

Annual account and financial report 2020 Leo Foundation

Overview

At the beginning of January 2020, the Leo Foundation had a cash reserve of € 5,567.68. Part of this amount was earmarked for ongoing activities as part of our program Kenya and Nepal. Strategic reserves were relatively low due to our investment in the ALWG meeting in November 2019. Therefore, the aim for this year was to replenish our strategic reserves and be conservative in additional spending. At the end of the year, this reserve was € 19,566.80, with seven projects still running and expected expenses in 2021.

Because of the COVID pandemic, we were forced to delay several of our activities and were only able to close two projects during the course of the year. These two projects were supporting activities in our ongoing programs in Kenya and Cameroon. We kept a strict policy to keep between 5% and 10% from each project to cover overhead costs. These constitute operational costs, including memberships of the Leo Foundation (IUCN, Globe Guards), but also to allow for pre-financing expenses in order to execute projects efficiently. E.g. this year, the Leo Foundation committed to support a zoo in Burkina Faso and sent necessary materials for collecting samples of their lions.

Projects and activities

During 2020 the following projects were running, listed by country and source of funding:

- 1) Research on tiger and fishing cat in Nepal: Website donations (total amount: €10,000.00)
- 2) Support PhD student Kenya for fieldwork and labwork: Rufford Foundation (total amount: €6,418.80)
- 3) Support tiger project Panna NP, India: DeFries BajPai (total amount: €4,927.11)
- 4) Support PhD student Senegal for fieldwork and materials: Panthera-Kaplan (total amount: €4,192.07)
- 5) Support PhD student Kenya: personal donation (total amount: €1,500)
- 6) Support Lion Guards Cameroon: GlobeGuards 2020 (total amount: €917.65)
- 7) Support MSc student Kenya on collaboration kleptoparasitism: donation (total amount: €350.00; Leo Foundation committed to contribute €250.00 to this collaboration)
- 8) Support PhD students Senegal and Kenya: other donations (total amount: €1,880.00)

In addition, our projects on fishing cat and leopard in Nepal (financed by website donations and the GlobeGuards auction in 2019) are still running.

In total, we support 1 Nepalese, 1 Senegalese and 2 Kenyan PhD students, and one Kenyan MSc. student.

Note that the donations mentioned above were earmarked for specific projects, and hence are included as such in the report.

Summary and Conclusions

An overview of the distribution of funds in 2020 is shown in Figure 1. Summarizing the results per country, 35% of our received funding is dedicated to our tiger/fishing cat project in Nepal. 22% of the received funding is dedicated to lion-livestock conflict research and management in Kenya (supporting two Kenyan PhD students). 17% of the funding is earmarked for a tiger project in India, and 15% of the funding serves to support a PhD student working on carnivores and human-wildlife conflict in Senegal. Finally, 3% of the received funding is used to continue our support for the lion guards, active in monitoring large carnivores in Cameroon.

It should be noted that part of the funding received in 2019 and 2020 has not yet been spent, and will be invested in projects during 2021. Of the activities mentioned above, projects 5) and 6) are the only ones that were closed, although the overarching programs are still running and we will look for continuous support. All other projects are still ongoing.

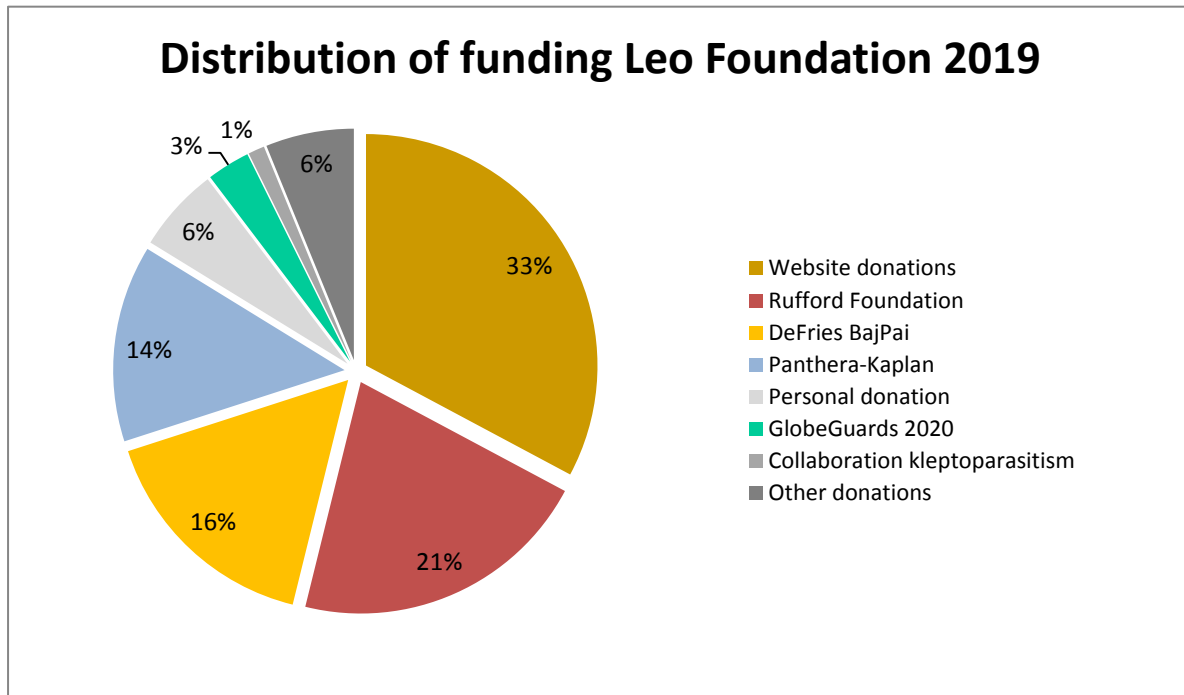


Figure 1. Distribution of available funds for the Leo Foundation in 2020.

An overview of expenses in 2020 is shown in Figure 2, organized by country. Expenses in the category 'Other' include costs for bank services and transactions, maintenance website, etc. Biggest expenses within this category are the yearly contribution to the IUCN (€ 413.76) and the annual contribution to the Globe Guards (€250.00).

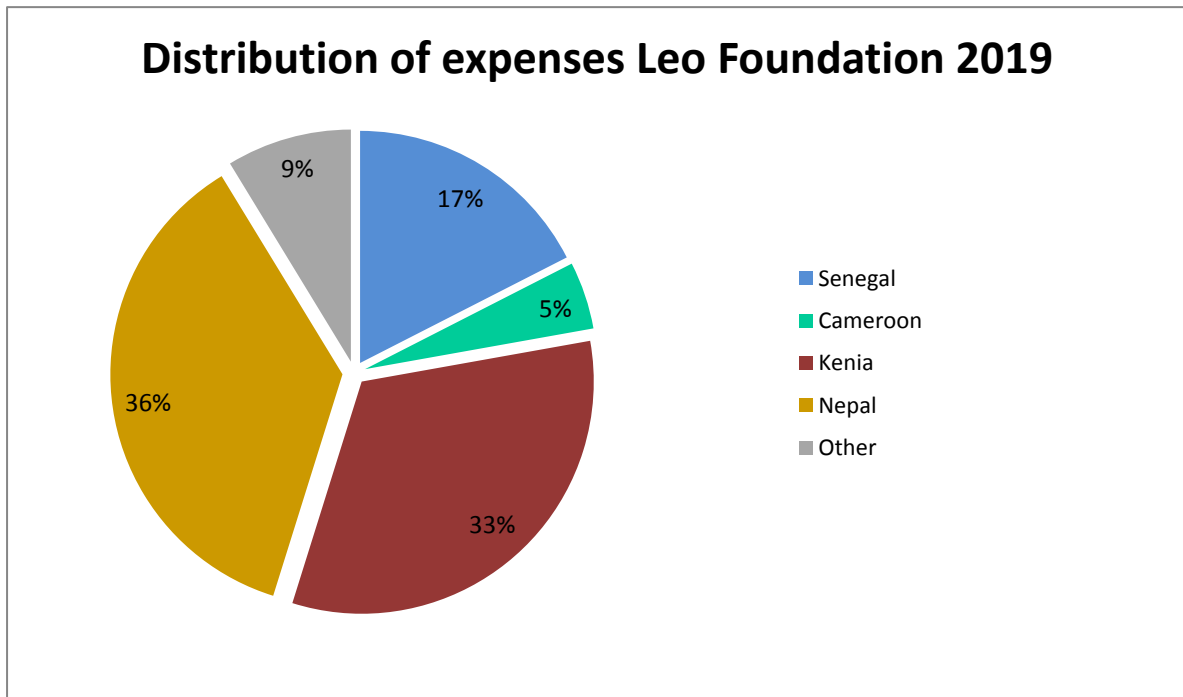


Figure 2. Distribution of expenses of the Leo Foundation in 2020.

Expenses assigned to Cameroon and Kenya are referring to activities which were successfully finished in 2020. Projects in Senegal and Nepal are still running. In addition, the fishing cat and leopard project in Nepal (both funded in 2019) were affected by the COVID pandemic and no costs were made during 2020. These projects, as well as new projects for which we received funding in 2020 are expected to continue in 2021.

All projects were managed properly and all unexpected expenses could be covered from the budgets. The policy to obtain overhead for each project (minimum 5%, maximum 10%) has been implemented successfully.

Expectations for 2021

We had a substantial number of proposal rejections in 2020. In order to increase chances to obtain funding, we have to focus on grant opportunities with reasonable success rates. The board created a spreadsheet with grant opportunities, which provides a helpful overview for our annual schedule. It is advisable to think about responsibilities of the board members regarding the preparation of grant proposals. We agreed that one board member should have the lead in monitoring deadlines for grant applications, via an table shared on Google Drive, accessible to all Leo board members.

We are planning to continue our support of the members of the Alliance Panthera leo leo, which was formed after the ALWG meeting in 2019. However, we need to find suitable funding opportunities to do so.

Although the majority of the cash reserves have already been earmarked and several projects have been delayed due to the COVID pandemic, the treasurer feels confident that we will be able to build up our reserves further in the coming year. The treasurer does not foresee any issues in 2021.

Overview financial status

	January 2020	January 2021
Reserves Triodos internet spaarrekening	€ 1,466.71	€ 5,776.10
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Total cash reserves	€ 5,567.68	€ 19,566.80

Income

Website donations	€ 10,000.00
Rufford Foundation	€ 6,418.80
DeFries BajPai	€ 4,927.11
Panthera-Kaplan	€ 4,192.07
Personal donation	€ 1,800.00
GlobeGuards 2020	€ 917.65
Collaboration kleptoparasitism	€ 350.00
Other donations	€ 1,880.00
TOTAL	€ 30,485.63

Expenditures

Senegal	Advance costs visit PhD student Senegal	€ 410.06
	Ticket PhD student Senegal (will be restituted)	€ 589.94
	Ticket PhD student Senegal	€ 576.22
	Materials (laptop) PhD student Senegal	€ 1,306.96
Cameroon	Materials Lion Guards	€ 775.00
Kenya	Collaring operation Kenya	€ 5,381.30
Nepal	GPS collars tiger and fishing cat	€ 6,010.00
Other	IUCN membership dues	€ 413.76
	GlobeGuards contribution	€ 250.00
	Website hosting	€ 225.06
	Support zoo Bukina Faso	€ 53.50
	Others	€ 495.23
TOTAL		€ 16,487.03