



## Overview of 2017 Accomplishments

To contribute to a more hopeful future where the needs of people are met while also caring for the nature that sustains us, the Conservation Coaches Network brings together a growing pool of trained professionals to support the people that run conservation projects around the world. It is now a voluntary network of over 600 dedicated coaches that is eight years old.

Using a structured learning process, our Network nurtures coaches to work with projects to develop, implement, evaluate, adapt and share effective strategies to achieve conservation results that benefit people and nature. By using a common approach, the Open Standards for the Practice of Conservation, communities, conservation NGOs and government agencies can engage with others to solve problems in their own language and cultural context, while allowing us to exchange successes and failures so we can all advance more rapidly and increase our impact. Our members include students, active professionals and retired colleagues who come from all walks of life and represent the views of government agencies, not-for-profit organizations, independent consultants, academic institutions, and community-based and indigenous organizations. Every time one of our coaches taps into our rich collective knowledge and expertise to help a project advance, that project gets better and faster results to improve conditions in communities and entire regions.

Every day, coaches are working with hundreds of projects around the globe to:

- Conserve and restore habitats that people depend on for food and water, including forests, grasslands, deserts, rivers, and coastal and marine systems;
- Protect endangered species such as sea turtles, elephants, parrots, chimpanzees, rhinos;
- Protect people and infrastructure from climate change, by restoring and conserving natural systems;
- Work with ranchers and herders to reduce conflict between humans and wildlife;
- Work with governments, businesses, and communities to ensure that their decisions about activities such as mining, fishing, agriculture, development, and energy-generation, take the value of nature into consideration and act to protect it;
- Remove barriers to aquatic connectivity, so that rivers can run free
- Make cities healthier

### How does CCNet work?

Currently CCNet is represented in formal franchises lead by local partners in Africa, Australia, Europe, Mesoamerica, North America, Pacific Islands, South America, South Asia, China, Mongolia, Malaysia/Indonesia, and a non-placed-based network on Teaching Adaptive Management (TAM) in universities. Franchises are the operational arms of CCNet who link and strengthen practitioners within each region.

Franchise leaders, together with partner representatives from The Nature Conservancy, Greening Australia, World Wide Fund for Nature and Foundations of Success, make up the CCNet Global Board which is presided by a CCNet Global Chair. We also have a small global coordination team with six members, including the CCNet Chairperson, with time only being covered for two coordinators from the central CCNet budget, adding up to a total of 70% of a full time paid position. Members of the coordination team work for partner organizations and volunteer their time. This group is responsible for ensuring a timely completion of Network activities.

Our global work is made possible by the considerable in-kind support provided by members, partner organizations and donors.

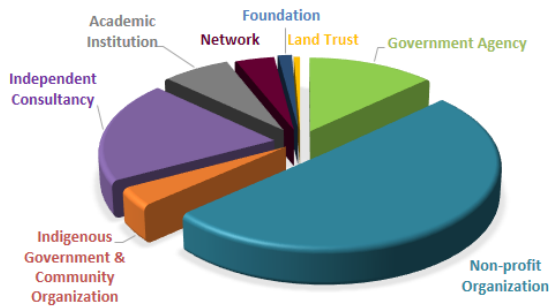
We are pleased to present this summary of our accomplishments during the past year.

## Recruit, Train and Support Coaches across Multiple Institutions around the Planet

We trained 44 new conservation coaches from Bulgaria, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, France, Germany, Haiti, Lebanon, Madagascar, Netherlands, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States, and Russia. We currently have 625 active coaches, representing close to 200 institutions and helping projects in over 60 countries on all continents.



### Active Conservation Coaches Network Members



Approximately half of our members work with non-profit organizations, followed by 20% in independent consultancies and 13% in government agencies. Approximately 7% work with academic institutions and 4% in community-based and indigenous organizations and networks, and less than 2% represent foundations and land trusts.

## Establish a Clear Pathway towards Professional Conservation Coaching

We completed a business plan for a CCNet Certification Program to provide an opportunity for conservation practitioners who coach projects with the Open Standards for the Practice of Conservation, to be recognized through certification— indicating that they have achieved an “officially” acknowledged level of proficiency.

The program will entail second party certification – where CCNet is the entity certifying Conservation Coaches. The most experienced coaches in CCNet will be asked to help in reviewing coaches for certification. An initial cadre of proficient coaches is currently helping us pilot the program, and we intend to promote this at our upcoming Global Rally in 2018. Based on our assessment we believe that once 40-50 coaches are certified, the program will be recognized as a clear and desirable standard, and should become sustainable.



Coaches show their certificate after attending a training in Spain in November, 2017. Photo credit: Annette Olsson / CI

## Promote Efficient Knowledge Sharing

**Our Franchises** – Franchises are localized groups or network hubs, who link and strengthen coaches within each region. This year we strengthened leadership in North America and Mesoamerica, and established a regional website in Spanish for Meso- and South America. Most franchises have conducted courses to train practitioners and master’s students in the Open Standards Method in languages such as English, French, Spanish, Russian. In addition, CCNet Europe held a regional Rally, where colleagues met to sharpen specific skills, to celebrate the formal registration of CCNet Europe as a legal entity and to elect a new franchise leader.

**Our Website** - We have added updated content, reviewed and rated training materials with an inter-institutional vetting team, linked our CCNet News to stories on our website and improved search capacities on our CCNet web site: <http://www.ccnetglobal.com/>, to enable colleagues from around the world to announce their training events and access resources for free to help conservation and sustainable development projects and train colleagues in multiple languages.

**Our Listserv** – Through a simple e-mail exchange service we currently connect 544 subscribers from around the world who ask questions, share experiences and tell each other about interesting opportunities about the application of the Open Standards for the Practice of Conservation, and topics related to the practice of conservation and sustainable development.

**Our Newsletter** – We produced our biannual CCNet News to provide a unique forum where conservation practitioners tell stories about their work around the world in their own words. We invite you to look at past editions and sign up for the CCNet News here: <http://www.ccnetglobal.com/news-events/>.

**Our Partners** – Through our alliance with the Conservation Measures Partnership (CMP) we launched our first global Open Standards “Adaptive Management Case Study Competition” as part of our commitment to cross-organizational, cross-project, and cross-coach practitioner learning about adaptive management in conservation. Our judges narrowed the entries down to the top five, which were then voted on via crowd sourcing. The first prize went to the Jane Goodall Institute, who shared their story of twenty years of adaptive management to protect chimpanzees in Tanzania. Read more about this process and the three winners from Australia, Tanzania, and United States - here: <http://www.ccnetglobal.com/winners-of-open-standards-case-study-competition>.

## Institutionalize and Strengthen the Network.

For many years our colleagues in CCNet Europe have helped train many practitioners and supported important projects, but since only a few are affiliated to an organization, most work has been on a volunteer basis. This year in May the European CCNet Franchise became a legal entity in Germany, as a non-profit organization/association. By being formally registered, CCNet Europe will be able to raise funds to expand its reach in the region.

### Conservation Coaches - Global Volunteers - Rally 2018

By 4nature



This December we launched our first Crowdfunding Campaign on Chuffed.org in alliance with 4nature, an Australian-based voluntary conservation group, to raise funds so we can help people from smaller organizations or those working as individuals to attend our bi-annual gathering, the CCNet Rally in Australia in 2018. The rally is incredibly empowering. Coaches go back to their countries revitalized to support project teams with fresh ideas and renewed tenacity. Diversity is key to our community, and we hope to raise US\$20,000 to help up to 20 coaches from unrepresented parts of the world cover travel costs.

Click on the image above to watch the trailer that coaches from around the world helped put together. Our campaign will be open until February or March of 2018, and we invite you to contribute! Any amount, small or large can make a difference to a coach in need.

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### Please join us, so together we can

- Hold our biennial gathering, the [Global CCNet Rally](#) from April 30<sup>th</sup> – May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018, in the Blue Mountains in Australia. The CCNet Coach Rally provides an opportunity for approximately 150 members of the conservation coaches community to come together to connect, exchange experiences, explore and review new and evolving approaches, adaptations and tools.
- Expand professional growth opportunities for CCNet members.
- Investigate new funding models to contribute to a self-sustaining network.
- Pilot the CCNet Certification Program with a first cadre of professional coaches.

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