

We hope you enjoy our bi-annual CCNet News, where conservation practitioners from around the world share their stories. You will also find announcements of events and resources to support the practice of nature conservation.



Greetings, everyone.

In our last newsletter I wrote about preparations for the 2018 CCNet Rally, the main opportunity for our community to connect, share, improve our skills, and lift our spirits.

Below, you will read about how our hard-working, and enthusiastic volunteer planning committee members, workshop leaders, plenary speakers, and coaches from around the world made this event one of our most successful ever. More than 125 participants from 26 countries gathered in New South Wales, Australia, for plenary sessions, 24 interactive workshops, guided *bushwalks*, and networking. We are enormously grateful to our sponsors and friends—and to those who donated to our first-ever crowdfunding campaign—for supporting this inspiring experience. In this edition, you will also find news from our coaches across the network, the announcement of this year's CCNet Awards, the winners of the Adaptive Management Case Study Competition, and information on our first group of certified CCNet coaches. Enjoy these stories about how coaches are continuing to improve the practice of conservation on an international scale.

—Brad Northrup, CCNet Chair

Welcome to CCNet News August 2018

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127 participants from 48 different institutions and 26 countries met to learn and exchange experiences at CCNet Rally 2018 at the Fairmont Resort in the heart of Australia's Blue Mountains National Park, a World Heritage site known for its remarkable biodiversity and cultural values. Photo by Andrew Bridges.

2018 Rally in the Blue Mountains of Australia!

Every two years, our rallies provide an opportunity for the CCNet community to connect, share innovations, sharpen our skills, and uplift our spirits so that we can better support conservation practitioners and projects around the world. In May, we held our seventh CCNet Rally in the stunning Blue Mountains in New South Wales, Australia.

The 2018 Rally focused on **Building Resilience and Working Together**. Thanks to a hard-working, enthusiastic volunteer planning team and help from coaches around the world, we offered diverse activities, including plenary events to expand our horizons and inspire us to continue adapting to the world's needs; workshops to hone existing and new skills; working group sessions for sharing approaches, exploring specific problems, and developing guidance; bushwalks with aboriginal owners and local experts; and unstructured time to foster networking. The feedback we received both from the final event evaluation and session evaluations was very positive.

The CCNet board supported Australia as this year's gathering place in order to foster participation from within the region and adjacent regions. Rally participation was significantly bolstered by the generous contributions of sponsors and supporters. We launched our first Crowdfunding campaign on [Chuffed.org](https://chuffed.org) with Australian organisation 4Nature and raised AUD\$7,472. We also received additional donations that enabled us to cover a large portion of event costs and directly help over 60 participants with their attendance costs.

To kick off the 2018 Rally, Aunty Leonie Trindall from the local Gundangurra People welcomed us all to Country with a beautiful smoke ceremony. The following plenary talk included opening remarks by local hosts Greening Australia and CCNet Chair, Brad Northrup, and a network progress report by John Morrison. To close our welcome plenary, we enjoyed a special video by Dame Jane Goodall, who reminded us that, in spite of the many challenges our world faces, there is reason for hope. She also pointed out how important it is to improve human livelihoods as we protect nature, especially youths, so they can be responsible and successful stewards of our planet.

Throughout the Rally participants could choose among several concurring sessions in the following six tracks:

- Getting the Method Right: Open Standards Cycle Components and Applications
- Enhancing the Network, Franchises and the Development of Coaches
- Expanding and Increasing the Use and Reach of Open Standards
- Indigenous Planning and Resource Management
- Getting Ready for the Emerging Future: What Skills and Knowledge Do We Need to Strengthen?
- Climate Change and the New Climate-Smart Open Standards

The Rally's keynote address by Stephanie Russo from the National Australia Bank and Tim Moore from Biodiverse Carbon Conservation broadened our horizons with new insights into how we could unlock greater

collaboration and financial support. In the closing plenary, colleagues Annette Stewart from Bush Heritage Australia, Tom Vigilante from the Wunambal Gaambera Aboriginal Corporation and Bush Heritage Australia, and Stewart Cowell from Conservation Management shared an engaging and impressive story about how the Open Standards have been adopted and adapted in Australia to help Traditional Land Owners care for immense ancestral landscapes and seascapes.

During our final evening, we recognised four colleagues, Felix Cybulla, Marcia Brown, Annette Stewart, and Oscar Maldonado, with CCNet Global Service awards and recognised the Wunambal and Gaambera People and Frank Weisenberger with Outstanding Contribution to the Practice of Conservation awards. For more on these awards, see our articles [here](#) and [here](#). This year's joint CMP-CCNet Adaptive Management Case Study Competition winners were also presented at the Rally: You can read about all our winners here. We also announced our first cadre of *certified* Conservation Coaches: Felix Cybulla, Nick Salafsky, Oscar Maldonado, Philippa Walsh, Ilke Tilders, Robert Sutter, John Morrison and Stuart Cowell.

Read our full Rally 2018 summary [here](#) or [visit our CCNet Rally 2018 website](#) to check available resources.

Coaches in Action



Healthy Country Planning in New South Wales

Story by [Frank Weisenberger](#) and [Stuart Cowell](#)

Conservationists from five different countries participated in a three-day Healthy Country Planning training workshop in the Blue Mountains in New South Wales prior to the 2018 Coaches Rally. Using the Health Country Planning approach, this training was primarily aimed at Indigenous participants and people who work with the Indigenous community. It was a wonderful experience to spend a weekend in a beautiful setting with diverse conservation experts representing 15 different organisations around the world.

We would also like to welcome Kenny Clark and Damien Parriman as new members of our team of Conservation Coaches in Australia!

NaturePlan Introductory Open Standards Trainings

Story by [Andrew Bridges](#), [Quinn Shurtliff](#), and [Rob Sutter](#)

Open Standards trainings can improve conservation professionals' effectiveness by helping them to better design and implement their projects. Introductory trainings are essential for reaching new audiences and recruiting practitioners, and ultimately coaches; however, few opportunities exist, particularly outside of academia. To meet this need, we (CCNet Coaches Quinn Shurtliff, Rob Sutter, and Andrew Bridges have worked together over the past several years to develop curriculum and conduct trainings. Recently, we formalized our efforts into a cooperative called [NaturePlan](#). Our mission is to promote the use of the Open Standards, help conservation practitioners improve their projects by applying the Open Standards, and inspire further education and training. Read about our completed 2018 trainings [here](#). For more information about upcoming workshops, or to inquire about hosting a workshop, visit our website or contact Andrew Bridges, Quinn Shurtliff and/or Rob Sutter.



Open Standards Training in Guyana

Story by [Rob Sutter](#), Conservation Ecologist, Enduring Conservation Outcomes and NaturePlan

Guyana is relatively unknown to tourists and biologists, but this country in northeast South America is a global center of biodiversity with one of the four best remaining rainforests on earth. The Guyanese government has shown leadership in protecting biodiversity and indigenous rights. And now, the country is using the Open Standards to plan for protected areas and develop strategic plans.

In February, Dr. Anouska Kinahan of the Protected Areas Commission invited me to lead two workshops in Guyana to develop a team of people who can implement the Open Standards for both project level planning (expansion of protected areas, conservation plans, management plans) and higher level, programmatic strategic planning.

The first workshop was a two-day introduction to the Open Standards for selected Protected Areas Commission staff. During this workshop, we demonstrated that the Open Standards can work for both urban and hinterland parks. The following week, I led a modified coaches training for three staff members. In these sessions, we went deeper into each of the steps, focusing on topics especially relevant to Protected Area Commissions planning and the application of the Open Standards for organizational strategic



Small Grants Programme Partners and Stakeholders Learn to Apply Open Standards in Kenya

Story from [Nancy Chege](#), UNDP-GEF Small Grants Programme Country Program Manager and CCNet Africa co-lead

The Global Environment Facility (GEF) Small Grants Programme (SGP) of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) recently launched its new project at a colorful ceremony attended by senior government officials and representatives of civil society, academia, and the private sector. Shortly after the launch, the programme hosted and organized a training on the Open Standards for key stakeholders who will work in three ecologically sensitive areas of global and national significance: Lake Bogoria in the Great Rift Valley, the Sacred Mijikenda Kaya Forests, and the biodiversity-rich Shimoni-Vanga seascape of southern Kenya. While these areas provide important ecosystem services to the country and are essential for the livelihoods of pastoralist, agricultural, and fisher communities, they all present different levels of biodiversity loss and land degradation, exacerbated by climate change.

The participants of the training represented national and county governments, non-governmental organisations, local community groups, and academia. Throughout the training, participants learned skills and tools for developing strategic, adaptive management

planning. Welcome to our new coaches: Anouska Kinahan, Sarah Henry, and Steven Husbands! At the end of the training, the new coaches led a short workshop to start developing the framework for a management plan for the National Botanical Garden in Guyana's capital city. Participants agreed that the Open Standards will provide the Protected Areas Commission with a consistent planning process that works at multiple scales and across protected areas, the ability to select the best use of resources and most significant strategic actions, and a clear path to success.

These workshops were funded by a German Development Bank grant obtained by Sarah Henry from the Protected Areas Commission to support planning for the expansion of protected areas in the country. The grant included funding dedicated to training in the Open Standards.



Open Standards Training for African Conservation Groups

Story from [Anne Ntongho](#), WWF Cameroon

At a five-day workshop in August 2017, WWF trained 23 participants from forestry and wildlife institutions in Cameroon, Gabon, and Cote d'Ivoire to use the Open Standards. Financed by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, the training was designed to "meet the aspirations of those who have no experience with project development, strategic planning, and implementation of conservation projects."

plans, building rapport and cohesion among stakeholders, and enhancing ownership of the process and outcomes.

It was a great 4 days of learning, disagreeing, debating, and providing justification, punctuated with moments of jokes and laughter. Felix Cybulla, who flew in from Germany to facilitate the sessions, did a terrific job, and had the participants fully engaged the entire time. A number of the participants are seasoned conservation practitioners, but they appreciated the thoroughness and practicality of the Open Standards.

During one of the afternoons, the participants took a field trip to a nearby kaya forest. Kaya forests are remnants of a once-extensive coastal forest where the Mijikenda people first settled in the 16th century. As the Mijikenda began to settle in other places, the kayas took on a spiritual significance and are now revered as sacred sites and managed by a council of elders who restrict access and use of forest resources. Consequently, the biodiversity of the kaya forests is relatively high.

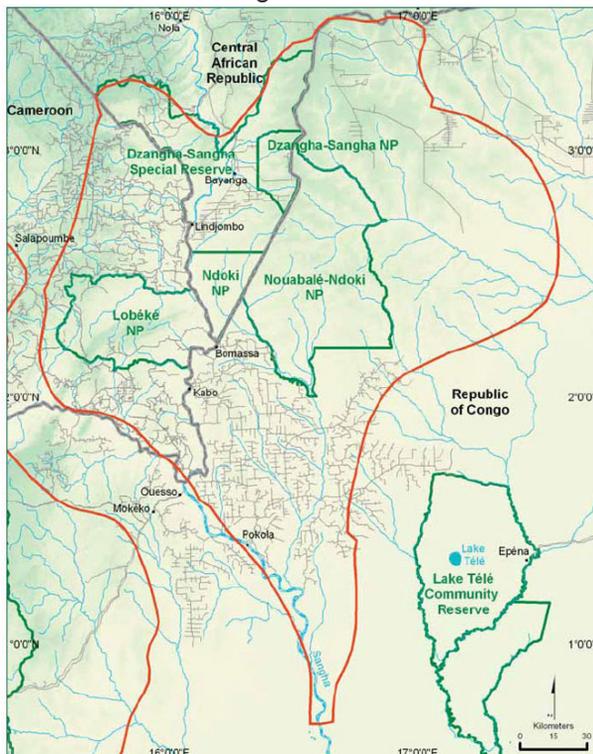


More Coaches to Promote the Use of Open Standards in Africa

Story from [Anne Ntongho](#), WWF Cameroon

Three lecturers from three key institutions (National Water and Forest Institute, Mbalmayo; Wildlife Institute, Garoua; and University of Dschang) participated in a coach training in Barcelona, Spain. Training lecturers from these key institutions will help institutionalize adaptive management approaches in the teaching curriculum and provide students with useful tools for their future

The training presented Open Standards tools and guidance suitable for key conservation institutions, including NGOs, government agencies, and universities. Participants used these tools to draft four projects on issues focusing on geographic regions of Cameroon, including protected area management in Southeast region, gorilla habituation in the South, climate change and energy in the North, and livelihood/human wellbeing targets in the Southwest. Over the course of the workshop, four CCNet Africa coaches had an opportunity to practice their skills and receive feedback from participants and co-coaches. At the end of the training, workshop participants committed to supporting other colleagues and communities in applying the Open Standards to their work. With this training, conservation institutions can move from general understanding of conservation planning to actual application for a range of projects and programs addressing wildlife conservation challenges.



Open Standards Prompting Conservation Actions in Lobeke National Park, Cameroon

Story from [Anne Ntongho](#), *WWF Cameroon*

In an effort to boost performance in conservation delivery, an Open Standards training was carried out for the Lobeke National

careers. Many of the students at these institutions are later employed in conservation fields or by the government of Cameroon in ministries of the environment and development.

As a result of this training, one of the lecturers now meets the criteria for becoming a CCNet coach, while the two other lecturers are coaches-in-training and will receive support and follow-up from certified coaches and trainers. These new coaches will join the growing number of coaches supporting the CCNet Africa Franchise.

Open Standards Testimonials from Africa

“As a Fellow of MENTOR-Manatee programme, I was introduced to the Open Standards/Adaptive Management (OS/AM) and MIRADI in a training workshop by Anne Ntongho in 2016. During the training, I learned the different functionalities of OS/AM and very soon realized that it is indispensable for the conception of my conservation and research projects. As a leader of a local NGO in Cameroon, I started using MIRADI to design and write project proposals for my organization. This year, one of the projects I have elaborated using OS/AM was selected for the IUCN small grant initiative. With MIRADI project writing becomes very easy.” **--Aristide Takoukam, President of the [African Marine Mammal Conservation Organization](#), Cameroon**

“During the three-year MENTOR-Manatee Fellowship Program, offered by the USFWS (US Fish and Wildlife Service) and the AACF (African Aquatic Conservation Fund), I gained some knowledge in the use of Adaptive Management. This was subsequently implemented in my MSc. Thesis in designing a conceptual model to give a pictorial description of problems in relation to the African manatee in the southern periphery of Korup National Park (Cameroon). I am glad to have been exposed to this new tool in research and conservation and foresee using it more in present and future

Park government and WWF senior staff. The five-day training focused on ensuring the staff understand how to set SMART goals and report effectively. The 15 participants practiced using the Open Standards and developed three example projects and a model reporting on outputs, outcomes, and impact.



Conservation Coaches Training in West Virginia

Twenty participants from Canada, Mexico, and the United States, who work in a wide range of institutions, including indigenous government, universities, government agencies, non-profit organizations, and consultancies, attended a conservation coaches training from January 29th to February 2nd at the US National Conservation Training Center in Shepherdstown, West Virginia, USA. The training was jointly organized by CCNet North America and CCNet Global, and we are very grateful to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service for hosting the training at their facility. The trainers were Nick Salafsky (Foundations of Success), Rob Sutter (Enduring Conservation Outcomes), and John Morrison (WWF).

projects in my study area. If I have other opportunities to improve in my learning experiences in the Open Standards/Adaptive Management (OS/AM) I will not hesitate to participate.” --**Jean Pascal Koh Dimbot, Post MSc graduate student in Applied Ecology and Wildlife Management, University of Dschang, Cameroon.**



Conservation Coaches Training in Mongolia

In May 2018, a total of 24 participants attended a conservation coaches training in Mongolia. Participants included staff from the Ministry Environment & Tourism of Mongolia, several Mongolian park managers, WWF staff from Mongolia, China, and Russia, TNC staff from China and Mongolia, and Takhi, a non-profit dedicated to saving wild horses in Mongolia. The training was jointly organized by CCNet Mongolia and CCNet Global with support from the Ministry Environment & Tourism of Mongolia, WWF, and TNC. Thank you to our trainers, Hui Shim Tan (WWF-Malaysia), Chris Pague (The Nature Conservancy), and John Morrison (WWF-US), for making this training possible.



Multiple Team Workshop in Georgia

Story from [Felix Cybulla](#), CCNet Europe

In late April, CCNet Europe held yet another successful Multiple Team Workshop in the country of Georgia. Each of the five teams at the workshop was trained by a senior coach and a coach-in-training. With this setup, coaches-in-training gained more experience in a safe environment, and each team had the opportunity to learn from two different dedicated coaches. In total, 52 participants from eight countries and over 28 organizations worked on topics such as "*Ecosystem Based Adaption to Climate Change in Central Asia*," "*Protection of birds and their habitats in the Balkans*," and "*Management of the World Habitat Site Colchic*." We'd like to thank the coaches involved, as well as Nico and Vladimir, for serving as trainers. We

also proudly welcome five new coaches to CCNet: Anna, Boris, Ivana, Sophie, and Vedran! For any questions, please contact [Nico](#), [Vladimir](#), or [Tobias](#).

Check out these stunning panoramic shots of the Georgian countryside taken by Felix!



First Group of Certified Coaches

Story by [Stewart Cowell](#), Director at Conservation Management

Following the 2015 Rally in Barcelona, a number of coaches began working together to implement a second party certification process for conservation coaches. Over the years, we have perceived a rising desire and need for a certification program. The many benefits of this approach include:

- Acknowledgement of peers;
- Professional recognition that someone has important skills to offer;
- Advantage in application for jobs, consultancies;
- Improvement in the practice of coaching;
- Assurance to anyone contracting a coach that they are getting the services of a qualified coach;
- Reduced risk to the reputation of the Open Standards arising from a poor coaching experience.

For the past two years, the team has been developing and testing a certification approach that could be applied generally and equitably across our network. If a person would like to be certified, they will submit an application to CCNet with supporting evidence. A small group of 'senior' Coaches will then review and assess the application and "award" the certification. That's it.

At the 2018 Rally, we presented our first cadre of Certified Coaches: Felix Cybulla, Oscar Maldonado, Nick Salafsky, Pip Walsh, Ilke Tilders, Robert Sutter, John Morrison, and Stuart Cowell. We thank them again for their hard work and help developing the process and principles. We are now refining our approach and will announce a second invitation round in early 2019 through the CCNet listserv and website.

For more information, please contact [Stuart Cowell](#) and [John Morrison](#).

Reflections



On-ground Action in the Pilbara Region in Western Australia

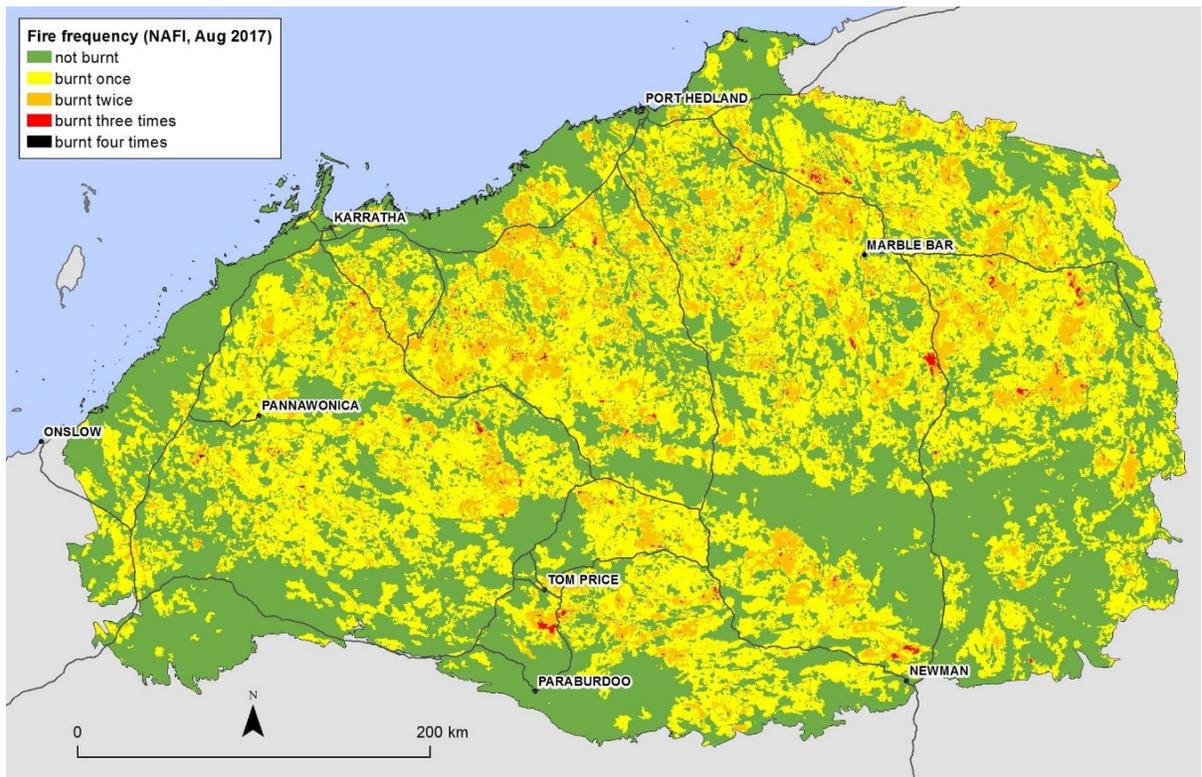
Story submitted by [Blair Parsons](#), Science and Programs Leader – Western Region at Greening Australia

The Pilbara region of Western Australia has a wealth of biodiversity and is characterised by vast coastal plains and spectacular inland mountain ranges with cliffs and deep gorges. It is also of substantial economic importance to Australia, largely due to mining and export of iron ore. Growing intensity of land use and resource development has placed considerable pressure on the biodiversity of the region.

Two years ago, Jo Webb (Rangelands Natural Resource Management, Western Australia) shared a story in CCNet News about 80 stakeholders working together on a collaborative, long-term conservation strategy for the Pilbara Bioregion. During the Conservation Action Planning process, this group identified priorities and established working groups to implement management actions.

Since then, important progress has been made on key management issues, including invasive weeds, grazing pressure, feral animals, and fire control, but a few months ago, the group decided it was necessary to further prioritise its strategies. Greening Australia released a new [report](#) to guide on-ground action. The report contains a refined set of conservation assets and highlights opportunities for landscape-scale collaboration and partnerships to achieve lasting biodiversity outcomes. The 60 draft strategies identified early in the CAP process were refined to 18 strategies, with a list for immediate action. These include improving the status of wildlife, such as the Greater Bilby and Northern Quoll; reducing the threat of feral predators, weeds, and inappropriate fires; and building the capacity of people involved with on-ground work. The report also showcases the significant conservation projects underway in the Pilbara, providing examples of community-led initiatives that are working well and can be used as models for future on-ground action.

This report has already proven its importance in guiding planning for the region. The articulation of 'investment-ready' community projects led to the Pilbara CAP, underpinning and guiding key land management initiatives in the Pilbara, including a [regional biodiversity offset fund](#) and submissions for state government community stewardship funding. Upon implementation of these projects, the next step in our journey is to ensure that sound monitoring is in place so that we can evaluate our effectiveness and learn from these projects over time.



Fire frequency in the Pilbara bioregion from 2006 -2017 (NAFI, 2017)

This report was prepared as part of [Pilbara Corridors](#), a partnership formed between [Greening Australia](#), [Rangelands NRM](#) and the [Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions](#) to address biodiversity threats in the Pilbara. The initiative was funded by the Australian Government. You can view the [report](#) here.

CCNet Coaches [Barry Heydenrych](#), [James McGregor](#), and [Todd Berkinshaw](#) originally facilitated the CAP process. Further refinement of strategies and linking with on-ground and government initiatives was led by Barry Heydenrych, assisted by Blair Parsons, Greening Australia's Science and Programs Leader (Western Region).

For further queries please contact [Blair Parsons](#).



Head Unguu Ranger Neil Waina holds the CCNet award while senior Wunambal Gaambera Aboriginal Corporation director Diana Williams shows their Healthy Country Plan. Photo by Tom Vigilante (WGAC/Bush Heritage Australia).

Australia's Wunambal Gaambera People Lead the Way in Conservation Planning and Caring for Country

Story by [Kellie Tannock](#), WGAC media adviser, [Tom Vigilante](#), Wunambal Gaambera and Bush Heritage Australia, and [Cristina Lasch](#), CCNet Operations Coordinator

The Wunambal Gaambera people are the Native Title holders for 2.5 million hectares of North Kimberley land and sea. Today, the Wunambal Gaambera Aboriginal Corporation's Unguu Rangers manage the area according to a Healthy Country Plan, which looks after important targets such as people, culture and cultural places, animals, plants, waterholes, and Right Way Fire. This Healthy Country Plan was the first of its kind, and at the CCNet Rally in early May, the Wunambal Gaambera people were recognised by the CCNet community for their outstanding contribution to conservation practice. Their leadership has been instrumental in adapting the Healthy Country Planning process, and their example as caretakers of ancestral "Country" is an inspiration to all.

When the Wunambal Gaambera Traditional Owners were first introduced to the Conservation Action Planning/Open Standards (CAP/OS) method, they recognised the benefits of a widely tested conservation approach with an extensive support network and a strong ecological base, but they also wanted to ensure that traditional Wanjina Wunggurr law and culture would be an integral part of the process and the resulting plan. In 2006, the Wunambal Gaambera Aboriginal Corporation developed and implemented the world's first "Healthy Country Plan" in partnership with Bush Heritage Australia, The Kimberley Land Council, the regional Traditional Owner representative body, and the Australian Government's Indigenous Protected Area and Working on Country programs. Adapted from the CAP/OS approach, Healthy Country Planning enables active participation of community members to ensure that Indigenous governance structures and protocols are supported, Indigenous world-views and cultural perspectives are paramount, Indigenous social, cultural, and economic aspirations are incorporated with conservation outcomes, and Indigenous knowledge and Western science are respected and integrated.

After developing the plan, the Wunambal Gaambera Aboriginal Corporation established the Unguu Monitoring and Evaluation Committee, which meets every year to review the plan and make changes wherever needed to stay on track. In 2015, halfway through the 10-year plan, the group undertook a mid-term review.

This groundbreaking work has blazed the trail for many other groups. Today, Healthy Country Planning is a recognised adaptation of the Open Standards and is the model for some 30 similar plans adopted by Indigenous groups around Australia and other nations, such as Canada.

The Wunambal Gaambera people are not only proud to be recognised as conservation leaders, but also proud about having taken an early opportunity to look after their ancestors' Country for generations to come.



The Nature Conservancy's Conservation by Design 2.0 Approach and the Role of Conservation Coaches

Story by [Olivia Millard](#), TNC Director of Organizational Learning, and [Cristina Lasch](#), TNC Conservation Planning and Adaptation Lead and CCNet Operations Coordinator

In 2016, The Nature Conservancy (TNC) significantly updated its core conservation methodology, Conservation by Design, to reflect today's increasingly complex conservation challenges and the evolution in conservation strategies that these challenges require. TNC produced guidance for implementing the new methodology, "CbD 2.0," which can now be found on the [website](#). With systems change at its heart, and with the recognition that the challenges facing people and nature are inextricably intertwined, CbD 2.0 asks significantly more of conservation teams than its predecessor.

Conservation by Design 2.0 documents the significant evolution in conservation methodology that has taken place over the last 20 years, as practiced by TNC and its partners. CbD 2.0 requires not just conservation planning and science skills, but also a suite of new kinds of skills, including social science, complex project management, systems thinking, and coalition building to name a few. As a result, no one person or team could possibly have all of the skills that will be required. In recognition of the added complexity of the updated methodology, TNC needs to update its expectations, clarify the roles of coaches, and update how coaches are trained.

Towards that end, TNC hired this year's CCNet Global Service Award winner, Oscar Maldonado, to clarify the similarities and differences between the OS and CbD 2.0, to identify those parts of CbD 2.0 that coaches already have the tools to address, and to start the process of equipping TNC coaches to support teams that are applying CbD 2.0 to develop and implement the ambitious conservation efforts established by our Shared Conservation Agenda.

You can read about Oscar's observations [here](#).

Oscar concluded that with an upgraded training, TNC's conservation coaches could play the following roles:

- Designing, organizing, and facilitating planning processes under CbD 2.0
- Assisting the composition of comprehensive teams custom-made for projects
- Coaching TNC's projects in applying CbD 2.0 in all its phases
- Collecting, analyzing, and sharing lessons learnt and best practices
- Seeking and applying external tools to improve CbD 2.0's practice
- Testing CbD 2.0 in practice and providing feedback for an enhanced CbD 2.1 version.
- Disseminating the use of CbD 2.0 across the Conservancy

After the CCNet Rally in Australia, Oscar conducted a workshop for several seasoned TNC coaches to introduce them to what he had learned and to help them begin to build the skills that they will need. After some absorbing discussions about social science, including social safeguards, diversity and inclusion, systems thinking, and other elements that are new to 2.0, the group dug in to several familiar tools that can be used in an expanded way to meet the needs of 2.0. The group explored the use of conceptual models to undertake a situation analysis for people and nature and worked with results chains as a means of identifying risks and negative side effects, and thus the safeguards, that might need to be employed. Many thanks to Natalie Holland and the TNC Australia team for providing logistical support for this workshop, and a tip of the hat to Pip Walsh for telling us about the magnificent venue, Q Station.

TNC looks forward to building on Oscar's excellent work and this workshop. Full story [here](#).

For more information on this process, the May workshop, and future plans, contact [Cristina Lasch](#), [Olivia Millard](#), or [Oscar Maldonado](#).

Bulletin Board



New Southeast Asia Franchise Kicks Off with a New Coach Training in Malaysia

Story by Felix Cybulla, Hui Shim Tan, Annette Olsson, Pip Walsh, Cristina Lasch

We would like to express our gratitude to Hui Shim Tan (Head of the Planning, Development and Monitoring Unit, WWF-Malaysia) who has been serving as franchise leader for Malaysia/Indonesia for several years. Now Hui Shim is joined by Felix Cybulla (Independent Adviser, Conservation Planning & Adaptive Management) and Annette Olsson (Scientific Technical Advisor, Conservation International) to form and lead the new CCNet Southeast Asia franchise. With all three living in Southeast Asia, circumstances are ideal to spread support for the Open Standards and inspire and engage new conservation coaches within this important region.

As a kick-off event, the team is working with CCNet coach Pip Walsh to plan a New Coaches Training for November 12-16, 2018, in Malaysia. Although the participants list is full already, the team is willing to keep a waiting list in case a space opens up. If you'd like to be considered, contact [Felix Cybulla](#).

For conservation coaching needs or ideas in Southeast Asia, please contact [Annette](#), [Hui Shim](#), and [Felix](#).

Pragmatic Tips for Evaluating Conservation Programs

Elizabeth O'Neill
Conservation Coaches Network
22 February 2018



Webinar on pragmatic approaches to evaluating conservation projects and programs

A webinar on pragmatic approaches to evaluating conservation projects and programs was jointly hosted by Elizabeth O'Neill from EON Impact Consulting, LLC, and CCNet North America on February 22 and 23, 2018.

You can [watch the Webex recording here](#), or [download the slides here](#).

The webinar provides an overview on the why, when, and how of evaluation that can help programs of all sizes to strengthen their evaluative culture and practice. This includes improving evidence-based and systematic internal reflection as well as being ready for and getting the most out of external independent evaluations. More information on the webinar and presenter can be found [here](#).



Awards for Outstanding Contribution to the Practice of Conservation

At the 2018 Rally, CCNet Global and CCNet Australia jointly handed out two awards for people who have made an outstanding contribution to the practice of conservation.

Frank Weisenberger, Australia: Frank has been and is one of the leaders and drivers in the development and expansion of Healthy Country Planning in Australia. He has helped establish Healthy Country Plans over many millions of hectares and is widely respected and highly regarded by all who work with him. He has made an incredibly significant contribution to the expansion and impact of the Open Standards and Healthy Country Planning.

Wunambal and Gaambera people, North-West Kimberley, Australia: The Wunambal and Gaambera people have led the practice of Healthy Country Planning for the past decade. It was their willingness to work with an unfamiliar tool and make it their own that seeded what has become Healthy Country Planning. They have continued development of the practice of conservation with their ground-breaking monitoring and evaluation committee and plan evaluations. They are leaders in conservation planning not just for Indigenous lands, but for all conservation lands in Australia and around the globe. You can learn more about their contribution to the practice of conservation [here](#).



Winners of the 2018 CMP-CCNet Adaptive Management Case Study Competition

We are pleased to announce the winners of the Conservation Measures Partnership (CMP) - Conservation Coaches Network (CCNet) **2018 Adaptive Management Case Study Competition**, our second competition designed to promote cross-organizational, cross-project, and cross-coach/practitioner learning in conservation!

We received some excellent entries. After crowd-sourced voting, our judges (Rob Sutter, Ian Dutton, Rachel Neugarten, Daniel Sprod, and Dave Kramer) selected the final three winners and announced them at the 2018 CCNet Rally in Australia's Blue Mountains.

Congratulations to the winners, and a big thank you to all who participated and shared your rich experiences!

First Place awarded to *The Road Traveled in Chile: Lessons and Challenges in Strengthening Adaptive Management in a National System of Protected Areas*. This inspiring entry won handsomely, showing good implementation of the Open Standards at multiple scales and providing an excellent overview of the issues involved in making OS the core planning process. It also demonstrated a successful change in organizational culture, with the competition's "crowd-sourced voting" swamped by enthusiastic Chilean staff and colleagues. (Award: up to US \$2,000 toward participation in a conference/technical meeting).

Read about our **second place** and **third place winners** and our two **honorable mentions** [here](#).



Global Service Awards

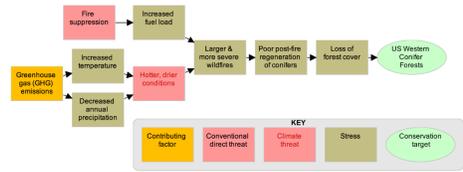
Felix Cybulla: Felix was introduced to the Open Standards as a university student. He became involved in the European franchise in its early days as a volunteer and has been volunteering for CCNet ever since. He helped us launch our first Crowdfunding campaign and has been instrumental to several Rallies. Most recently, he has stepped up as co-leader of the brand new CCNet Southeast Asia franchise.

Marcia Brown: Marcia has been involved with the Open Standards for a long time. She serves on the CCNet coordination team and has worked for Foundations of Success for almost two decades, leading dozens of OS-based planning processes around the world, adeptly navigating complex situations in both English and Spanish. She led the development of results chains as a graphical tool for modelling theories of change, and in recent years, has helped us create Climate-Smart Open Standards.

Annette Stewart: Annette is the perfect example that a CCNet champion does not need a “conservation” background. Almost 20 years ago, she joined Bush Heritage Australia as their Finance Manager. With a background in IT and organisational strategy, she identified the need for a more systematic approach to documenting and adapting conservation projects. Her search for a solution led her to the Open Standards and Miradi. She transferred into the conservation team and set about quietly transforming the organisation.

Oscar Maldonado: Oscar has been applying CAP/ Open Standards for many years in numerous cultural and geographic contexts, mostly in Latin America and Africa. He has contributed to CCNet in many ways, including incorporating a negative side-effects and risk analysis into conservation initiatives, helping adapt tools to different cultural settings, developing approaches to include cultural (tangible and intangible) assets, and creating a personal mentoring program for emerging conservation coaches.

If you are curious, the full transcript of the awards can be read [here](#)



What Does the CMP-CCNet Guidance Committee Do?

Story from Marcia Brown, Foundations of Success

With an increasing amount of Open Standards guidance being produced these days, it can be challenging for conservation practitioners (especially those who are just beginning to use the Open Standards) to find the best materials on a particular topic or the most appropriate guidance for their specific needs.

In early 2014, the CMP-CCNet Guidance Committee was formed to vet guidance materials upon request, describe and rate guidance materials, and provide feedback for improving guidance materials to the original authors. The Committee is composed of individuals with several years of experience applying the Open Standards, teaching others, and developing guidance. They meet once a month via webinar to discuss materials, establish group ratings, and write descriptions.

Ratings are given to the overall guidance and to individual components or steps as needed. The descriptions mention any valuable or unique aspects of the guidance and state whether the materials are best suited for a specific audience, such as beginner coaches, coaches working with indigenous groups, or practitioners working on fundraising.

To learn more about what the Committee does and does not vet, the ranking system, and the criteria members use to vet guidance, and how the Committee deals with foreign languages, visit:

If you have guidance that you would like the Committee to review, or if you would like to participate on the Committee, please contact [Marcia Brown](#).

Upcoming Conservation Coach Trainings

- **CCNet Southeast Asia:** New Coaches Training in English to take place in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, November 12-16, 2018. This training workshop is currently full, but if you want to be placed on a waiting list in case someone cancels, please contact [Felix Cybulla](#).
- **CCNet South America:** New Coaches Training in Spanish scheduled to take place in Chile in 2019, if we have enough subscriptions. If you are interested, please contact [Irina Montenegro](#) or [Cristina Lasch](#).
- **CCNet North America:** New Coaches Training in English scheduled to take place in Canada or the United States in 2019, if we have enough subscriptions. If you are interested, please contact [John Morrison](#), [Sara Gottlieb](#) or [Rob Sutter](#).



Open Standards v3.0 are now available in Persian!

Did you know that the Open Standards have been translated into 10 languages for practitioners across the globe? As of August 2018, we now have the Open Standards v3.0 available in Persian [here](#). A big thank you to Banafshe Razzaghi for the Persian (Farsi) translation and to CMP for financial support.

Franchise Information

Africa

- [Anne Ntongho](#) (West, Central and North Africa)
- [Nancy Chege](#) (East and Southern Africa)

Mesoamerica

- [Dave Kramer](#)
- [Yven Echeverría](#)

Mongolia

- [Munkhchuluun Basan](#)

Pacific Islands:

- [Trina Leberer](#) (Micronesia)
- [Emily Fielding](#) (Hawaii)

South America:

- [Irina Montenegro](#)

Australia

- Natalie Holland
- Paul Koch

China

- Jin Tong

Europe

- Daniela Aschenbrenner
- Nicolas Boenisch
- Xavier Escuté

- Tuguldur Enkthsetseg

North America

- Doug Pearsall & John Paskus (Central)
- Sara Gottlieb & Rob Sutter (Eastern)
- Terri Schulz (Rocky Mt/NW/Canada)
- Sandi Matsumoto & Andrew Bridges (Sierra/CA)

South Asia:

- Vacant

Southeast Asia

- Hui Shim Tan (Malaysia), Felix Cybulla (Philippines) & Annette Olsson (Singapore)

Teaching Adaptive Management

- Vinaya Swaminathan

Looking for conservation coaching resources?

Check out the CCNet [website](#).

Need help or want to share something cool related to the application of the *Open Standards*?

Tap into our [CCNet Listserv](#)! To sign up, e-mail [Cristina Lasch](#).

CCNet is a community of practitioners who support the application of the *Open Standards for the Practice of Conservation*. Our mission is to train, connect and support conservation practitioners to do better, smarter conservation that achieves tangible results, benefiting people and nature all around the world.

For more information about CCNet, visit our [website](#), or contact:

- [John Morrison](#) (CCNet Global Coordinator)
- [Cristina Lasch](#) (CCNet Technical Coordinator)

CCNet News editor:

- [Sara Delheimer](#)

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