940	523
Staff Costs	20,182	20,182	40,365	80,729	32,854
Legal & professional fees	-	-	450	450	319
Other expenses - Travel	2,810	2,810	5,618	11,238	-
Measurement & Evaluation	-	-	8,438	8,438	-
	<u>32,477</u>	<u>32,477</u>	<u>74,603</u>	<u>139,557</u>	<u>33,894</u>
Governance costs					
Independent examiner fees					
Examination of the financial statements	-	-	2,225	2,225	2,439
	<u>32,477</u>	<u>32,477</u>	<u>76,828</u>	<u>141,782</u>	<u>36,333</u>

Connected Conservation Foundation

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

13 Expenditure on charitable activities

Analysis by fund

	Note	Unrestricted funds General \$	Total funds \$
NRT Project		23,000	23,000
Madikwe		63,169	63,169
Allocated support costs	12	139,557	139,557
Governance costs	12	2,225	2,225
Total for 2022		<u>227,951</u>	<u>227,951</u>
Total for 2021		<u>36,333</u>	<u>36,333</u>

Analysis by type

	Activity undertaken directly \$	Activity support costs \$	Total expenditure \$
NRT Project	23,000	38,283	61,283
Madikwe	63,169	103,499	166,668
Total for 2022	<u>86,169</u>	<u>141,782</u>	<u>227,951</u>
Total for 2021	<u>-</u>	<u>36,333</u>	<u>36,333</u>

14 Other recognised gains/losses

	Unrestricted funds General \$	Total 2022 \$	Total 2021 \$
Foreign currency (gains)/losses	2,511	2,511	(9,947)
	<u>2,511</u>	<u>2,511</u>	<u>(9,947)</u>

Connected Conservation Foundation

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

15 Staff costs

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management / leadership team) employed by the charity during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

	2022 No	2021 No
Administrative	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were \$80,729 (2021 - \$32,854).

16 Trustees remuneration and expenses

During the year the charity made the following transactions with trustees:

Mr B Watson

\$1,256 (2021: \$Nil) of expenses were reimbursed to Mr B Watson during the year.

Mr B Watson was reimbursed for travel expenses.

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any other benefits from the charity during the year.

Accounts

Company registration number: 11632911

Charity registration number: 1183328

Connected Conservation Foundation

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

Stewart & Co Accountants LLP
Knoll House
Knoll Road
Camberley
Surrey
GU15 3SY

Connected Conservation Foundation

Contents

Trustees' Report	1 to 14
Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities	15
Independent Examiner's Report	16
Statement of Financial Activities	17
Balance Sheet	18
Notes to the Financial Statements	19 to 27

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees	Mr D D Ward Mr A L Rhodes Mr J E M Baille Mr B Watson
Principal Office	1 King William Street London EC4N 7AR
Company Registration Number	11632911
Charity Registration Number	1183328
Independent Examiner	Stewart & Co Accountants LLP Knoll House Knoll Road Camberley Surrey GU15 3SY

Objectives and activities

Objects of the charity

The charity's objects, as set out in its Articles of Association, are

- To promote, for the benefit of the public, the conservation, protection and improvement of wildlife, in particular but not exclusively through the development and application of innovative technology; and
- Such other purposes, determined by the trustees, at their sole discretion as are exclusively charitable under the laws of England and Wales.

Aims of the charity

Connected Conservation Foundation (CCF) works to protect wildlife and natural ecosystems through technology.

The natural world is in crisis. With more than 1 million species now at risk of extinction¹. We must act to reverse these trends. CCF works to address this crisis by uniting local partners, technology leaders, and conservationists. By joining their collective capabilities to protect wildlife and ecosystems, provide local education and support communities through technology.

CCF's 2030 vision is for effective technology to be protecting over 30 million hectares of natural habitat; conserving 50+ threatened species and improving the lives of more than 10,000 local people living in and around reserves. We are helping organisations work together towards the UN plan to protect 30% of the planet by 2030, securing safe spaces for wildlife, ecosystems and humanity to thrive.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Our technology solution

The Connected Conservation solution provides a Reserve Area Network for protected areas. Bringing network connectivity and communications to vast, remote landscapes, so security alerts, intelligence and live video can be shared from strategic locations to a central operation centre.

We work closely with local field partners to design an appropriate technical solution for their challenges. From simply providing internet connectivity at Park Head Quarters to more advanced solutions that deploy thermal cameras at fence lines and a LoRaWAN network of sensors to track people, rangers, visitors, vehicles, natural resources and wildlife.

Our technology gives rangers visibility across their reserve around the clock. It provides an early warning of conservation issues so rangers can respond to stop poaching and human-wildlife conflict before it can occur. By enabling real-time data collection and analysis, we also help to improve Protected Area management effectiveness, increase the speed of decision-making and response, to keep rangers safe and leave wildlife undisturbed.

Conservation challenges we seek to address

To increase species numbers and build resilient ecosystems, we must address complex and inter-dependant challenges, including:

1. Stopping illegal poaching of wildlife

The Illegal Wildlife Trade (IWT) threatens many endangered species. Poaching rates have surged in recent times in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic, due to a lack of tourism and reduced local law enforcement capacity. Today a rhino is killed by poachers in South Africa every 8 hours, the African Elephant population is declining by 8% a year² and over a thousand park rangers have been killed in the line of duty over the last decade. Beyond flagship species, poaching affects a range of other endangered animals such as the Pangolin, the Saiga and the African Grey Parrot. Additionally, IWT undermines the rule of law, as local officials and community members are incentivised to participate in criminal networks due to disproportionate economic rewards available. Secure real time surveillance technologies and data intelligence tools help local law enforcement teams proactively manage these threats, to maintain the rule of law, and benefit both wildlife and security of local communities.

2. Preventing human wildlife conflict

As human populations increase and spaces for nature decline, human-wildlife conflict (HWC) is becoming a primary threat to wildlife and local people. There is increasing competition between wildlife and local communities for food, grazing and water resources. For example, in Kenya HWC events have increased 85% between 2011 and 2015³, with more than 400 people killed between 2014 and 2017. In 2018, 77 people were killed, 1,263 were seriously injured and 735 animals were killed⁴. Increasingly poison is used by locals to kill wild animals, as they fear they threaten livestock and property. Improved land management and strategies to mitigate HWC have become a priority for conservancies. Technology can give an early warning of competition and conflict, helping conservationists anticipate and mitigate HWC events.

¹ UN IBES Report: Species extinction accelerating

² Great Elephant Census (GEC)

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

3. Environmental habitat monitoring

Currently only 15% of the world's land is protected, this is not enough. The United Nations are working to increase the protected areas to 30% of the planet by 2030. Technologies are vital in helping conservation managers meet these goals. Encroachment from small scale agriculture and livestock farming threatens habitats and there is increasing competition for grazing. This is made worse by flooding and drought, increasingly brought about through climate change. Through environmental monitoring technologies, we help conservationists monitor and manage local ecosystems, so wildlife and people can successfully co-exist.

4. Technical capacity and sustainability

Technology alone will not solve these conservation problems. Tools need to be used effectively by local people to deliver the desired conservation outcomes. However, local conservation practitioners have varying levels of technical skills and knowledge to harness the technology and a lack of understanding on the best technologies for the job. Investment in human operations and technical education must be sustained over the long term to ensure the benefits are realised and continue beyond the technology implementation phase.

Addressing the conservation challenges

Our work takes a holistic view of these inter-connected challenges, with long-term solutions that look at the social, economic and ecological factors needed to protect species and ecosystems through Connected Conservation technology.

To address these challenges, we aim to:

1. Make effective technology and intelligence available to front-line conservation teams, to help them pre-empt and mitigate conservation issues.
2. Provide support to help build technical capacity, increase adoption of tools and ensure technologies are effectively used and locally managed.
3. Foster trust and collaboration across partners, conservationists, technologists and academia to accelerate implementation of appropriate technologies.
4. Accelerate sustainable solutions for long lasting impact. Supporting employment opportunities through technology to improve local livelihoods.
5. Be impact driven in the development of multi-partner investments.

Working together, we can create safe places where wildlife can roam free.

³Kenya Wildlife Conservancies Association (2016) State of Wildlife Conservancies in Kenya 2016, Kenya: KWCA.

⁴Keith Somerville (2019) Kenya - 77 people killed in human-wildlife conflicts in 2018: Balala, Available

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Objectives, strategies and activities

2020 to 2021 was a challenging period for our partners and charitable work, due to the ongoing Covid Pandemic. Restrictions on travel and the movement of equipment across borders, meant our implementation of Connected Conservation solutions in new areas has been delayed. During this constrained period, Connected Conservation Foundation took the opportunity to improve operations, fundraising and marketing.

Main objectives for a year, within a global pandemic:

1. Maintain the existing Connected Conservation technology solution already deployed in Sabi Sands Wildtuin (South Africa) and Lewa Wildlife Conservancy (Kenya).
2. Manage planning and logistics to import new equipment for five new protected areas, across Botswana, South Africa and Kenya in preparation for in-field deployment during the next period.
3. Establish brand and marketing communication for the new Connected Conservation Foundation entity.
4. Establish relationships with new corporate partners to add new technologies, resources and capabilities to our mission.

Details of significant activities

For this reporting period the main activities undertaken include:

1. Maintain the existing Connected Conservation technology solution in Lewa Wildlife Conservancy and Sabi Sands Wildtuin.

1.1. Lewa Wildlife Conservancy, Northern Kenya. Partner: Northern Rangelands Trust (NRT)

In 2019 Connected Conservation began Phase 1 of our project with the Northern Rangelands Trust. Where local engineers installed connectivity and communications technology to help Rangers protect critically endangered Black Rhino, Grevy's Zebra, African Elephants and many other species that exist in this rich habitat. Equipping conservation teams with digital radios and LoRaWan networks to help them monitor vast areas and improve conservation operations, to pre-empt human-wildlife conflict, prevent poaching and assist rangers with habitat management.

Across the world, rangers play an indispensable role in protecting biodiversity and ecosystems and work in challenging conditions. In a survey of ranger working conditions, researchers found that only 43.2% of rangers said they always had access to communication devices on patrol or at outposts. This statistic is alarming as rangers can often find themselves in threatening situations, from predator species or in a potential confrontation with poachers.

In Lewa, rangers need ways to communicate with their central control room at all times, so they can call for help or give a warning of potentially harmful activity to wildlife or themselves. Equally, when the operations room sees something of interest from other cameras or data sources across the protected area, it must be able to divert ranger patrols to mitigate threats immediately.

⁵Employment conditions of public sector rangers: A major under addressed problem (Belecky.M, Parry.J, Singh.R).

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Connected Conservation Foundation partners have extended secure connectivity, communications and LoRaWAN coverage across important conservation areas in Lewa. The local Dimension Data team based in Kenya has installed new masts and onboarded new digital radios onto the communications backbones. They have delivered fully encrypted, reliable and secure communications and connectivity to vital 'black spots' and removed communication bottlenecks. This technology allows the operations room to track ranger patrols from GPS coordinates communicated from their radios. It enables better tracking of ranger patrols and improves communication between central control and rangers from anywhere in the park.

Impact:

- Secure connectivity and communications to protect 25,000 new hectares of vital wildlife habitat
- Better conservation management with onboarding of digital radios for ranger teams
- Only 1 elephant poached in 2020
- The lowest level of elephant poaching in member conservancies on record

Through 2020-2021 Connected Conservation Foundation's local engineers have been working with NRT to assist with the ongoing maintenance and management of the technology solutions deployed in Phase 1.

1.2. Sabi Sands Reserve, South African. Partner: Sabi Sands Wildtuin

In 2015, Connected Conservation partners commenced Phase 1 of the pilot project to provide and install the first Reserve Area Network in this South African Private Game Reserve. Phase 2 took place in 2018 and enhanced the technologies to provide improved wildlife protection, monitoring and effective conservation operations.

Our impact to date includes:

- Long-running solution of 5+ years, now in 3rd phase to protect an even greater area
- Protecting 62,000 hectares with a Reserve Area Network
- Technology, coupled with successful management, saw 96% reduction in poaching over the first 18 months, with zero poaching over 2017/2018 and new reductions in 2020
- Response times to conservation issues reduced from 30 to 7 minutes, from anywhere in the reserve

In 2020-2021 CCF has been conducting ongoing work to maintain the system installed in Phase 1 and 2. Lightning and high winds from Storm Eloise in January 2021 took out connectivity and communications for the park, wiping out primary infrastructure. Much of the equipment needed urgent replacement and reconfiguration posed a significant challenge to the field engineers.

Phase 3 planning and deployment started towards the end of the period, with new equipment received on site into the warehouse. The new rollout aims to counter ever-changing poaching tactics, by staying one step ahead, with more portable intelligence operations.

2. Manage planning and logistics to import new equipment for five new protected areas across Botswana, South Africa and Kenya, in preparation for in-field deployment during the next fiscal year

Our Technical Architecture team has visited new protected areas to plan 4 new projects. Designs for connectivity, communications and operational infrastructure have been created to suit the unique terrain. Fundraising activities have taken place and new equipment was secured with donors.

This work included the design of a formidable new extension to the NRT solution to encompass 6 new NRT conservancies, including: NRT Centre, Dol Dol, Wamba, Sera, Nyambene and Marsabit. CCF has secured the donation of equipment to extend the Connected Conservation solution across approximately 3,000,000 new hectares of Northern Kenya. The logistical challenges of shipping large amounts of infrastructure to remote environments during a Pandemic and through the Brexit transition has been immense. The importation team has worked successfully to make this a reality, with equipment arriving locally, ready for deployment.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

3. Establish the new Brand and Marketing Materials for the charity

We completed the design and roll out of a new brand identity. Designing and launching a new website to communicate our work and our goals. Communicating with our supporters, partners and the general public through the set up and management of new social media channels. This can be viewed through our online presence here: www.connectedconservation.foundation

4. Establish relationships with new corporate partners, to add new technologies, resources and capabilities to our shared mission.

This year CCF has engaged in conversations to expand its corporate supporters. Undertaking significant planning with Airbus and Microsoft on how to join technologies to scale field-based conservation efforts. Together, participating organisations have worked to scope a new programme: one that couples Microsoft Azure platforms, with Airbus's high-res Satellite monitoring data, NTT's engineering resources and Cisco's on-the-ground IOT technologies to harness greater shared capabilities for the protection and recovery of wildlife and natural ecosystems.

A development roadmap was presented to the Executive Board of respective organisations. CCF was instrumental in mobilising these new partnerships, to collaborate on new technology solutions for: wildlife tracking, environmental tracking, habitat degradation monitoring and protection from charcoal burning and overgrazing

How do these activities relate to our longer-term aims and objectives?

Our long-term objectives are to recover and protect more species in more geographies. To do this we need to scale our supporters and resources. No one corporate organisation can solve these big problems on their own, each organisation has unique resources to bring to the challenge and it's essential that we join together. CCF works to engage corporate's capabilities and target their resources for maximum conservation impact.

This year we have dramatically improved our marketing, fundraising and planning materials. Enabling us to articulate our vision and demonstrate our impact through evidence-based case studies. Strong materials helped us engage new, valuable supporters and their capabilities in the protection of more species and geographies.

During the period CCF has maintained technologies in our two key pilot sites: Lewa Wildlife Conservancy and Sabi Sands. These sites are recognised as leaders in effective protected area management with strengths in wildlife monitoring, surveillance, community engagement and eco-tourism. By working with these sites to bring new innovative technologies to the ground, we have an opportunity to demonstrate the game-changing capabilities of technology to help nature recover and transform the field of conservation, whilst also demonstrating how building technical capacity can improve conservation operations. These sites help us test and improve technologies to deliver conservation outcomes, so that future systems will be more effective when applied in new protected areas around the world.

Public benefit

The above activities have been undertaken to preserve our planet's rich biodiversity and natural heritage.

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Achievements and performance

CCF worked closely with all our participating partners to agree Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) detailing our approach for measurement and evaluation of our shared work. Together we've agreed processes and ways of working for the collection of data that measures a chain of intermediary outcomes on the path to species recovery. Overall increase in species numbers takes time. Therefore, metrics on an impact pathway helps us validate the intermediary success of individual projects year on year.

Together we have agreed a measurement framework, for all new deployments including:

1. A project baseline

A kick-off meeting and facilitation of 1-on-1 interviews to help participating organisations understand the current status of conservation technology practice in Reserves, before any new technology is deployed.

2. Desired change

Together with protected areas as necessary, CCF will complete a basic map of the desired change local partners want to see through technology, including: purpose, target conservation outcomes, assumptions, and any necessary mitigations.

3. A measurement and evaluation plan

Participating organisations will agree on indicators and methods to report on the project's success. Targeting the following desired impacts, to evidence indicators of habitat and species recovery.

- Number of hectares and number of protected areas monitored and secured across geographies/countries
- Number of priority species benefiting
- Reduction in wildlife deaths from poaching and human wildlife conflict
- Efficiency and reduced cost for conservation organisations for analysis and monitoring (versus manual data collection and human-in-plane)
- Increase in developed technical capacity and uptake of effective technologies

4. Mid-project summary

Meetings will be attended by key personnel from participating organisations to share, learn, adapt and replan conservation strategies for technology.

5. Project report

Together field teams will review the operationalisation of tools and outcomes of the project. Reserve staff and Connected Conservation Foundation will compile the knowledge and data to report on the success of the project. Participating organisations, have agreed to work together to share insights, so everyone can learn, adapt and replan the successful application of technology for conservation management.

CCF has hired an external measurement and evaluation specialists to deliver this work.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Review of charitable activities undertaken

1. Maintain the existing Phase 1 technology implementation in Lewa Wildlife Conservancy, Northern Kenya

Lewa Wildlife conservancy covers 25,000 hectares. Connected Conservation Foundation has helped maintain the Phase 1 technology, deployed in 2019, which brought digital communications and connectivity to the conservation management teams. 13 rangers who work in the central joint operations centres were equipped with digital radios and trained, increasing local technical skills and capacity. A full project review after a year of operation, was scheduled for February 2021. However, due to the Covid Pandemic, this was unable to take place. Ranger staff were reduced, and Northern Rangelands Trust were unable to prioritise this activity when they were so short staffed, with many other demands on their time. Measurement and evaluation for this project has now been rescheduled to coincide with Phase 2 technology deployment during the next period. It aims to bring a more efficient reporting process for both phases of technology implemented across Northern Rangelands Trust Conservancies.

2. Maintain the existing Technology Solution in the Pilot Project, South Africa

Before the Connected Conservation pilot project was implemented, this South African Private Game Reserve lost rhinos to poaching at a rate of one rhino per week. In the first 18 months of deployment, the pilot project reduced rhino poaching by 96%. And in the years 2017 and 2018, not one single animal was poached. Response times to alerts on suspicious activity were reduced from 30 to just 7 minutes from anywhere in the park. Helping rangers quickly intervene and stop poaching before it could occur.

During 2019, poachers changed their tactics to avoid security measures, and poaching incidents increased. In 2020-21 the technology was repositioned to stay one step ahead and poaching numbers then came down. Measurement activities on the impact technologies of redeployment and new Phase 3 technologies have also been delayed due to travel restrictions imposed by the Covid-19 Pandemic. Measurement and evaluation for this project is now rescheduled to coincide with Phase 3 deployment.

Fundraising performance achieved against fundraising activities set

During this accounting period Connected Conservation Foundation raised corporate and philanthropic donations in line with fundraising targets to implement the planned activities, principally from Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corporation (NTT) Ltd.

Investment performance achieved against investment activities set

No investments have been made in this accounting period and no material financial investments are held.

Factors relevant to achievement of objectives

Adequate funds have been raised to carry out planned activities within this accounting period.

The Covid-19 Pandemic has been a significant event that has slowed progress to implement technologies within our partner's conservancies. This has impacted the timeline for implementation meaning implementation of Phase 2 with Northern Rangelands Trust and Phase 3 of Sabi Sands Wildtuin will fall in the next period. Commitment has been made by CCF to complete all phases of work against our shared roadmap.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Financial review

Total income for the second year of operation for the Connected Conservation Foundation was \$266,741. Income and donations from corporate partnerships totalled \$256,768 with \$9,973 of income from private philanthropy. This is the expected level of income and is sufficient to meet our objectives for the period with adequate reserves to take forward into the next year, ready to meet our upcoming project expenditure as countries reopen.

In the last period, Dimension Data transferred \$249,564 to CCF to help pay emergency invoices for the NRT project. During this period this loan was settled into an unrestricted donation to CCF.

The principle CCF expenditure for the period was minimal as Covid-19 travel restrictions delayed technology implementation for newly planned projects. The primary expenditure of \$35,789 was spent on operational, marketing, measurement planning and fundraising to ensure everything is in place for the lifting of restrictions.

Policy on reserves

The charity has no formal reserves policy. Reserves held by the charity are monitored and regularly reviewed by the trustees to ensure that the level of reserves held will sufficiently cover expected levels of future expenditure.

On 31 March 2021 the charity holds total funds of \$360,021. All of these funds are unrestricted, and therefore total free reserves for the charity are \$360,021.

Principal funding sources

CCF is extremely grateful to our supporters and donors, without which none of our achievements are possible. We would like to thank:

- Dimension Data Proprietary Limited
- Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corporation (NTT) Limited
- Cisco Systems Inc.
- Birdies for Rhinos
- Silicon Valley Community Fund
- Johannesburg Stock Exchange

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Plans for future periods

Aims and key objectives for future periods

In the next accounting period, the Connected Conservation Foundation aims to:

1. Continue with the planned expansion of protection of more species in new geographies, implementing the planned projects, delayed from 2020-21. Including:

a. Kenya. To protect 3,000,000 hectares of interconnected community conservancies across Northern Rangelands Trust. Home to Elephant, Black and White Rhino and critically endangered Hirola. The project aims to; reduce human-wildlife conflict and illegal poaching; assist with environmental monitoring and improve conservation effectiveness to support peace and security of wildlife and communities.

b. South Africa. To protect a new area of Sabi Sands Wildtuin situated next to the Kruger National Park, home to the big five and a diverse range of species. The project aims to reduce illegal poaching and secure coverage in new areas of the park, due to the recent increases in poaching during the Covid-19 pandemic.

c. South Africa. To deploy networking solutions into Madikwe Game Reserve located next to the Botswana border, to tackle a dramatic increase in poaching seen in the wake of the pandemic. Connectivity will be brought to the protected area, helping rangers get real-time data to secure this important habitat, home to the big five and a diverse range of species. The project aims to reduce illegal poaching.

d. Botswana. To protect the unique Okavango Delta eco-system, home to Black Rhino, Elephants, Wild Dog, Cheetah, Giraffe and variety of species. The project aims to protect black rhino populations from a dramatic recent increase in poaching. (Before this project can commence, there are various steps that need to be taken to strengthen collaboration with influential government stakeholders, in order to secure their approval).

e. Global. To develop new technology to modernise wildlife surveys. CCF's mission is to protect wildlife and leave them undisturbed. Conservation management teams need to track the movement of species so they can better protect them and their rangelands. This is typically done by tagging animals with large satellite collars or drilling GPS trackers into their horns. These methods are intrusive, costly and traumatic for the animals. CCF plans to explore new methods of tracking wildlife using Artificial Intelligence and High-Resolution Satellite Imagery. It's hoped this collaborative new project, involving NTT Ltd., Airbus and Microsoft, will add valuable new capabilities to the Connected Conservation solution.

2. Contractually engage new supporters and resources from Microsoft and Airbus.

3. Grow our operations, hiring new staff to assist in the delivery of our objectives.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Activities planned to achieve aims

1. Implement new technology solutions in sites across Botswana, Kenya and South Africa

NTT's field-engineers from local offices will work closely with our local partners to install and integrate new infrastructure within the new protected areas.

2. Increase operational capabilities

CCF will recruit new support staff to help lead the day-to-day activities and increase our technical delivery, strategic and fundraising resources and to increase its operational partnerships to deliver against our charitable objectives.

A new website has been developed post year end. Now that this has been completed, CCF will hire further help with communications and fundraising.

3. Sign contractual agreements with new supporters

Microsoft, NTT and Airbus will commit new resources to update our technologies and develop new capabilities for the Connected Conservation solution. Scoping and partnership agreements will be established to set up collaborative partnerships for success.

Structure, governance and management

Nature of governing document

Connected Conservation Foundation is a charitable company (company number 11632911) limited by guarantee and a registered charity (charity number 1183328). Its governing document is its Articles of Association.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

Trustees were recruited based on their experience and expertise in the context of wildlife conservation and technology. Directors have also been chosen to represent the views of contributing partners. All Directors are willing to act as a director and have been nominated in writing by the founding member. They have been appointed by resolution of the Directors.

Induction and training of trustees

Two meetings were held to induct the Board of Directors, where training and policy materials were provided. Mr B Watson presented the origin, aims and plan for the charity and the strategy and financial aims were agreed by all Directors. There have been no changes to the list of representatives on the Board of Directors.

Arrangements for setting key management personnel remuneration

Policies around setting remuneration, include an assessment of competitive pay for executive level staff in Foundations. The Foundation has set benchmarked salary bands to attract and retain appropriate personnel and ensure transparency and fairness in the use of charity resources. Payroll and associated benefits for newly recruited staff have been established with accounting firm Stewart & Co Accountants LLP.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Organisational structure

The Board of the Foundation is made up of 4 unpaid Trustees. Mr B Watson is the Executive Chairman and Founder of the Connected Conservation Foundation and will table decision-making with the Board of Directors. The following types of decisions are taken by the charity's Trustees and remaining decisions are delegated to staff.

Director decisions include:

- agreeing strategy;
- approving major commitments;
- financial review and approval;
- partnership engagement and due diligence;
- senior level recruitment;
- risk management and mitigation.

CCF's Executive Director reports into the Executive Chairman and provides inputs to the Board for informed decision-making. Foundation staff will report into the Executive Director and be responsible for day-to-day decision-making, to execute operations, project delivery, marketing and communications.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Major risks and management of those risks

2020-2021 was an exceptional year, where Covid-19 restrictions presented many challenges. During this time of uncertainty, CCF reworked identification of risks within the risk register. Reviewing these with specified members of the senior team, to help track, manage and drive mitigation strategies. With the designated risk owner reporting at regularly set intervals, on each risk in the log to all Trustees and Senior Leads.

Trustees have identified the following priority risks:

Financial risk

There have been significant changes to corporate, philanthropic and government funding. The Covid-19 Pandemic, changes to UK Brexit policy and reduced levels of UK overseas aid, meant 2020-2021 was a time of reduced income opportunity for CCF.

During lockdown, we focused on improving fundraising materials and activity ready to harness new opportunities. These opportunities are now emerging, with new declarations of large funds for biodiversity conservation projects coming from private investors and Governments – especially those pledged around the October COP15 summit.

Covid-19 Pandemic

This presents an ongoing risk to our ability to achieve our aims and objectives. It has dramatically hindered our ability to execute our planned expenditure and project delivery. Travel restrictions have slowed and sometimes halted our ability to deploy technology solutions in the field, in line with original schedules. Local engineers have been unable to travel to protected areas in remote locations to install equipment.

Where possible, we've delayed technology implementation to later in 2021, to allow for safer conditions and less risk. Where this is not possible, we constantly communicate with local Dimension Data offices, to understand the changing situation within the countries where we work and make necessary logistical adjustments to safeguard staff and colleagues.

Working overseas with changing political frameworks

Unpredictable contexts in working overseas can impact our activities. There are a number of unpredictable political, social and economic contexts in a number of countries where we work.

We watch the situation in each country, liaising with Dimension Data's in-country offices regarding the current situation. We work with these teams to develop scenario planning. Risk management is performed to safeguard our staff and colleagues, this is conducted at regular intervals during our projects and is reflected in the design and approach to our programmes. This year changes to government policy on data security and control have significantly delayed the implementation of projects in Botswana and Indonesia. CCF is working to resolve this with help from legal teams within our sponsor's organisations.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Trustees' Report

Small companies provision statement

This report has been prepared in accordance with the small companies regime under the Companies Act 2006.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on ..08/12/2021.. and signed on its behalf by:

Bruce Watson
.....

Mr B Watson
Trustee

Connected Conservation Foundation

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of Connected Conservation Foundation for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the trustees of the charity on 08/12/2021 and signed on its behalf by:

Bruce Watson

.....
Mr B Watson
Trustee

Connected Conservation Foundation

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Connected Conservation Foundation

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2021 which are set out on pages 17 to 27.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees of Connected Conservation Foundation (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of Connected Conservation Foundation are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since Connected Conservation Foundation's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of ICAEW, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of Connected Conservation Foundation as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



.....
Lucy Evans, FCA

Stewart & Co. Chartered Accountants
Knoll House
Knoll Road
Camberley
Surrey
GU15 3SY

Date: 08/12/2021.....

Connected Conservation Foundation

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2021 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted funds \$	Total 2021 \$
Income and Endowments from:			
Donations and legacies	3	266,741	266,741
Total income		<u>266,741</u>	<u>266,741</u>
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities	4	(36,333)	(36,333)
Total expenditure		<u>(36,333)</u>	<u>(36,333)</u>
Net income		230,408	230,408
Other recognised gains and losses			
Other gains/losses	5	9,947	9,947
Net movement in funds		240,355	240,355
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward		119,666	119,666
Total funds carried forward	13	<u>360,021</u>	<u>360,021</u>
	Note	Unrestricted funds \$	Total 2020 \$
Income and Endowments from:			
Donations and legacies	3	688,449	688,449
Total income		<u>688,449</u>	<u>688,449</u>
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities	4	(568,783)	(568,783)
Total expenditure		<u>(568,783)</u>	<u>(568,783)</u>
Net income		119,666	119,666
Net movement in funds		<u>119,666</u>	<u>119,666</u>
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds carried forward	13	<u>119,666</u>	<u>119,666</u>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The funds breakdown for 2020 is shown in note 13.

The notes on pages 19 to 27 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Connected Conservation Foundation

(Registration number: 11632911) Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2021

	Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
Current assets			
Cash at bank and in hand	11	363,906	933,644
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	12	<u>(3,885)</u>	<u>(813,978)</u>
Net assets		<u>360,021</u>	<u>119,666</u>
Funds of the charity:			
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		<u>360,021</u>	<u>119,666</u>
Total funds	13	<u>360,021</u>	<u>119,666</u>

For the financial year ending 31 March 2021 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements on pages 17 to 27 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on ..08/12/2021..... and signed on their behalf by:

Bruce Watson
.....
Mr B Watson
Trustee

The notes on pages 19 to 27 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

1 Charity status

The charity is limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

The address of its registered office is:

1 King William Street
London
EC4N 7AR

2 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102). They also comply with the Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011.

Basis of preparation

Connected Conservation Foundation meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

The financial statements are prepared in USD, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest \$.

For the purposes of the Annual Return submitted to the Charity Commission, the exchange rate used to translate these financial statements to GBP is 1.3815, being the exchange rate at the date these accounts were prepared.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

The trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of one year from the date of approval of the financial statements.

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

Income and endowments

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of the income receivable can be measured reliably.

Donations and legacies

Donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance by the charity before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Support costs

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, for example, allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees's meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

Borrowings

Interest-bearing borrowings are initially recorded at fair value, net of transaction costs. Interest-bearing borrowings are subsequently carried at amortised cost, with the difference between the proceeds, net of transaction costs, and the amount due on redemption being recognised as a charge to the Statement of Financial Activities over the period of the relevant borrowing.

Interest expense is recognised on the basis of the effective interest method and is included in interest payable and similar charges.

Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless the charity has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least twelve months after the reporting date.

Foreign exchange

Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate of exchange at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at the balance sheet date are reported at the rates of exchange prevailing at that date.

The results of overseas operations are translated at the average rates of exchange during the period and their balance sheets at the rates ruling at the balance sheet date. Exchange differences arising on translation of the opening net assets and results of overseas operations are reported in other comprehensive income and accumulated in equity (attributed to non-controlling interests as appropriate).

Other exchange differences are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which they arise except for:

- 1) exchange differences on transactions entered into to hedge certain foreign currency risks (see above);
- 2) exchange differences arising on gains or losses on non-monetary items which are recognised in other comprehensive income; and
- 3) in the case of the consolidated financial statements, exchange differences on monetary items receivable from or payable to a foreign operation for which settlement is neither planned nor likely to occur (therefore forming part of the net investment in the foreign operation), which are recognised in other comprehensive income and reported under equity.

Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees's discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Financial instruments

Classification

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial liabilities and equity instruments are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the charity after deducting all of its liabilities.

Connected Conservation Foundation

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

Recognition and measurement

All financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs), except for those financial assets classified as at fair value through profit or loss, which are initially measured at fair value (which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs), unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction. If an arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, the financial asset or financial liability is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are only offset in the statement of financial position when, and only when there exists a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and the charity intends either to settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Financial assets are derecognised when and only when a) the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire or are settled, b) the charity transfers to another party substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset, or c) the charity, despite having retained some, but not all, significant risks and rewards of ownership, has transferred control of the asset to another party.

Financial liabilities are derecognised only when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expires.

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds General \$	Total funds \$
Donations and legacies;		
Donations	266,741	266,741
Total for period ended 31 March 2021	266,741	266,741
Total for period ended 31 March 2020	688,449	688,449

Connected Conservation Foundation

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

4 Expenditure on charitable activities

Analysis by fund

		Unrestricted funds General \$	Total funds \$
Allocated support costs	6	33,894	33,894
Governance costs	6	2,439	2,439
Total for period ended 31 March 2021		36,333	36,333
Total for period ended 31 March 2020		568,783	568,783

Analysis by type

	Activity undertaken directly \$	Activity support costs \$	Total expenditure \$
NRT Project	-	36,333	36,333
Total for period ended 31 March 2021	-	36,333	36,333
Total for period ended 31 March 2020	562,564	6,219	568,783

5 Other recognised gains/losses

	Unrestricted funds General \$	Total 2021 \$
Foreign currency (gains)/losses	(9,947)	(9,947)
	(9,947)	(9,947)

Connected Conservation Foundation

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

6 Analysis of governance and support costs

	NRT Project \$	Total 31 March 2021 \$	Total 19 October 2018 to 31 March 2020 \$
Support Costs			
Staff Costs	32,854	32,854	-
Bank charges	198	198	19
Computer costs	523	523	279
Gain/loss on exchange	-	-	4,071
Legal & professional fees	319	319	-
	<u>33,894</u>	<u>33,894</u>	<u>4,369</u>
Governance costs			
Independent examiner fees			
Examination of the financial statements	2,439	2,439	1,850
	<u>36,333</u>	<u>36,333</u>	<u>6,219</u>

7 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any reimbursed expenses or any other benefits from the charity during the year.

8 Staff costs

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management team) employed by the charity during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

	2021 No
Administrative	<u>1</u>

No staff were employed by the charity in the period to 31 March 2020.

All finance and administrative work during the prior period was undertaken by volunteers.

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were \$32,854 (2020 - \$Nil).

Connected Conservation Foundation

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

9 Independent examiner's remuneration

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Examination of the financial statements	<u>2,439</u>	<u>1,850</u>

10 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

11 Cash and cash equivalents

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Cash at bank	<u>363,906</u>	<u>933,644</u>

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Other loans	-	249,564
Other taxation and social security	1,341	-
Other creditors	319	562,564
Accruals	<u>2,225</u>	<u>1,850</u>
	<u>3,885</u>	<u>813,978</u>

Connected Conservation Foundation

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

13 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2020 \$	Incoming resources \$	Resources expended \$	Other recognised gains/(losses) \$	Balance at 31 March 2021 \$
Unrestricted funds					
<i>General</i>					
General	<u>119,666</u>	<u>266,741</u>	<u>(36,333)</u>	<u>9,947</u>	<u>360,021</u>
		Incoming resources \$	Resources expended \$		Balance at 31 March 2020 \$
Unrestricted funds					
<i>General</i>					
General		<u>688,449</u>	<u>(568,783)</u>		<u>119,666</u>

14 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds General \$	Total funds at 31 March 2021 \$
Current assets	363,906	363,906
Current liabilities	<u>(3,885)</u>	<u>(3,885)</u>
Total net assets	<u>360,021</u>	<u>360,021</u>
	Unrestricted funds General \$	Total funds at 31 March 2020 \$
Current assets	933,644	933,644
Current liabilities	<u>(813,978)</u>	<u>(813,978)</u>
Total net assets	<u>119,666</u>	<u>119,666</u>

Connected Conservation Foundation

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

15 Financial instruments

Categorisation of financial instruments

	31 March 2021	31 March 2020
	\$	\$
Financial assets measured at amortised cost	363,906	933,644
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	(2,544)	(813,978)

16 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the year.