



# TREE KANGAROO CONSERVATION PROGRAM

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Annual Report 2013





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FRONT COVER:  
WPZ Tree Kangaroo joey “Ronji” / photo by Ryan Hawk / Woodland Park Zoo — *photo modified*  
BACK COVER:  
Singsing celebration at Ronji for field office opening / photo by Lisa Dabek

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# Three Organizations Working Together for Sustainability

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The Tree Kangaroo Conservation Program is the umbrella name for the partnership of WPZ's TKCP and TKCP-PNG.



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1.

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## Tree Kangaroo Conservation Program – Papua New Guinea (TKCP-PNG)

An independent non-governmental organization registered in PNG. Based in Lae, PNG. TKCP-PNG is the implementing partner of TKCP.



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2.

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## Woodland Park Zoo's Tree Kangaroo Conservation Program (TKCP)

A program of the Woodland Park Zoo's field conservation department. Based in Seattle, Washington, USA.

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3.

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## YUS Conservation Organization (YUS CO)

A community-based organization representing the interests of local landowners and their communities. Based in YUS, PNG.





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# Who We Are

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## Vision:

The Tree Kangaroo Conservation Program envisions a sustainable, healthy, and resilient Huon Peninsula landscape which supports the area's unique biodiversity, human communities, and culture.

## Mission:

The Tree Kangaroo Conservation Program fosters wildlife and habitat conservation and supports local community livelihoods in Papua New Guinea through global partnerships, land protection, and scientific research.



TKCP-PNG team with WPZ's Kate Neville / photo by Lisa Dabek  
WPZ's TKCP team / photo by Bobbi Miller  
YUS CO Banner / photo by Mikal Nolan  
Photo from Som Zone LLG / photo by Mikal Nolan



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# The Story of TKCP

The Tree Kangaroo Conservation Program (TKCP) at Woodland Park Zoo is the signature international conservation program, focused on conserving the endangered Matschie's tree kangaroo (*Dendrolagus matschiei*) and the habitat in which it lives. TKCP began in 1996 to determine the status of the endangered Matschie's tree kangaroo in the wild. Through extensive fieldwork, Dr. Lisa Dabek and her team determined that the tree kangaroo and its unique habitat faced increasing threats from clearing and over-hunting, and that habitat protection and adoption of sustainable natural resource management practices were required for species survival. Within PNG's customary land tenure system, where local people own and control over 95% of the land, the TKCP team recognized that long-term habitat protection required raising conservation awareness and understanding, as well as fostering the commitment of local communities that depend on forest products and services.

TKCP has evolved from a species-specific conservation initiative into a holistic program that employs skilled local landowners. Due to their biological and cultural importance, tree kangaroos remain the program's flagship species even as TKCP's mission has expanded to encompass habitat protection for a wide range of threatened species, as well as local livelihoods initiatives. The scope of the program has expanded from its mountainous beginnings to embrace coastal and marine ecosystems, including coral reefs and the YUS communities who live on the coast of the Bismarck Sea. The cornerstones of the project are the creation of the YUS Conservation Area (YUS CA), the first in the country, and opportunities for local sustainable livelihoods.

In 2013 TKCP was proud to establish TKCP-PNG, the implementing NGO to manage the YUS CA. It is based in Lae, PNG and works in partnership with WPZ's TKCP. Funds from the YUS Conservation Endowment were first used in 2013 to support TKCP-PNG and management of the YUS CA.

Today we have projects addressing a wide variety of community needs identified through the YUS Landscape Plan which we developed in partnership with the local people. Throughout this report we share how we have been supporting the YUS community in education, livelihoods, health, conservation, capacity building, and many other areas.

We hope you enjoy it!

 Villagers in Ronji / photo by Mikal Nolan

## Common Acronyms

AZA's TK-SSP — The Association of Zoos and Aquariums' Tree Kangaroo Species Survival Plan

BMU — German Ministry of Environment

CA — Conservation Area

CAMC — Conservation Area Management Committee

CBO — Community-based Organization

CI — Conservation International

GIS — Geographic Information System

JCU — James Cook University (Cairns, Queensland, Australia)

KfW — German Development Bank

LLG — Local Level Government

LUP — Land-use Planning

MPCCC — Morobe Province Climate Change Committee

NGO — Non-governmental Organization

PHE — Population Health and Environment

PNG — Papua New Guinea

TKCP — Tree Kangaroo Conservation Program

TKCP-PNG — Tree Kangaroo Conservation Program — Papua New Guinea (the new NGO in Lae, PNG)

UNDP SGP — United Nations Development Programme Small Grant Programme

UNFCCC — United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

WPZ — Woodland Park Zoo (Seattle, Washington, USA)

YUS — Yopno/Uruwa/Som

YUS CO — YUS Conservation Organization (the YUS CO is a landowner association and CBO)

ZACC — Zoos and Aquariums Committing to Conservation

## Status of Key Fauna Found in the YUS Landscape

Family	Latin / scientific name	English name	IUCN status
<b>Avian Fauna</b>			
Casuariidae	<i>Casuarius bennetti</i>	Dwarf Cassowary	Near threatened
Accipitridae	<i>Harpyopsis novaeguineae</i>	New Guinea Harpy Eagle	Vulnerable
Psittacidae	<i>Psittichas fulgidus</i>	Vulturine Parrot	Vulnerable
Paradisaeidae	<i>Astrapia rothschildi</i>	Huon Astrapia*	Least concern
Paradisaeidae	<i>Parotia wahnesi</i>	Wahne's Parotia*	Vulnerable
Paradisaeidae	<i>Paradisaea guilielmi</i>	Emperor Bird of Paradise*	Near threatened
<b>Mammalian Fauna</b>			
Tachyglossidae	<i>Zaglossus bruijini</i>	Western long beaked echidna	Critically endangered
Dasyuridae	<i>Dasyurus albopunctatus</i>	New guinea quoll	Near threatened
Macropodidae	<i>Dendrolagus matschiei</i>	Matschie's tree kangaroo*	Endangered
Macropodidae	<i>Dorcopsulus vanheurni</i>	Small dorcopsis (forest wallaby)	Threatened
Macropodidae	<i>Thylogale browni</i>	New guinea pademelon	Vulnerable
Muridae	<i>Paraleptomys rufilatus</i>	Northern water rat	Endangered
Pseudocheiridae	<i>Pseudochirops corinnae</i>	Plush-coated ringtail possum	Near threatened

Notes:

\* = endemic to Huon Peninsula





# Tree Kangaroo Conservation Program Team

In 2013, TKCP had many exciting developments in staffing and office structure. TKCP closed the Australia office at James Cook University, shifting focus to the main office in Lae, Papua New Guinea. The headquarters and fundraising staff remain in Seattle, Washington. In Lae, Papua New Guinea, TKCP hired one new staff member, Laris Bartsaka, and were very happy to promote four dedicated staff members to key management and senior coordinator roles. Congratulations to Mikal Nolan, Karau Kuna, Benjamin Sipa, and Danny Samandingke! TKCP also hired one new staff member in Seattle Christina Galitsky.

## Seattle, Washington

- 1 **Dr. Lisa Dabek**  
Program Director  
Senior Conservation Scientist  
Expertise: Leadership, marsupial biology, partnerships, and fundraising
- 2 **Ms. Christina Galitsky**  
Program Coordinator  
Expertise: Wildlife biology, data analyses, facilitation, planning, fundraising





## Lae, Papua New Guinea

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <p><b>3 Ms. Mikal Nolan</b><br/>Program Manager<br/>Expertise: Project management, organizational development, gender studies</p>                           | <p><b>6 Mr. Danny Samandingke</b><br/>Leadership Training and Outreach Senior Coordinator<br/>Expertise: Education, leadership training</p> | <p><b>10 Mr. Steven Fononge</b><br/>Conservation Officer<br/>Expertise: Leadership, community engagement</p>               |
| <p><b>4 Mr. Karau Kuna</b><br/>Conservation Strategies Manager<br/>Expertise: Geographic information systems, information technology, land-use planning</p> | <p><b>7 Ms. Laris Bartsaka</b><br/>Administrative Coordinator<br/>Expertise: Office management, accounting, accounting software</p>         | <p><b>11 Mr. Victor Eki</b><br/>Mapping Officer<br/>Expertise: Landowner engagement, Global Positioning Systems (GPS)</p>  |
| <p><b>5 Mr. Benjamin Sipa</b><br/>Community Services and Livelihoods Manager<br/>Expertise: Agricultural value chains, community development</p>            | <p><b>8 Mr. Namo Yaoro</b><br/>Conservation Officer<br/>Expertise: Leadership, community mobilization</p>                                   | <p><b>12 Mr. Matthew Tombe</b><br/>Mapping Officer<br/>Expertise: Dispute resolution, Global Positioning Systems (GPS)</p> |
|   | <p><b>9 Mr. Dono Ogate</b><br/>Conservation Officer<br/>Expertise: Leadership, coffee production, conservation outreach</p>                 |  |

# YUS Conservation Area Rangers

YUS Conservation Area Rangers / photo by Mark Zimbick



TKCP is proud of the hard work that our YUS Conservation Area Rangers have been doing over the past two years. Their skills include traditional knowledge of the environment, ecological monitoring and enforcement of CA bylaws, and identifying key species in the YUS Conservation Area. Several rangers have become leaders in radio tracking and have been training other local villagers to help our research teams this year.

Rangers Name	YUS Village	YUS/ Wasu LLG	Date Started
1. Soya Werawe	Kumbu/ Keweng	YUS Ward 13	March 2012
2. Nelson Teut	Gua/ Teptep	YUS Ward 11	March 2012
3. Muks Uwate	Gogiok	YUS Ward 4	March 2012
4. Samuel Bukai	Dungket/ Bungawat	YUS Ward 5	September 2013
5. Taminat Pendeng	Mek/ Nolum	YUS Ward 6	March 2012
6. Mikes Barup	Ronji/ Koripon	Wasu Ward 11	March 2012
7. Dogem Merande	Bonkiman/ Wadabong	YUS Ward 9	March 2012
8. Man Rex Yausi	Bonea/ Nenaya	Wasu Ward 18	September 2013
9. Moses Nasing	Yawan	YUS Ward 1	March 2012
10. James Jio	Towet	YUS Ward 1	March 2012
11. Geno Yuwoc	Worin	YUS Ward 1	March 2012
12. Robson Soseng	Gomdan/ Sapmanga	YUS Ward 3	March 2012





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2



3



4



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# Fond Farewell to Outgoing Staff

The entire team at TKCP would like to thank former staff members Ashley Brooks, Tingke Dope, Zachary Wells, Ruby Yamuna and Jeanie Sedgely for their invaluable contributions to the program and the YUS communities over the years. TKCP was fortunate to have benefited from their unique skill sets and wishes them the best in their current endeavors.

- 1 Mr. Tingke Dope
- 2 Ms. Ruby Yamuna
- 3 Dr. Ashley Brooks
- 4 Mr. Zachary Wells
- 5 Ms. Jeanie Sedgely





# Visitors to the YUS Conservation Area in 2013

**1** Erika Travis Crook, DVM, from Utah's Hogle Zoo and Trish Watson, Veterinary Technician and WPZ and TKCP volunteer, joined Lisa Dabek and the TKCP team in April for the tree kangaroo radio collaring fieldwork. Erika and Trish focused on the health assessments of wild tree kangaroos and assuring the health and welfare of the tree kangaroos during radio collaring. They also helped the TKCP team organize and sort equipment in the TKCP office.

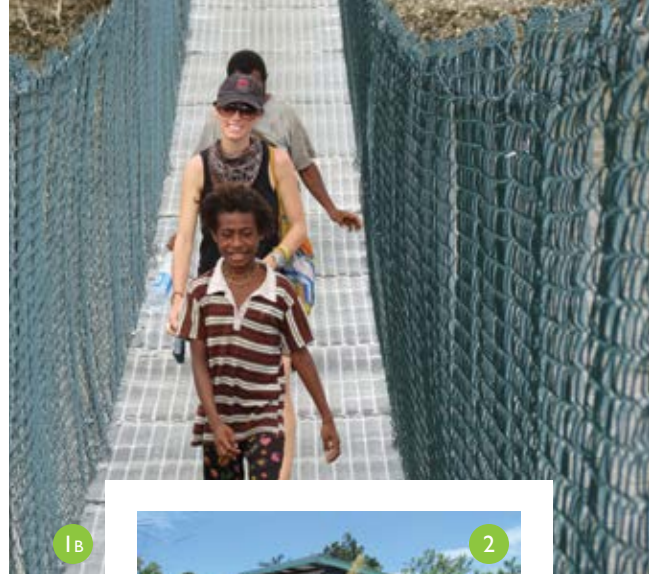
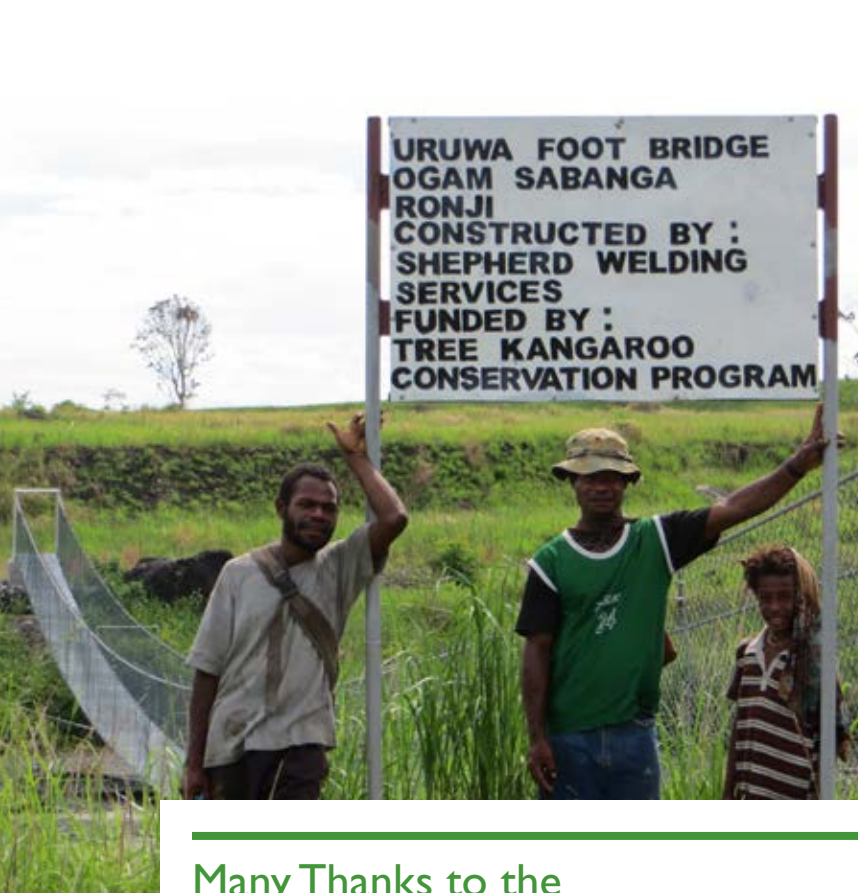
**2** TKCP-PNG welcomed WPZ's Corporate and Foundation Gifts Officer, Kate Neville, to the office in Lae in October. Kate taught the staff grant writing and helped out with the TKCP health and environment booth at the Morobe Show before she joined TKCP staff in Ronji village to help celebrate the YUS field office and new foot bridge opening over the Uruwa River.

**3** TKCP-PNG hosted Erich Pacheco, a fellow of the Center for the Blue Economy at the Monterey Institute of International Studies in California. For nearly three months, Erich collaborated with TKCP-PNG to conduct an ecosystem valuation and livelihoods analysis in the coastal zone of the YUS CA. Working closely with Ben Sipa, Erich was able to survey 205 households and collected data to better understand the value of the grassland, forest, and marine ecosystems, and how they contribute to the well-being of coastal communities. The study makes significant contributions to understanding the strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities of various livelihood activities, primarily cocoa production and fermentaries.

Hannah Sarvasy and Valérie Guérin, both linguists with the Language and Culture Research Centre at James Cook University, Australia, visited YUS in 2013. Hannah has been investigating socio-linguistics among Nungon speakers in the Uruwa Zone. While her research is nearly complete, Hannah maintains a strong commitment to helping the local communities.

Valérie accompanied Hannah on her last visit to YUS to determine if the Gogiok community would be interested in hosting a linguist to work on their language (tok ples), much like Hannah's work. In January 2014 Valérie will return to YUS to embark on a multi-year project to document and describe the Tiatuk language in Gogiok.

📷 Erika Crook and Trish Watson / photo by Lisa Dabek  
Kate Neville / photo by Lisa Dabek  
Erich Pacheco in Ronji / photo by Ben Sipa



## Many Thanks to the German Development Bank and Conservation International

In 2013, TKCP was proud to complete several projects made possible by a generous five-year grant from the German Development Bank (KfW) on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU), and from Conservation International. Among the many accomplishments over the years, highlights from 2013 include:

**1** Completing a footbridge over the Uruwa River, linking the coastal community in YUS

**2** Official openings of new TKCP field offices in Ronji and Gogiok

YUS Landscape Plan

Pocket Field Guide to the Wildlife of YUS (CI publication) See page 41

Lessons Learned from the Field – Achieving Conservation Success in Papua New Guinea (CI publication) See page 40

Since 2005, Conservation International Global Conservation Fund has been supporting TKCP. Their funding helped TKCP to:

Support the local staff and provide operational funding needed to create and manage the YUS Conservation Area, formally approved in 2009

With a \$1 million match, create the YUS Conservation Endowment to support the ongoing costs of the newly created NGO, TKCP-PNG in Lae, PNG to manage the YUS Conservation Area

Create a TKCP Business Plan

Hire Foundations of Success to run an Open Standards workshop that formed the basis for the Landscape Plan, the guiding document with the strategies we now implement

Establish the TKCP-PNG NGO



Bridge opening / photo by Mikal Nolan  
New bridge in Ronji / photo by Lisa Dabek  
New Ronji Field Office / photo by Mikal Nolan

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# Progress throughout the YUS Living Landscape



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In 2013, the National Government of Papua New Guinea officially approved the YUS Landscape Plan that TKCP and the communities of YUS created over the past three years. The YUS Landscape Plan serves as the management plan for the YUS Conservation Area as well as the strategic plan for TKCP.

 Woman from Isan village / photo by Mikal Nolan

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TKCP developed the YUS Landscape Plan with the communities, beginning with an Open Standards for Conservation Practice approach (Foundations of Success) and continuing through a series of land-use planning workshops. Because of the initial successes we have seen through this inclusive and comprehensive approach, we used this plan to guide our work in 2013.





## STRATEGIES

The following five strategies of the YUS Landscape Plan will ensure the health and sustainability of the landscape and the people within it.

### STRATEGY

3.

**Planning for a Sustainable Future:**  
Sustainable Resource Use and Environmental Services

YUS CA protection goes beyond the designated protected area itself. Making sure the adjacent areas within the YUS watershed, from the ridge to reef, are healthy and providing enough resources for local communities helps the YUS CA remain protected as well. In addition, the entire ecosystems of the YUS watersheds provide many environmental services for YUS communities including clean water, forest products, and soil fertility.

### STRATEGY

1.

**Managing the Conservation Area:**  
YUS Conservation Area Management

TKCP assists the Conservation Area Management Committee (CAMC) in managing the YUS CA, including mapping the remaining unmapped protected area, ecological monitoring, as well as patrols and rule enforcement within the YUS CA carried out by local YUS Conservation Area Rangers. TKCP also participates in the CAMC meetings as a member, along with representatives from the YUS Conservation Organization and local, district, Provincial, and National Government.

### STRATEGY

4.

**Serving the Communities –Livelihoods, Education, Health, and Building Capacity:**  
Community Services, Livelihoods and Healthy Families

The people of YUS rely on the natural environment for their day-to-day needs. By focusing on the communities' self-identified needs in education, health, capacity building, and livelihood initiatives, TKCP provides the people of YUS with access to alternative resources through the cash economy, relieving pressures on local natural resources. TKCP also helps YUS access to government services.

### STRATEGY

2.

**Applying Our Research:**  
Research to Inform Management

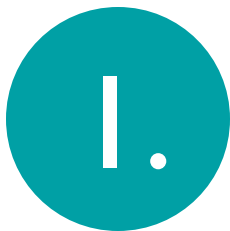
TKCP is continuing to answer the ecological and social questions needed to achieve successful long-term conservation in the YUS CA. This includes collaborations with outside researchers from across the globe to examine various aspects of the CA, as well as the ongoing TKCP tree kangaroo research throughout their elevational range. The YUS Landscape Plan outlines the priority research questions for the YUS CA.

### STRATEGY

5.

**Operating TKCP:**  
Implementation and Management

The YUS conservation initiative garners substantial worldwide attention and support. Running such a program requires robust planning, administrative capacity, and a strong core staff. TKCP remains focused on building staff capabilities, ensuring that we have the skilled people and necessary resources in place to maintain a sustainable YUS Landscape.



# Managing the Conservation Area

## Ranger Team

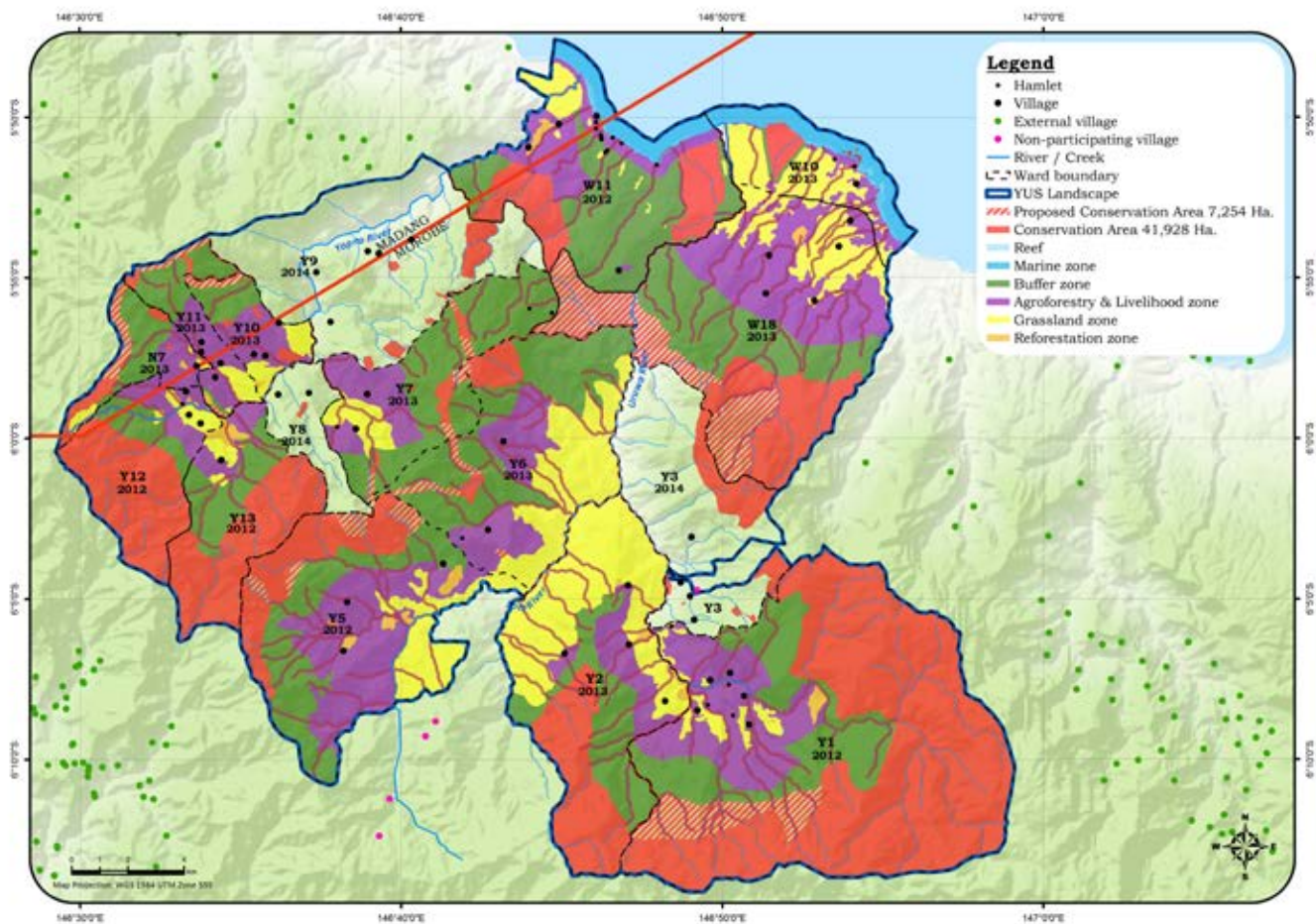
TKCP established the YUS Conservation Area Ranger Team in 2012 to help monitor and evaluate the impact of the conservation efforts in YUS and inside the YUS Conservation Area in particular. Initially trained by James Cook University researchers, these twelve local rangers have been patrolling the areas closest to their own villages for about two years.

The YUS Conservation Area Rangers have been busy this year! These local rangers have been patrolling the YUS Conservation Area near their villages one week per month throughout 2013 and continuing the mapping work. In addition, several rangers helped with research on the endangered Matschie's tree kangaroo.

In April 2013, two YUS CA Rangers, James Jio of Towet village and Geno Yuwoc of Worin village, together with Timmy Sowang, the YUS CO President and tracking supervisor, helped capture and radio collar three new tree kangaroos at a new, lower elevation field site in Sombom.



YUS Rangers / photo by Lisa Dabek  
LUP completed wards as of December 2013 / map by Karau Kuna



## Mapped Lands

TKCP, led by our Conservation Strategies Manager and GIS expert Karau Kuna with help from Mapping Officers Victor Eki and Matthew Tombe, continued to make great strides in mapping the YUS Conservation Area in 2013. They continue to

work directly with the landowners in each area. This work is gaining great rewards for the animals, the communities, and the environment as a whole.

The YUS Conservation Area Landscape comprises:

- 150,000 hectares (370,658 acres) in land mass; 75,680 (187,000 acres) hectares in the YUS CA
- 4 zones (Yopno, Uruwa, Som & the coastal Nambis)
- 17 Wards or village groupings (12 in the YUS Local Level Government (LLG), 3 in the Wasu LLG and 2 in the Nayudo LLG)
- 50 villages

Progress through 2013:

- Total of 41,992 hectares mapped in the YUS Landscape
- Total of 1,034 hectares mapped in reforestation areas
- Total of 1,532 km mapped riparian corridors (habitat along rivers) that are 30m wide

The Future:

TKCP aims to map 7,219 hectares of the YUS Conservation Area in 2014!





## YUS Conservation Area Management Committee

The YUS Conservation Area Management Committee (CAMC) is a vital line of communication from the grassroots level in the villages all the way to the Minister of Environment in the National Government of PNG. Over the course of the three years since inception, the CAMC has gained momentum in providing strategic direction for the YUS Conservation Area.

In 2013, representatives from multiple levels of government, TKCP, and YUS landowners gathered together for the semiannual YUS CAMC meetings. In April the committee convened in Lae, where climate change was a major theme of the discussion. Ms. Gwen Sissiou, Director of REDD+ and Mitigation from the Office of Climate Change and Development, was an honored guest. The committee also heard from Mr. Anurag Ramachandra of Conservation International, who gave insight on the REDD+ program, carbon stocks and sequestration.

The second YUS CAMC meeting was held at Gogiok village in YUS. During this meeting the government announced that the Minister for Environment had officially gazetted the YUS Landscape Plan. The Honorable Epemu Kiwenu, YUS Local Level Government President, took the opportunity to declare the creation of a new position on his Executive Team for the YUS Conservation Organization President, Mr. Timmy Sowang. This new opportunity will further strengthen the partnerships and effectiveness of the CAMC for the YUS CA.

Representatives from all levels of government, landowners, and TKCP comprise the YUS Conservation Area Management Committee:

- Three Executive Members of the YUS Conservation Organization
- Kabwum District Administrator
- Program Advisor for Mining, Natural Resources & Environment Division, Morobe Provincial Government
- Head of Terrestrial Environment Programs, Department of Environment & Conservation
- President of the YUS Local Level Government
- President of the Wasu Local Level Government
- Program Manager of Tree Kangaroo Conservation Program



## Other Executive Meetings

TKCP was happy to host the visit of the National Member of Parliament for Kabwum District, the Honorable Bob Dadae, to Gogiok village in YUS. During this event, TKCP and YUS CO shared their goals for YUS in the coming years. It also was an invaluable opportunity to put YUS in the national spotlight as a model protected area.

Also representing the PNG national government, the Minister for Environment, the Honorable John Pundari, and his advisors met with TKCP staff at our Lae office twice during 2013. The Minister took several days out of his busy schedule to discuss the YUS Conservation Area, its success and challenges, and goals for continued sustainability. The members of the TKCP management team all participated in a press conference with the Minister, where he pledged to seek ongoing support of the YUS Conservation Area in 2014 and to utilize YUS as an example for other protected areas in PNG.



CAMC Meeting in Gogiok / photo by Karau Kuna  
Bob Dadae at CAMC Meeting in Gogiok / photo by Mikal Nolan



## 2.

## Applying our Research


The Tree Kangaroo Conservation Program continues to make scientific research a priority. By attaining a better understanding of the species we are trying to protect, we can better manage the YUS Conservation Area for those species.

The distributional range of Matschie's tree kangaroos is 1,000 to 3,500 meters (about 3,300 to 11,000 feet). Along this elevation gradient, the types of vegetation and tree species change. Previously we studied the home range size, habitat use, and feeding ecology of tree kangaroos at 3,000m. In 2013, we began a study at the lower end of their elevation range. This was also an opportunity to continue the health assessments of wild tree kangaroos at the low elevation.



In April 2013, James Cook University PhD candidate Gabriel Porolak, TKCP's Lisa Dabek, Hogle Zoo's Erika Crook, WPZ volunteer Trish Watson, YUS Rangers James Jio and Geno Yuwoc, YUS CO President and tracking supervisor Timmy Sowang, and landowner research assistants Jackly Giri, Max Manap, and Stanley Gesang and other landowners from Apilap and Gomdan villages all worked together to capture and radio-collar three new tree kangaroos at approximately 1,500 meters elevation. Following their capture, TKCP's YUS Conservation Area Rangers and local landowner research assistants tracked the kangaroos and recorded their locations for seven months.

TKCP scientists will analyze the data collected by the trackers to estimate home range sizes of the tree kangaroos at 1,500 meters elevation. TKCP will then compare these estimates to those at high elevations, gaining a better understanding across the entire range. With the knowledge of what tree kangaroos need to survive across their range, TKCP can better manage the YUS CA and the tree kangaroos' habitat. The TKCP staff and YUS CO will have the information they need to successfully manage the YUS CA, and YUS Rangers who patrol the area will better understand the needs of the animals they are helping to protect.

 Radio collaring tree kangaroo "Caroline" with Lisa Dabek and James Jio / photo by TKCP  
Holly Hogan Reed Memorial Field Vet site with Gabriel Porolak, Lisa Dabek, Erika Crook and Trish Watson / photo by TKCP





TKCP collaborates with the YUS CO and the local landowners in order to attract internationally recognized researchers and scientists to answer priority questions that will enhance the overall management of YUS CA. In 2013, YUS hosted a number of research projects.

Project/Question	Principle Investigator(s)	Institution
Socio-linguistics among Nungon speakers (Uruwa Zone)	Hannah Sarvasy	James Cook University
Hunting trends and wildlife populations	Gabriel Porolak	James Cook University
Subsistence agriculture and climate change transect	Bruce Beehler	Conservation International and Smithsonian Institution
Matschie's tree kangaroo home-range at low elevation of their range	Gabriel Porolak Lisa Dabek Christina Galitsky YUS Tracking Team	James Cook University Woodland Park Zoo Woodland Park Zoo TKCP-PNG
Matschie's tree kangaroo health assessments	Erika Crook Trish Watson Gabriel Porolak Lisa Dabek	Utah's Hogle Zoo Woodland Park Zoo James Cook University Woodland Park Zoo
Value of coastal ecosystems	Erich Pacheco	Center for the Blue Economy Monterey Institute for International Studies



## Woodland Park Zoo's Tree Kangaroos

Woodland Park Zoo is happy to see its newest tree kangaroo joey thriving in 2013. Ronji, a male, was born in June of 2012 and emerged completely from the pouch in February 2013. This rare birth is part of the AZA Tree Kangaroo Species Survival Plan cooperative breeding program for this endangered species. Because Elanna and Huen, his parents, are genetically under-represented within the captive breeding program, this was an especially exciting success to celebrate. WPZ and TKCP are glad he is doing so well. Our other female and male tree kangaroos, Chrissie and Yopno, are thriving at the zoo as well.



Tree Kangaroo "Huen" / photo by Dennis Dow  
Tree Kangaroo "Elanna" / photo by Ryan Hawk  
Tree Kangaroo "Holly" with joey in pouch at fieldsite / photo by Lisa Dabek



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## Tree Kangaroo Meetings and Conferences

In September, TKCP Director Lisa Dabek presented an update on TKCP's work at the full day Tree Kangaroo Species Survival Plan workshop at the Association of Zoos and Aquariums conference in Kansas City, Missouri. There was an excellent discussion about the commitment of AZA's TK-SSP institutions to tree kangaroo research and conservation through TKCP.

In October Lisa Dabek, along with Deanna Ramirez and Beth Carlyle-Askew of WPZ, participated in the 2nd International Tree Kangaroo Workshop in Melbourne, Australia, hosted by the AZA Tree Kangaroo SSP (led by Jacque Blessington), Zoos Victoria and Melbourne Zoo (represented by Megan Richardson), Zoo and Aquarium Association of Australia (represented by Claire Ford) and the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums. There the delegates learned about new advances in husbandry and research, and discussed global species management plans for tree kangaroos and links from zoos to field conservation. They established common priorities for captive breeding, research, and field conservation, as well as ways for international colleagues to collaborate for the long term conservation of tree kangaroos.



## 3.

# Planning for a Sustainable Future

## Land Use Planning for the Future

Making sense of a complicated landscape —  
2 Provinces, 1 District, 3 Local Level Governments,  
17 Wards, 50 villages, and 20 hamlets!

Last year was a productive year for TKCP Conservation Strategies Manager and GIS Specialist, Karau Kuna, the Conservation Officers Dono Ogate, Namo Yaoro and Steven Fononge, and YUS mapping assistants, Victor Eki and Matthew Tombe. They all worked to map in the core conservation zones of the YUS Conservation Area, hold Land-use Planning (LUP) Workshops and work with the landowners to confirm land pledges to the YUS Conservation Area. With an additional eight Wards completed in 2013, the team, with help and guidance from TKCP's Danny Samandingke, has led leadership trainings as part of the LUP workshops

(see page 29) and has now helped 13 YUS Wards to fully zone their areas into multiple use Land-use Plans. The process has resulted in completion of mapping YUS CA boundaries for those Wards as well as enhanced continuity across the entire YUS Landscape. The team aims to complete the remaining Wards by 2014 with a series of three workshops in four village groups. This will complete a four year long process and result in a mosaic of landscapes in YUS from fully protected areas to areas open to use by villagers.



Ben Sipa leads LUP workshop in Ronji / photo by TKCP  
Karau Kuna and team in Sugan / photo by Danny Samandingke  
Round 1, 2 and 3 mapping process graphics / by Karau Kuna

## Why map and do land-use planning?

1. To take pressure off pristine ecosystems
2. To allow sustainable use of ecosystem products and services
3. To enhance livelihood potential
4. To integrate conservation, resource management and development priorities
5. To fulfill reporting requirements which contribute directly to national level obligations, such as:
  - a. PNG's Medium Term Development Plan (2011 – 2015)
  - b. PNG's Programme of Work on Protected Areas Actions under the Convention of Biological Diversity



## Land Use Planning Workshops – 3 Rounds for each ward.

### ROUND

==

1.



Introduction to purpose and processes of LUP and vision. Taking stock of the landscape through a Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) analysis, and sketching a first map.

### ROUND

==

2.



Detailed planning and review. Identification and ranking of conservation and development priorities, actions, and approaches. Sketching a finer map draft.

### ROUND

==

3.

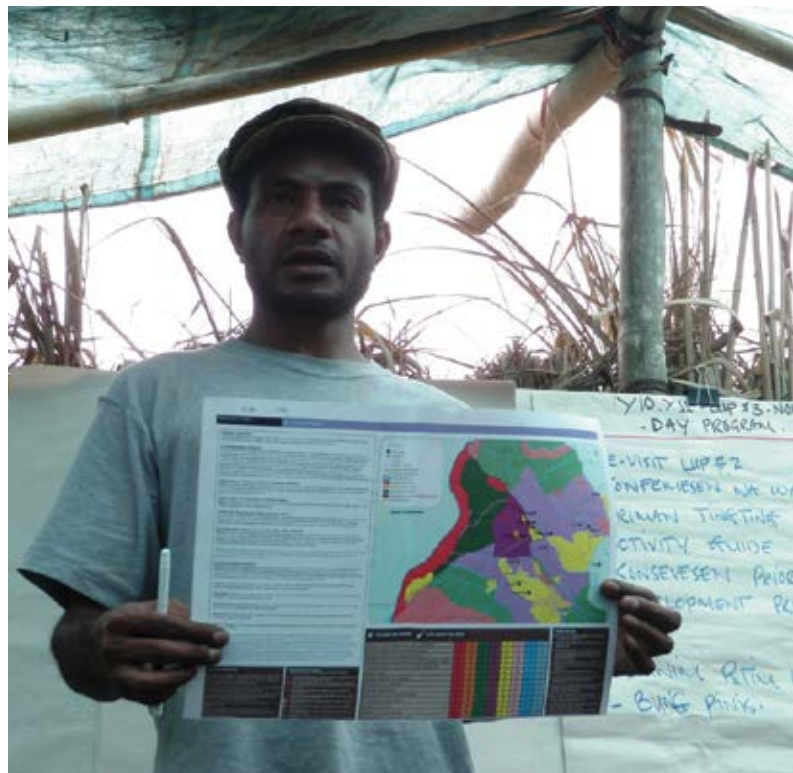


Confirmation and review of round 2, review of all components of plan. Final authorization of plan and map.



### According to Karau Kuna:

*“Strategic Land Use Planning is a relatively new concept in Papua New Guinea. Its importance and benefits are unheard of to the wider, rural population of Papua New Guinea. Thanks to the IUCN Save our Species grant and other funding we received in 2012, TKCP can work more closely with the landowners to set their priorities in land use plans. The plans should help take pressure off pristine ecosystems, allow sustainable use of ecosystem products and services, and enhance livelihood potential.*



Since the formulation of its land use plans, YUS has not only gained national recognition for initiating a first of its kind LUP in the country, but also for its integrated style of planning. In reality, all the planning was done by the people; we the facilitators just introduced the concept and provided the technical support. The land use plans account for conservation, resource management and development priorities of communities. They can automatically be used as 5-year ward development plans, or alternatively be a resource to formulate one. These plans contribute directly to many of the PNG government's goals and targets under its Medium Term Development Plan (2011-2015) and other obligations.

Only 25% of the YUS landscape remains to be completed. Though still a work in progress, we have received many positive feedback and expressions of interest to replicate LUP in other parts of the country. This is a good indicator of success and I urge the landowners to take ownership of these plans and urge their government leaders to implement them. It is my hope that these land use plans will help the people become better managers of their resources and that it will help to bridge existing gaps to allow for the efficient flow of much-needed services to the area.”

— Karau Kuna



Karau Kuna leads a LUP Workshop session / photo by TKCP  
Gua LUP / photo by Ben Sipa  
Wrefords Sorong / photo by Karau Kuna





According to Mr. Wrefords Sorong  
Elementary School Teacher & Landowner  
Yawan village, Ward I, YUS LLG:

*"Land use plans have given us new direction. The process has helped the community and our leaders understand the importance of planning which we often overlooked. This has resulted in the mismanagement and careless use of resources and lack of delivery of essential services to the people. LUP has helped us plan for the wise use of resources so that future generations may also benefit from them. We created a very good plan; it will help us if we stick to it. Some places do not have such a plan and may face all sorts of dilemmas. We are lucky. All our needs are in the plan so it's now over to our leaders to use it to deliver services. I believe that we will see a lot of change for the better five years from now because of this plan."*

— Mr. Wrefords Sorong



## 4.



# Serving the Communities: Livelihoods, Education & Health

## Education and Capacity Building

### Balob Teacher's College Scholarship Program

TKCP continues to provide financial support to the ongoing scholarship program that funds successful YUS candidates seeking teaching certificates from Balob Teacher's College in Lae. Through negotiations with the local Yus Local Level Government (LLG) and the YUS community, the costs have shifted from entirely funded by TKCP in the past to shared costs with the Yus LLG and the scholarship recipient's family. As part of the agreement, the scholarship recipient agrees to return to teach in YUS schools for at least six years.

Since 2002, TKCP has directly helped 21 new teachers graduate and return to teach in YUS. Moreover, two other YUS teachers have graduated from the University of Goroka with partial funding from TKCP. With an additional three YUS students registered at Balob in 2013, a total of 26 YUS students have benefited from the scholarship programs to date.

Currently, 14 teachers are actively teaching in YUS schools, with several continuing to service YUS after they fulfilled their scholarship obligations. Mr. Jacob Zua, Mr. Simon Baza, Mr. Maine Nonge, Mr. Mumbiangke Agobiang, Mr. Otana Sama (IV), and Mr. Robert Husa are all still teaching after more than six years post-graduation. An additional four TKCP supported teachers were promoted to senior positions and are now in teaching programs across Morobe Province, Kabwum District, and YUS schools. We congratulate all of the YUS graduates!



Mr. BOWONG Elizah, new scholarship recipient for 2013 to Balob Teachers College, signing MoA / photo by Danny Samandingke

Yus LLG President Epemu Kiwenu / photo by Mikal Nolan

Danny Samandingke stressing importance of Leadership Training in Nolum / photo by Matthew Tombe





## Leadership Trainings

TKCP's Leadership Training and Outreach Senior Coordinator, Danny Samandingke, continued to develop and implement a series of workshops to expand the capacity of the YUS community leaders to serve as environmental leaders. Danny received his Leadership Training from iLEAP ([www.ileap.org](http://www.ileap.org)) in Seattle, Washington (USA). The trainings now run by Danny capitalize on traditional and customary YUS management styles. Using terms and systems already understood in the communities have greatly facilitated a more meaningful use of the knowledge and skills acquired from various TKCP workshops. In the leadership training workshops, Danny explains how and why donors support the communities and how their roles as leaders are important to the continued success of YUS. With new skills, understanding, and competency, these leaders take responsibility to teach their communities about the value of conservation and sustainability.





## Health

### Health Expo highlights TKCP's work

Every October, Lae plays host to the Morobe Agricultural Show. This year TKCP showcased the BALANCED Project at the show's adjacent Health Expo. The BALANCED Project directly links environmental and family health, which supports TKCP's holistic approach in the YUS communities. Several hundred people visited TKCP's booth over the two day-period. TKCP staff including Mikal Nolan, Namo Yaoro, Lisa Dabek and YUS community members shared the YUS story with all visitors. An interactive game set-up allowed kids and adults to play their luck through various scenarios making the connection between people, health, and environment.

### Luci Lights

Early in 2013, Jamie Bechtel through New Course donated 60 MPower™'s Luci Lights to TKCP for health workers in remote villages in YUS. In April the team from the USA brought these solar powered lanterns to YUS, where midwives and health workers immediately used them in their remote work. According to their MPower's website: "Luci is a clean, low-cost, sustainable energy provider...[providing] a dependable solution where there are unreliable or absent electrical services. Once Luci is acquired, there are no further costs associated with lighting".

Thanks Jamie Bechtel, Executive Director of New Course, and MPowerd for your support!



Mikal Nolan at Health Expo at Morobe Show / photo by Lisa Dabek  
Healthcare worker Mr. Hosing at the Sapmanga Health Center / photo by Lisa Dabek  
Health workers with Luci Lights / photo by Mikal Nolan



## BALANCED Project

In light of the growing human health needs in the YUS communities, TKCP reached out to the U. S. Agency for International Development (USAID)-funded Building Actors and Leaders for Advancing Community Excellence in Development (BALANCED) Project to help integrate health services and education into the existing conservation activities. In 2011, the BALANCED Project provided seed grant funding and technical assistance to TKCP in PNG for 18 months. The “Healthy Village,

Healthy Forest: Integrating Healthy Family Planning and Conservation in Papua New Guinea” project ended in 2013. Over the 18 months it helped build TKCP’s capacity to integrate and implement a community-based family planning initiative into their conservation efforts.

The YUS community was very positive about this approach to family health. YUS community health workers stated that there was an increase in

community members coming to the health centers asking for resources after the BALANCED Project workshops. TKCP hopes to expand the BALANCED Project workshops across YUS in order to train more peer educators. Linking family health to conservation is a very powerful approach, and TKCP is reaching out to other groups and organizations that focus on “Population, Health, and Environment”. Stay tuned for more updates in the future!

## Highlights from the Healthy Village Healthy Forest Initiative include:

- Developed culturally and locally appropriate integrated PHE messages and materials and delivered them to the communities.
- Trained nine boys and ten girls on PHE youth peer education, and 38 men and seven women in the YUS region as adult PHE peer educators. This expanded health service outlets by about 150% in over 15 villages.
- Immunized infants and mothers, and installed solar refrigerators to keep vaccinations cold.
- Conducted medical patrols reaching community members in remote villages.
- Began to work with mama groups (mother groups) to help bring PHE messages into social settings.
- Strengthened the relationship among YUS, TKCP, and the Provincial Health Department.

Thank you Dr. Joan Castro of PATH Philippines, Linda Bruce from the University of Rhode Island, Janet Edmonds from Conservation International, and US AID for your support!





## Livelihoods

### Conservation Coffee

YUS Conservation Coffee had a very successful year through its partnership with the Seattle, Washington (USA) coffee roaster Caffé Vita. A coffee importer, roaster, and retailer with multiple Seattle and national outlets, Caffé Vita is committed to direct trade of environmentally and socially responsible coffees. Over the course of three years, YUS coffee farmers have been able to export nearly eight tons of coffee to Caffé Vita and have generated a total gross income of over 40,000 kina (about \$20,000 USD). Some of the profits from these direct sales support community initiatives to further enhance quality and scope of the YUS coffee project. Farmers reinvest a portion of their earnings to build small-scale solar dryers and collectively-used processing mills. These innovations provide for a more consistent, more dependable product. Other profits go to the families, which help fund education, health care and other basic needs.

### Conservation Cocoa

Mid-year in 2013, TKCP received exciting news of a new marketing opportunity for the YUS coastal cocoa farmers that would directly link them with Queen Emma Chocolates, a local boutique chocolatier, a division of Paradise Foods, based in the Papua New Guinea capital of Port Moresby. Not only would farmers receive a premium price for their cocoa, but also, two kina (about one US dollar) for every package sold goes to support conservation efforts in YUS. This partnership is evolving and will continue into 2014. In the meantime it provides a niche market for conservation grown cocoa.



Cocoa pods / photo by Ben Sipa  
Ben Sipa being thanked by Ronji village community / photo by Lisa Dabek  
Coffee display at WPZoostore / photo by Terry Blumer  
Annie Ogate in Yawan village with coffee beans / photo by TKCP





## Good news for 2013 and Beyond

For three months in 2013, TKCP was fortunate to host a graduate fellow from the Center for the Blue Economy at Monterey Institute of International Studies in Monterey, California. Erich Pacheco collaborated with TKCP-PNG to conduct an ecosystem valuation and livelihoods analysis in the coastal zone of the YUS CA. Working closely with Ben Sipa, Erich was able to survey 205 households to better understand the value of the grassland, forest, and marine ecosystems, and how they contribute to the well-being of coastal communities. The study will also make significant contributions to understanding the strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities of various livelihood activities, primarily cocoa production and fermentaries.

## TKCP-PNG received its first externally funded grant in 2013!

United Nations Development Programme Small Grant Programme (UNDP SGP) - PNG will support the development of the YUS Conservation Cocoa project in 2014. These funds will provide further training in quality assurance measures, encourage the exploration of market linkages, and assist the farmers in achieving value-added certifications that will garner premium prices for their commodity. TKCP-PNG will model the cocoa pilot project on TKCP's successful Conservation Coffee project. The grant will also provide funding for an initial marine survey in YUS. While some research has been done at higher elevations to survey species in the forest, little has been done along the coast. Both aspects of this project will focus on the coastal areas that were most recently added to the YUS Conservation Area.



## YUS Community Based Organization

The YUS Conservation Organization (YUS CO), a community-based organization comprised of YUS Conservation Area landowners, continued to develop throughout the course of 2013. The executive committee led by YUS CO President Timmy Sowang, met mid-year at Isan village. During this leadership meeting, the team assessed the effectiveness of the organization and identified systems to strengthen organizational structure. Led through a series of exercises by TKCP staff Tingke Dope and Mikal Nolan, the executive committee compiled a set of recommendations and agenda items to be discussed at the YUS CO General Meeting. The committee also initiated a strategic planning process.

In late September, YUS CO held its Annual General Meeting at Gogiok village, marking the first meeting facilitated entirely by YUS community members. Ward representatives from across YUS came together to discuss concerns raised by their fellow landowners. The YUS CO executives meticulously led the members through a review of the constitution and structure of the organization. The membership voted to establish regional zone level meetings which will enhance the participation of women (who will not have to travel as far) and foster more locally relevant discussions. The YUS CO intends that these zone level meetings provide a platform where local government, landowners, church groups, women, children, village elders, and the YUS CO can freely talk about matters important to the sustainability of the YUS CA and community.





## Good news! The YUS CO also received its first externally funded grant in 2013!!

Back in 2012, the United Nations Development Program Small Grants Programme – PNG awarded the YUS CO a planning grant to help them develop a proposal. The YUS CO then met with the communities and developed a proposal for a project that was important to them. In 2013, the UNDP SGP – PNG awarded the YUS CO their first external grant. The money will fund the development of tree nurseries focusing on trees for construction, fuel, livelihoods, and those of cultural significance. The project will also support a tree planting awareness campaign entitled Kutim na Plantim (Cut and Plant) where communities will be encouraged to plant five trees for every one tree cut down. The grant will also provide funds for World Environment Day (June 5) activities in which environmental awareness will be encouraged for school-aged youth, making way for the next generation of YUS decision-makers.



CBO Meeting in Isan Village / photo by Mikal Nolan  
CBO Meeting in Gogiok Village/ photo by Mikal Nolan



## 5.




# Operating TKCP: Operations in Lae, PNG and Seattle, Washington

## Getting the Word Out

TKCP was very busy sharing information and lessons learned with colleagues in 2013 attending conferences and giving presentations around the world from the United States to Australia to Fiji. In May 2013 Lisa Dabek presented a talk on TKCP and the BALANCED Project at the Wilson Center's Global Sustainability and Resilience Program in Washington D.C. which resulted in a podcast and interview (<http://www.newsecuritybeat.org/2013/06/lisa-dabek-papua-guineas-tree-kangaroo-conservation-project-conserve/>). In July, Lisa and colleagues Janet Edmond (CI) and Joan Castro (PATH Philippines) presented on the BALANCED Project and the integration of human health and environmental health at the International Congress of Conservation Biology in Baltimore, Maryland USA (through the Society for Conservation Biology). Lisa made great connections in the areas of Population, Health, and Environment, as well as Gender and the Environment. TKCP has been participating in a subsequent Gender and the Environment Working Group facilitated by Conservation International.



In September Lisa gave two invited lectures about TKCP at California's Humboldt State University's Departments of Biology and Wildlife Management. Dabek also presented the work of TKCP at the University of Washington's School of Environmental and Forest Sciences. These visits were new opportunities to look at potential collaborations with students and faculty for TKCP's work.

 Karau Kuna Presenting at the SPREP Conference in Fiji in December 2013 / photo by Ben Sipu  
Part of the TKCP-PNG Leadership Team in Fiji / photo by Lisa Dabek  
CO President Timmy Sowang, TKCP Staff, the Minister of Environment, and staff from the Department of Environment and Conservation / photo by TKCP



Members of TKCP's senior leadership team attended the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) Conference in Fiji in December. This conference occurs every five years and is attended by delegates from all the Pacific island countries as well as NGO's and universities. PNG's Department of Environment and Conservation was represented and sponsored Benjamin Sipa to attend. TKCP is viewed as a colleague and model program for the PNG government. During TKCP's session Lisa Dabek gave an overview of TKCP's overall strategies, while Karau Kuna discussed the novel Land-use Planning approach that his team has been leading in YUS. Ben presented the links between livelihoods and conservation in TKCP, as well as the positive impact the linkage is providing to YUS communities. Mikal Nolan led the panel showcasing the YUS Conservation Area and landscape as a model program for conservation. She facilitated a dialog about the role of TKCP and other local NGO's in the 2013-2018 Action Strategy for SPREP.

Our Papua New Guinean staff also attended several workshops and conferences in country. Ben Sipa attended a series of The Nature Conservancy workshops on the significance of biodiversity and integrated development planning for the Madang Provincial Government. Ben also joined two workshops led by the PNG Department of Environment and Conservation, one to discuss how to best share information about the flora and fauna of PNG and one aimed to create social maps reflecting land tenure in a way the local land-owners can understand. During the latter part of 2013, Ben attended the International Tropical Timber Organization workshop in partnership with PNG Forest Authority on Community Forest Management in Port Moresby where they discussed a proposal for a pilot project collaboration.

Danny Samandingke represented TKCP in two national workshops. In April, Danny traveled to the Motupore Island Research Centre, Port Moresby for a workshop facilitated by ExxonMobil. The intent of the workshop was to bring together stakeholders from a pool of conservation organizations and funders to share successful conservation strategies and programs. Danny shared the TKCP Land Use Planning process with the participants. He stated that the LUP program, "stood out as one effective community-based strategy to help guide the CA development process". Danny also attended The Nature Conservancy workshop to add TKCP's contribution to the development of the first ever 'Community Based Natural Resource Management' module in Papua New Guinea which aims to provide an enhanced voice for the NGO sector in the government.

TKCP would like to recognize Karau Kuna for his recent appointment to the Morobe Province Climate Change Committee. (MPCCC) is an initiative of the PNG's Office of Climate Change and Development (OCCD) in an effort to promote the government's commitment to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The committee is comprised of technical and sub-working groups representing the public, private, and civil society sectors to address climate-related issues and act as advisors to District and Local Level Governments of the province. Kuna's appointment provides an opportunity to expose TKCP's work while lobbying for support at the provincial level. Undoubtedly, MPCCC will offer an avenue to learn what is happening at different levels of government, share ideas, make connections, and contribute to common goals for the country.

TKCP was also represented at several tree kangaroo meetings in the USA and Australia in 2013 (see research chapter for more information).





## New Footbridge in YUS and Office Openings in Ronji and in Gogiok villages in 2013!

Thanks to funding from the German Development Bank (KfW) on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) through Conservation International, TKCP and the YUS Conservation Organization (YUS CO) celebrated several official openings in 2013. These celebrations are a great way to share successes with the communities TKCP serves. The joint TKCP-PNG and YUS CO field offices

at Gogiok and Ronji both celebrated ribbon cutting ceremonies, marked with culturally significant songs, dances, and speeches. These offices, along with the other two field offices at Tapmange and Yawan villages, are equipped with solar power, desks, tables, printer-copiers, and VHF radios. The offices aim to bring TKCP's physical presence into the communities as well as provide TKCP-PNG and YUS CO with operational space.

Community members in the coastal zones observed the completion of a suspension footbridge over the Lower Uruwa River. This river crossing was identified by the YUS CO as the priority location for a footbridge in all of YUS as it is a major thoroughfare for students, community members from the coast as well as visitors from higher villages. This footbridge not only meets the safety needs of people, but also provides a vital link to local centers allowing for enhanced movement of goods throughout the rural communities. The footbridge began construction in 2012 and was finished in mid-2013. KfW also funded this project.





## Professional and Organizational Development

### TKCP-PNG

Success! TKCP-PNG, a non-governmental organization in Papua New Guinea, was legally registered in 2013. A strong core group of senior management who has been with TKCP for a long time leads this Lae-based NGO. All but one of the staff is from Papua New Guinea, and the majority are from YUS. TKCP-PNG is now in partnership with Woodland Park Zoo's TKCP. TKCP-PNG's new Board has members from TKCP at the Woodland Park Zoo, The Nature Conservancy of Papua New Guinea, Conservation International, and the Smithsonian Institution.

### Grant Writing Workshop

In 2013, Woodland Park Zoo Corporate and Foundation Gifts Officer Kate Neville received a Zoobright Scholarship to travel to Lae, Papua New Guinea to lead a grant writing workshop for TKCP. In October, Kate led a four-day workshop through which participating staff learned the entire process of working with foundations – how to define program goals, communicate those goals to funders, research funding sources, apply for support, and report on outcomes. Special thanks to the Birnbaum family for making this Zoobright Scholarship possible through the Z. William and Hilde M. Birnbaum Endowment Fund as well as Kate for her additional costs.



Singing celebration in Ronji village / photo by Mikal Nolan  
Grantwriting workshop / photo by Lisa Dabek

## UNDP gives \$US12m for biodiversity

By ARMSTRONG SAIYAMA

THE United Nations Development Program-Global Environment Fund (UNDP-GEF) will aid Papua New Guinea (PNG) with USD12 million to protect its biodiversity.

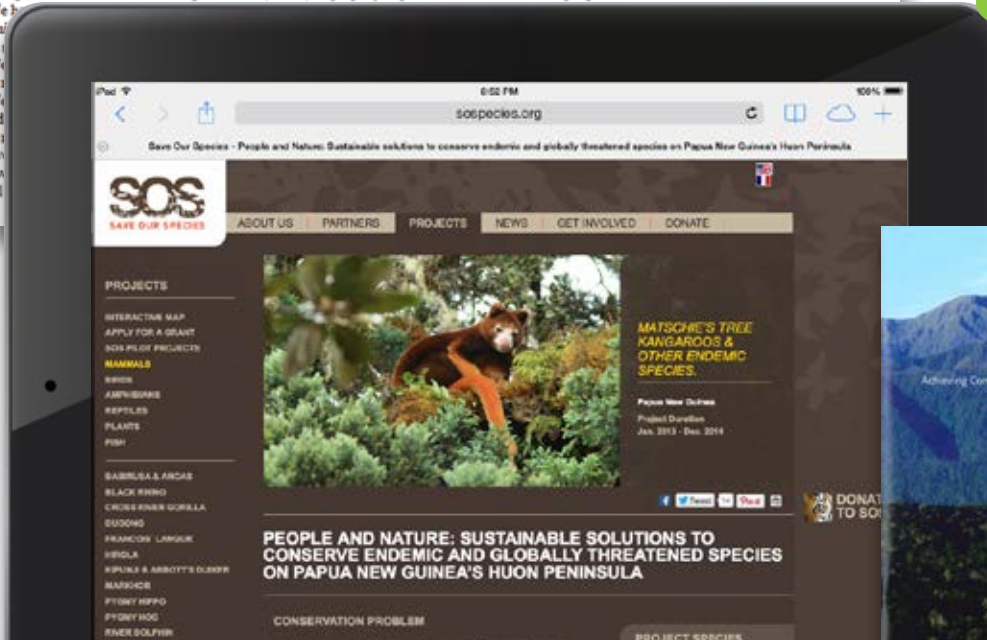
Minister for Environment and Conservation John Pundari revealed this last Thursday night at the Lae International Hotel.

UNDP-GEF supports countries in unleashing the economic potential of protected area systems and mainstreaming biodiversity management into economic activities. Minister Pundari said the Government will create a Biodiversity Trust Fund (BTF) to protect the biodiversity of the country's environment.

"BTF will have a structured process, and it will be accountable and transparent," he said. He added that the Government wanted to pool all the resources together using the BTF.

Mr Pundari said the UNDP-GEF will fund the YUS Conservation Area in Morobe Province, Tonda Wildlife Management Area in Western Province, Varirata National Park in Central Province and Managala Plateau Wildlife Management Conservation Area in Northern Province. He urged the Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) to properly implement their conservation programs.

"We have  
Minister  
He said  
"We  
He said  
He said  
"I will



## Outreach Publications and Media

Both the Papua New Guinean press and media throughout the world featured TKCP in 2013. TKCP also finalized some landmark publications in 2013.

1 The PNG national newspaper, the Post Courier, featured TKCP in an article in 2013. We are always excited to read the endorsements of our work from the PNG's Minister for Environment and Conservation the Honorable John Pundari.

2 We were fortunate to receive a large grant from the IUCN's Save Our Species fund for 2013 and 2014. You can read all about our partnership on their website at [http://www.sospecies.org/sos\\_projects/mammals/matschies\\_tree\\_kangaroo\\_wpz/](http://www.sospecies.org/sos_projects/mammals/matschies_tree_kangaroo_wpz/)

3 Conservation International published an important document on Lessons Learned from the YUS Conservation Area (Beehler, B. and A. Kirkman, eds. 2013. Lessons Learned from the Field – Achieving Conservation Success in Papua New Guinea. Conservation International, Arlington, Virginia). One article on lessons learned in YUS is by Zachary Wells, Lisa Dabek and Gai Kula. This document should help other similar organizations and projects in the future.





4 TKCP worked together with Conservation International to produce a Pocket Wildlife Guide to YUS. It's available on our website [www.zoo.org/treekangaroo](http://www.zoo.org/treekangaroo) and was distributed throughout YUS in 2013. It has been a great resource for our YUS Conservation Area Rangers and enjoyed by many local YUS residents.

5 You can listen to our program director, Dr. Lisa Dabek's invited talk at the Wilson Center from July 2013. The work she presented was highlighted in their final blog posting of 2013, available at <http://www.newsecuritybeat.org/2013/12/lisa-dabek-thinking-long-term-save-papua-guineas-tree-kangaroos/>

6 The government of PNG formally approved our guiding document, the YUS Landscape Plan in 2013. We published it and are providing it on our website at [www.zoo.org/treekangaroo](http://www.zoo.org/treekangaroo).



## OUR FIVE STRATEGIES:

### Accomplishments, Goals and Priorities

#### Highlights of TKCP's Accomplishments in 2013

#### 1 Managing the Conservation Area

Finalized YUS Landscape Plan which received official approval from the PNG National Government.

YUS CA Rangers patrolled the YUS CA one week per month to collect ecological monitoring data and continue the mapping work.

#### 2 Applying Our Research

Radio-collared three new tree kangaroos at a lower elevation of their range. Several YUS Rangers helped capture, collar, and track tree kangaroos in a new location.

Tracked three tree kangaroos for seven months and collected data for a comparative study of home range and habitat use with higher elevation data.

Colleagues published "Ornithological Survey in the Mountains of the Huon Peninsula, PNG" in the Bulletin of the British Ornithologists' Club.

#### Goals for 2014 and Beyond

Continue training for YUS Rangers.

Continue engagement with PNG local, provincial and national government for technical and institutional support.

Continue showcasing of the YUS CA success story at national, regional, and global conservation forums.

Pilot YUS marine ecosystem project to protect four marine turtle species, dugongs, and coral reefs.

Continue studies on home range and habitat use of tree kangaroos across their range.

Radio collar and track additional tree kangaroos at a lower elevation of their range for a study on home range and habitat use. Recapture those animals and fit them with National Geographic Society Crittercams to directly observe their behavior through video.

Continue participation in the AZA's Tree Kangaroo Species Survival Plan through the Woodland Park Zoo.

#### Fundraising Priorities

Ongoing operations for the management of the YUS CA.

Building capacity of YUS Ranger Program.

Creating informational signs for the YUS CA boundaries.

Supporting YUS Ward development plans with the Local Level Government.

Continuing pioneering research on tree kangaroos.

3

### Planning for a Sustainable Future

Completed Land Use Plans for 8 additional wards.

Conducted 8 leadership trainings for 135 people in the YUS villages at the LUPs.

Develop framework for monitoring effectiveness and implementation of LUPs.

Continue Land-use Planning for remaining five YUS CA Wards – completion targeted for 2014!

Building leadership capacity across YUS villages.

Researching and monitoring alpine grasslands, lowland forests, and marine ecosystems.

4

### Serving the Communities – Livelihoods, Education, Health, and Building Capacity

Granted scholarships to student teachers from YUS; 18 recipients since 2002 are now teaching in YUS!

Increased coffee quality, shipped 3 tons to Caffé Vita in 2013, installed 9 new solar dryers, and farmers now take a larger role in the process. Began registration process for coffee farmer association.

Completed footbridge on the Lower Uruwa River.

Continued development of the Community-based Organization, YUS CO.

The YUS CO received its first grant from UNDP-SGP to support a community designed and driven reforestation project in 2014.

Showcased the BALANCED Project at the Annual Morobe Show's Health Expo, with 100's of people visiting the TKCP booth.

Continue teacher training scholarship program.

Continue to build on the success of the YUS Conservation Coffee Project.

Develop quality control systems for YUS CA coffee.

Implement Pilot YUS Conservation Cocoa Project.

Encourage YUS CO to strengthen organizational management.

Support YUS CO to execute grant-funded community nursery and reforestation project.

Host a health training workshop for YUS health workers and Village Birth Attendants.

Continuing support of the YUS Conservation Coffee Project.

Launching a Pilot Conservation Cocoa Project.

Continuing support of the scholarship program for YUS teachers.

Launching new health initiatives.

5

### Operating TKCP

Finalized new NGO in Lae, TKCP-PNG.

Officially opened two new field offices in Ronji and Gogiok villages for Som and coastal areas of YUS.

Received first grant for TKCP-PNG from UNDP-SGP for Marine Ecology Research and Cocoa Pilot Project.

TKCP leadership team presented at Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme conference in Fiji, and participated in many workshops in PNG.

Held grant writing workshop for staff.

Support TKCP-PNG to implement its first externally –funded community project (Marine and Cocoa project).

Continue growth of Endowment.

Secure sustainable office space in Lae.

Pursue professional development opportunities for TKCP-PNG staff.

Attaining sustainable and safe housing and office space for TKCP staff in Lae.

Continuing capitalization of the YUS Conservation Endowment – today over US\$2.1 million!

# Support

TKCP depends on a huge number of people and organizations to help us accomplish what we do each year. Many of these donors are long-term sponsors, and we sincerely thank you for your enduring support.

We wish to thank the following patrons and friends of TKCP for their support in 2013. You helped make possible everything that we have shared in this annual report.

## TKCP Program Donors – 2013

### \$100,000 and above

Conservation International



Lifeweb Initiative of the German Federal Ministry of Environment (BMU) and

German Development Bank (KfW) – through partnership with Conservation International



### \$50,000 – \$99,999

IUCN Save Our Species



### \$20,000 – \$49,999

Anonymous

### \$5,000 – \$19,999

Columbus Zoological Park Assoc., Inc.



CREOI



CREOI  
Conservation, Research and  
Education Opportunities International

Merrick and Lorraine Darley

Enlyst Fund



Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund



New England Biolabs Foundation



PATH Foundation Philippines, Inc.

Sedgwick County Zoo



The Shared Earth Foundation



John F. Swift



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**\$1,000 – \$4,999**

Glen and Susan Beebe

The Boeing Company Matching Gifts

Cleveland Zoological Society/Cleveland Zoo

Rob and Marti Liddell

Ruth and Terry Lipscomb

Milwaukee County Zoo

Anne Mize

Santa Fe College Foundation, Inc.

Gena Shurtleff

Toronto Zoo

ZooParc de Beauval



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**Up to \$999**

Jane Alexander and Edwin Sherin

Anne Bartin

Rebecca Baumgold

Jennifer Carson

Meshach Chauvin

Jodi Cohen

Janice and William Fischel

Sabrina Foster

Greater Kansas City American Assn. of Zoo Keepers

Alberto Guijosa

Mike Kaputa and Suzanne Tomassi

Lincoln Children's Zoo

Jove Malcolm

Melbourne Zoo

Microsoft Corporation Matching Gifts

Andrea Perleberg

Robert Plotnick and Gay Jensen

Erin Robertson

San Antonio Zoological Society



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TKCP is grateful to all of the following supporters who helped us raise over \$2 Million to create the YUS Conservation Endowment, which continues to grow every year.

Thank you to the supporters from 2007 until 2013!

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**\$100,000 and above**

Anonymous

Conservation International

Estate of Lorene E. Currier

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**\$50,000 – \$99,999**

Cammi and Jeff Libby

George Meyer and Maria Semple

Robert Plotnick and Gay Jensen

Swift Family Fund

John F. Swift

Margie Wetherald and Len Barson

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**\$20,000 – \$49,999**

Blumenthal-Edsforth Family

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# Thanks

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The success of the Tree Kangaroo Conservation Program relies on all of our partners, supporters, and friends worldwide. Thank you for your collaboration and support.

Woodland Park Zoo's signature field program is TKCP, and numerous departments and colleagues within the zoo help to make our work possible. We extend a special thanks to the following colleagues at WPZ:

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Division including Dr. Fred Koontz,  
Bobbi Miller, and Dr. Robert Long

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Beth Carlyle-Askew, Wendy Gardner,  
Jennifer Pramuk, Helen Shewman, and  
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Henrietta Philips

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their villages

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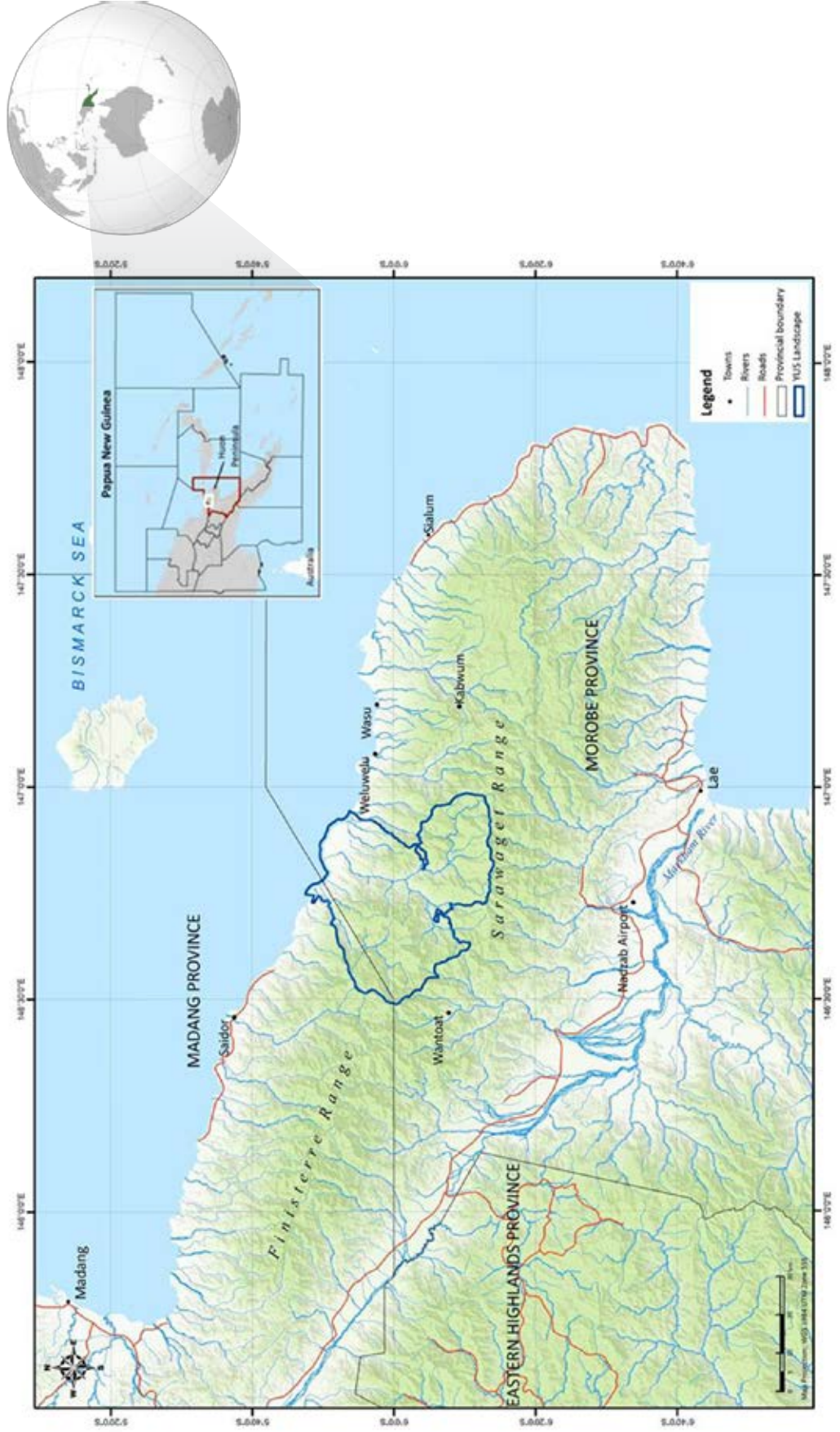
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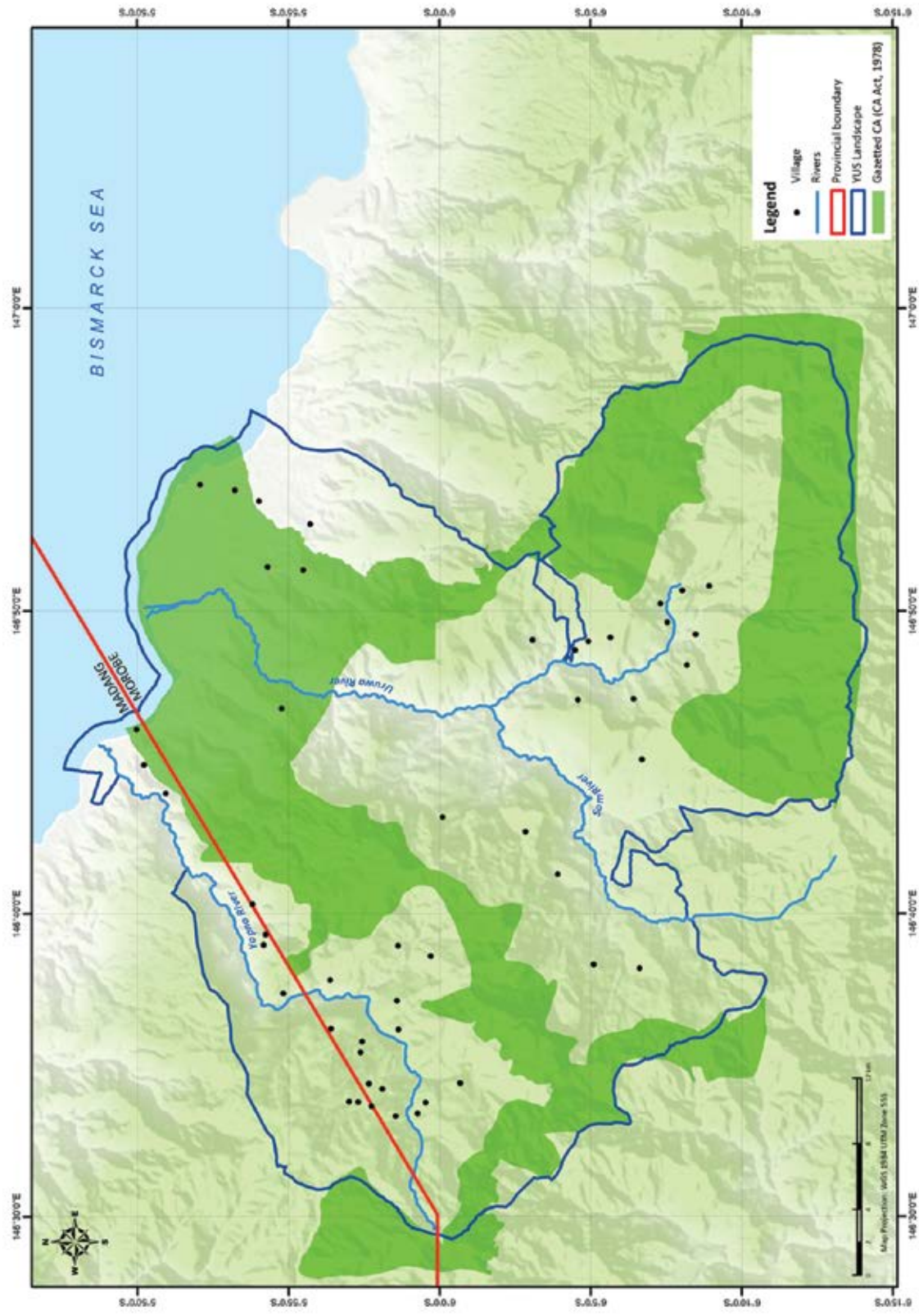
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# Papua New Guinea











# TREE KANGAROO CONSERVATION PROGRAM



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For more information and  
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