

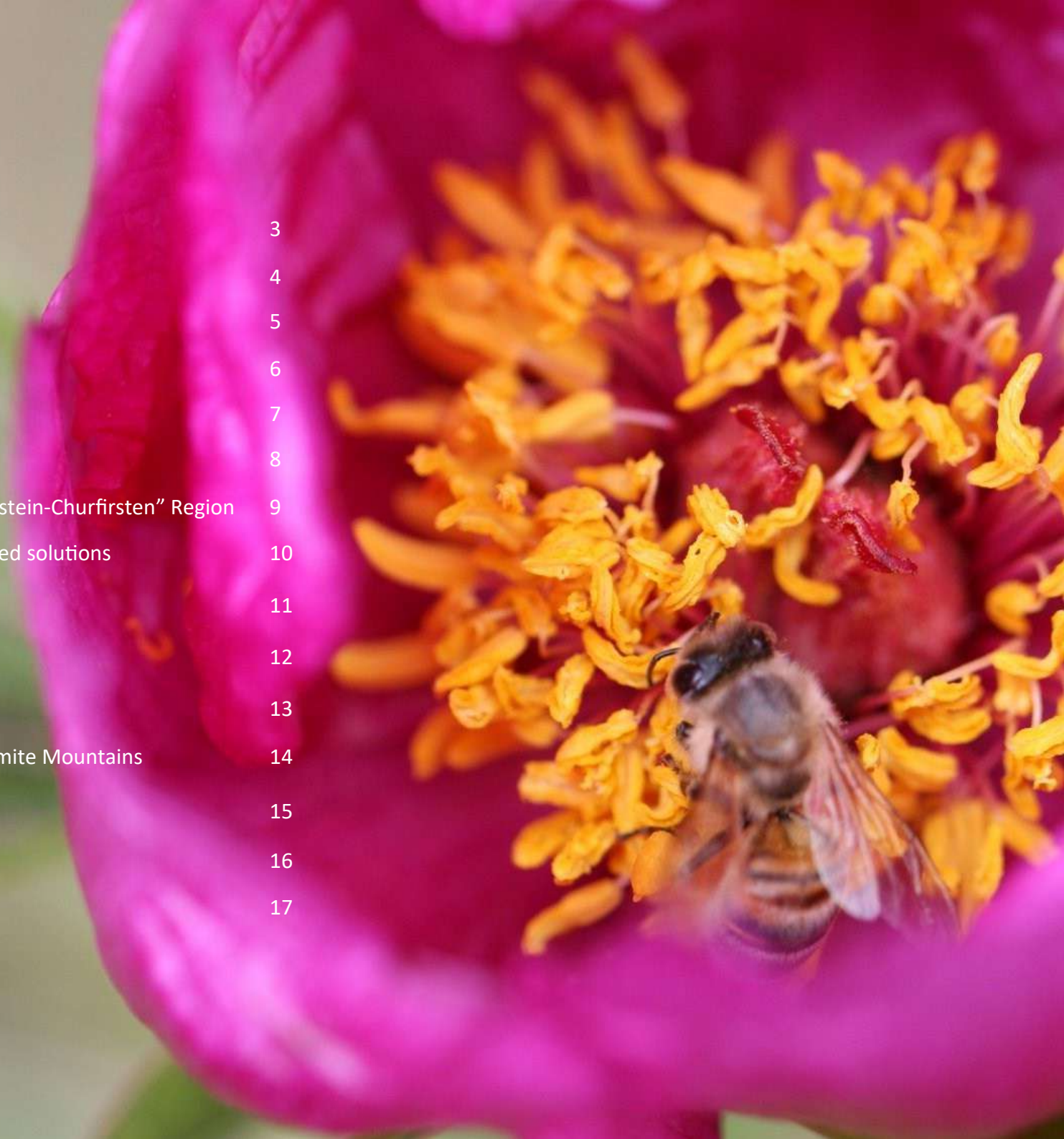


# La Lomellina Foundation ANNUAL REPORT 2024

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## Our mission

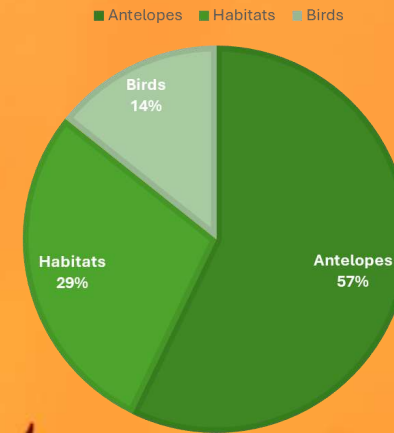
The La Lomellina Foundation is committed to safeguarding the intricate balance of life on Earth, a result of millions of years of evolution. The genetic diversity that underpins all species is irreplaceable and essential to the planet's natural harmony. This biological richness is not merely a resource but a legacy that defines the essence of our world. Protecting it is both a duty and a necessity.

The Foundation's mission centres on the respect, development, and protection of nature and wildlife, as well as fostering education and cultural awareness in these areas. We work to promote the dignity and survival of fauna, even in the face of shrinking habitats, by supporting initiatives that prioritize habitat restoration, collaboration with local communities, and long-term sustainability. Our mission is to encourage the conservation of wildlife in all its forms both in Switzerland and abroad.

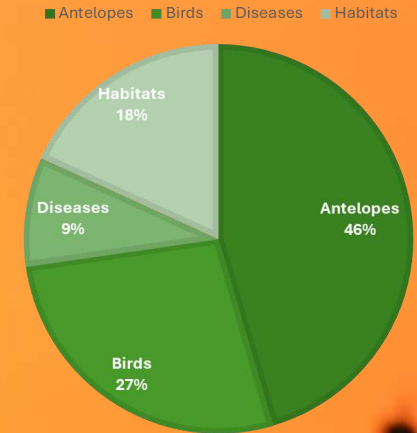
As a grant-making organization, we fund impactful projects designed to benefit both biodiversity and human communities. Special attention is given to initiatives focusing on endangered antelopes, the restoration of their habitats, ensuring that supported projects leave a lasting positive imprint and a collaboration with local populations and authorities. We aim to empower local populations, equip them to continue the work independently, and foster environmental education to inspire future generations.

Ultimately, the La Lomellina Foundation seeks to nurture a harmonious coexistence between humanity and nature, safeguarding biodiversity as an invaluable treasure for the future of all life on Earth.

FOCUS OF THE PROJECTS  
2024



FOCUS OF THE PROJECTS  
2019-2024



## Our organization

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### The Board

Mr Carlo Campanini Bonomi, *Chairman of the Board*

Mr Andrea Campanini Bonomi, *member*

Mr Paolo Bottini, *member*

Mr Carlo Croff, *member*

Mr Michl Ebner, *member*

### The Team

Mr Carlo Campanini Bonomi, *Founder*

Ms Marta Falabrino, *General Manager and environmental consultant*





# A message from the Founder and Chairman

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To all our friends,

Looking back at the past year, we are deeply proud of the achievements of our Foundation. Our mission to safeguard biodiversity, protect natural habitats, and engage local communities is more vital than ever. In an era of rapid climate change and increasing environmental pressures, every effort to protect nature represents an essential step towards ensuring a sustainable future.

This year, we have carried out conservation projects in various parts of the world, from ecological corridors in Nepal to the protection of ancient Alpine forests, from sustainable water resource management to the safeguarding of endangered species such as the Saola. We have invested not only in ecosystem protection but also in environmental education, as we firmly believe that only through knowledge and awareness can lasting change be achieved.

One of the fundamental aspects of our work is the balanced management of predators and habitats. Coexistence between humans and wildlife is possible only through a scientific approach, best practices, and the direct involvement of local communities. For this reason, we have promoted initiatives that integrate conservation with sustainable development, giving local populations the tools and opportunities to work alongside nature, understanding its value, and becoming actively involved in its protection.

Collaboration between institutions, local authorities, and citizens is the cornerstone on which to build a more harmonious future. To ensure that our initiatives have a lasting impact, we work closely with governments, universities, non-governmental organizations, and, above all, those who live daily in contact with nature. We have enthusiastically witnessed how involving local communities in fieldwork not only strengthens biodiversity conservation but also contributes to the creation of economic and social opportunities.

2024 was a very busy year for the Foundation, although we managed to identify new projects that we were able to approve for our support we have, as we mentioned in our last year report, found great difficulties examining potentially valid proposals that could fit our mission and we continue to investigate, also with the help of our partners, all valid possibilities.

This year, we also conducted several field visits to monitor the progress of key projects we support. In Mongolia, we assessed the conservation efforts for the endangered Saiga antelope, a species critical to the steppe ecosystem. In Valsemana, Spain, we reviewed the data collected over 20 years on the roe deer population, a project that provides invaluable insights into wildlife management and habitat conservation. Additionally, in Switzerland, we visited a larch forest habitat restoration project, which aims to revitalize ecosystems and promote biodiversity. These on-the-ground experiences have been essential in ensuring the effectiveness of our initiatives and strengthening our partnerships with local stakeholders.

I should be emphasized that none of our yearly achievements would not have been possible without the dedication and work of our Director Marta Falabrino.

Hope for the future lies in our ability to unite forces and talents to face environmental challenges with determination and passion. Every small action counts, and together we can build a tomorrow where humans and nature coexist in harmony.

We will continue to work with dedication so that La Lomellina can be a symbol of hope and concrete commitment to our planet.

With gratitude,

Carlo Campanini Bonomi



# Sustainable Development Goals

The Foundation contributes to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, (SDGs) defined by the United Nations as a strategy 'to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all':

- 1) No poverty: end poverty in all its forms everywhere
- 3) Good health and well-being: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
- 4) Quality education: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all
- 5) Gender equality: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
- 6) Clean water and sanitation: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
- 8) Decent work and economic growth: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all
- 11) Sustainable cities and communities: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
- 13) Climate action: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts
- 14) Life below water: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development
- 15) Life on land: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss
- 17) Partnerships for the goals: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

## SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



## Our grant-making

The following principles guide our work and funding, which are at the heart of our strategy:

- Foster the long-term viability of wild animal populations (especially endangered ones) and control the factors that influence their decline;
- Support all efforts to maintain, restore and protect critical habitats and functional ecosystems;
- Support captive breeding of threatened species and their reintroduction into the wild;
- Promote the sustainable use of natural resources, particularly forests, water and pastures.

The projects we support must guarantee a lasting impact on the environment in which they are implemented and must enable our partners to continue their work once the Foundation has ended the collaboration.

## Project supported in 2024

Lomellina is a grant-making Foundation; therefore, to achieve its mission it mainly aims at allocating straight grants to applicants to carry out socially useful projects. The aim of our projects is to support the conservation of wildlife for the benefit of humans, environment, and habitats worldwide. Projects that pursue the same goals, with a focus on wildlife, can apply for our support.







## Roe deer study in Valsemana experimental centre – Centro Cingético Valsemana

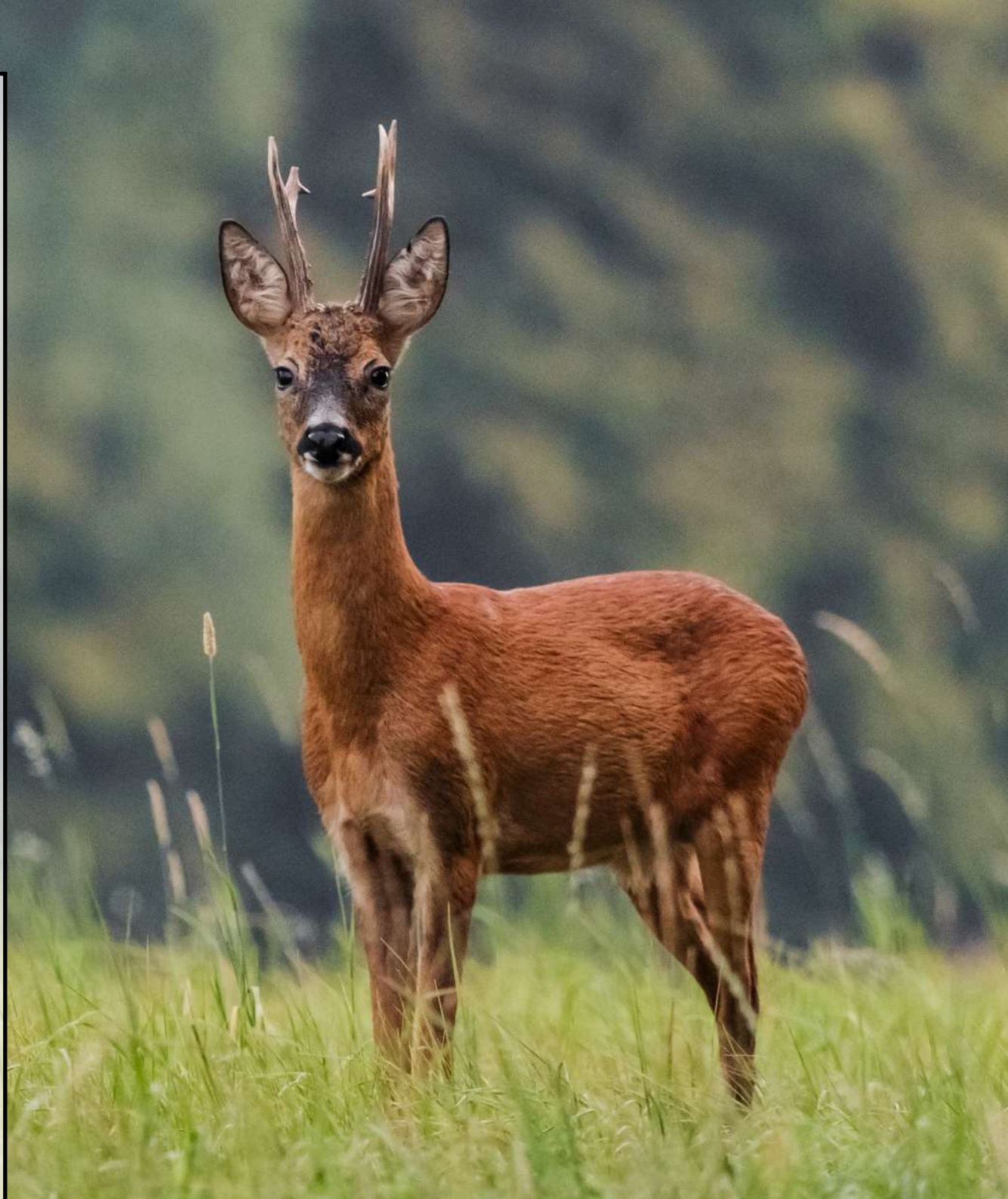
**T**his project involves analyzing data, obtaining results, and publishing findings in various formats (books, magazines, and online) from a 20-year study on roe deer (*Capreolus capreolus*), conducted at the Valsemana Centre, a facility managed by the Junta de Castilla y León in the Spanish province of León.

The roe deer are kept in semi-freedom within 16 enclosures of varying sizes, receiving supplementary feeding—consisting of cereals and fodder—only once a week. The study includes extensive research on the antlers of males, as well as the biology and behavior of both sexes.

In 2024, the focus was on finalizing the book's manuscript, designing its layout, and reaching out to potential partners to help disseminate the publication.

The work was successfully completed on schedule.

Partners: Centro Cingético Valsemana and Junta de Castilla y León







## Mongolia's 100 springs of life – WWF Mongolia

**W**hile focusing on the critically endangered saiga antelope, this project plays a crucial role in conserving and promoting valuable habitats by protecting natural springs, ensuring sustainable meadows and pastureland for both the saiga and local herding families.

Following a drastic population decline between 2016 and 2018—caused by goat plague, severe drought, and harsh winters—the Mongolian saiga has made a remarkable recovery. By November 2024, its population had reached 23,215, surpassing the previous peak of 15,540 recorded in 2023.

The project now aims to sustain this success by supporting the species' natural expansion and recovery while continuing habitat restoration efforts. However, given the population's ongoing vulnerability, it remains essential to reinforce conservation measures to secure its long-term survival.

Partners: WWF Mongolia, WWF Switzerland, Local authorities, Mongol Els National Park, IUCN Antelope Specialist Group







## Habitat Improvements for Capercaillies in the “Alpstein-Churfirsten” Region — WWF Switzerland

**T**his project aims to enhance the long-term living conditions of the Western Capercaillie (*Tetrao urogallus*), a charismatic and vulnerable bird species in the Swiss Alps (Canton of Appenzell Ausserrhoden). By improving the specific habitat conditions essential for their survival, the project also contributes to overall biodiversity in the region.

To achieve this, professional forest management measures such as logging and thinning have been implemented to create diverse forest structures that benefit the capercaillie. Additionally, with the support of volunteers from WWF and the Bergwaldprojekt, forest soil in key areas has been cleared. Educational initiatives—including school visits, excursions, and snow hikes—help raise awareness among children and adults about minimizing wildlife disturbances and the importance of preserving diverse, ecologically valuable habitats.

Partners: WWF Switzerland, Canton of Appenzell Ausserrhoden – Forestry Service, and Bergwaldprojekt (volunteers).







## Wetlands project – Fundación Fondena

**T**he objective of this project is to create a pilot wetland with optimal conditions for research and the development of strategies to improve water quality parameters, hydrobiology, and biodiversity.

Additionally, the wetland will serve as a biological wastewater treatment system, addressing deficiencies in the current treatment of industrial (particularly agro-food) and residential wastewater.

By 2024, the project has completed field research and drafted two work plans, which are now pending final authorization from the water authority. Once approval is granted, the municipality will replace the damaged industrial wastewater treatment system as required. This will be followed by the restoration of the Arroyo del Raso wetland, in accordance with the construction plan. Meanwhile, the scientific team will focus on monitoring, technology demonstrations, and environmental outreach.

Partners: Fundación Fondena, Institute for Game and Wildlife Research (IREC, CIC-UCLM-JCCM), Regional Centre for Water Studies (CREA, UCLM), and Institute for Environmental Diagnostics and Water Studies (IDAEA, CSIC).







## Recovery of Anveuda – Fondazione Dötra

**W**ith the reopening of the larch grove, conditions will be improved to strengthen the presence of the Black Grouse in the intervention area of Canton Ticino, Switzerland.

The silvicultural works aim to restore, maintain, and enhance the traditional management of pastured larch forests. By opening up wooded areas, these efforts promote the development of grazed grasslands, facilitating the extensive use of restored agroforestry areas for grazing.

The planned interventions began in September 2023 and were completed in autumn 2024. In spring 2025, volunteers will clean the land to ensure optimal conditions for maintaining the project's long-term impact.

Partners: Fondazione Dötra, Forest Section and Office for Nature and Landscape - Dipartimento del Territorio (Canton Ticino), Blenio Municipality (Olivone), Zurich Ornithological Society (vogelwarte), Swiss Landscape Fund.





## The Dhanushadham Wildlife Corridor – Pipal Tree

**T**hrough a combination of rewilding and sustainable livelihoods development, the project aims to establish a community-managed wildlife corridor in Dhanusha District, southern Nepal. This model corridor will ensure long-term wildlife protection while delivering lasting benefits to local communities.

Following the course of the Baluwa River—from the Chure Hills to the Dhanushadham Forest Conservation Area—the corridor will provide a safe passage for wildlife, reducing the risk of Human-Wildlife Conflict (HWC).

Key project components include reforestation and wetland restoration, community training on maintaining a healthy and sustainable ecosystem, guidance on coexisting safely with wildlife, and support for developing sustainable livelihoods—particularly for women. Additionally, the project will focus on environmental education for schoolchildren, students, and the broader public.

Partners: Pipal Tree, Nepal's Department of Forestry, Dhanushadham Municipality, Mithila Wildlife Trust and Lily's Leaves







## Saving Saola: Innovative Conservation in the Annamite Mountains — Saola Foundation

**T**he Saola, endemic to the Annamite Mountains of Laos and Vietnam, is one of the world's most endangered large mammals, with likely fewer than 100 remaining in the wild and none in captivity.

The organization's mission is to protect Saolas in their natural habitat and conserve other threatened wildlife in the Annamite forests. To achieve this, this project will intensify efforts to detect Saolas while also investing in long-term national conservation capacity in Laos. A key focus will be the development, growth, and mentorship of the Foundation's Annamite Mountains Research and Conservation Team.

Partners: Saola Foundation, IUCN's Species Survival Commission - Saola Working Group (SWG), Government of Lao PDR (GoL), Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), Working Dogs for Conservation (WD4C) and CyberTracker International

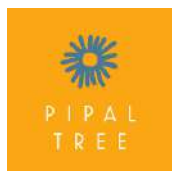
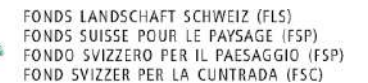




# Our partners

La Lomellina Foundation wishes to thank all the partner organisations and institutions for the successful cooperation.

Below are the partner with whom we collaborate or have done so in the past.





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