



PICASSOfilm[®]

Presents

ECOCENTRICS

*Humanity is threatening the nature and wildlife;
Meet the extraordinary individuals changing the narrative*

Documentary series
6 x 48 min.





Kristine Tompkins

“Conservation is not the problem, the global economy is the problem. The shift around what defines success. Success now is development and generally at all costs.



Afroz Shah

I am an ocean lover and feel that we owe a duty to our ocean to make it free of plastic. I just hope this is the beginning for coastal communities across India and the world.



Topher White

“ Illegal logging and poaching go undetected because there simply aren’t enough people on the ground to detect and react to every threat”



Belinda Low Mackey

“Reducing animals’ freedom in this sense could be seen as a kind of hubris, human arrogance in trying to control everything that goes on in the world”



The Black Mambas Anti-Poaching Unit

With a passion for wildlife and rhino conservation, these women are the voice in the community through their conservation work.

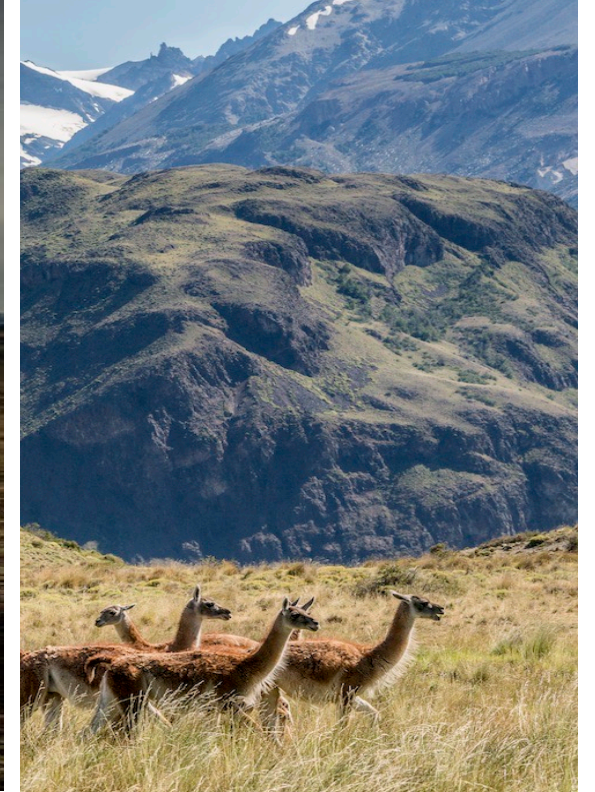


Mario Cipollone

“Working for nature conservation means working for the life of our planet, including human beings. It is something that pays off”

ECOCENTRICS 6 x 48 min.

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EPISODE 1: Kris Tompkins: Patagonia Conservation

Kristine McDivitt Tompkins (born in 1950) is the president and co-founder of Tompkins Conservation, an American conservationist, a UN Patron of Protected Areas and former CEO of Patagonia, Inc.. For nearly thirty years, she has committed her career to protecting and restoring Chile and Argentina's wild beauty and biodiversity by creating national parks, restoring wildlife, inspiring activism, and fostering economic vitality as a result of conservation. Having protected over 14 million acres of parklands in Chile and Argentina through Tompkins Conservation and its partners, Kristine and Douglas Tompkins, her late husband who died in 2015, are considered some of the most successful national park-oriented philanthropists in history.



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EPISODE 2: Afroz Shah: Coastline cleanup hero

In 1998, aged 18, he left for Indonesia with the support of actress Muriel Robin, who financed his trip. He wanted to devote himself to the protection of the gibbons he knew to be threatened by the disappearance of the forests. Once there, he realised that deforestation exceeded what he had imagined and the serious threat it posed to wildlife, especially gibbons. Living in the trees, they are the first to be affected if the forest disappears. He then created a first care center in Borneo (Kalimantan), to collect the gibbons rescued from trafficking as there was no infrastructure, then, to receive these animals. In 2003, he opened a second health center on the island of Sumatra and created the Kalaweit FM radio station which broadcasts in Borneo to a young audience. Since 2012, the organisation has been buying hectares of forest to create protected private reserves, the size of which is increasing each year. They allow the creation of micro reserves where wild animals are safe from deforestation and trafficking. In his own words "if you do not have enemies doing conservation in Indonesia, you are doing a bad job", Chaneé and his family have been a target of numerous threats and attacks. But he never thought to stop fighting for the good cause.



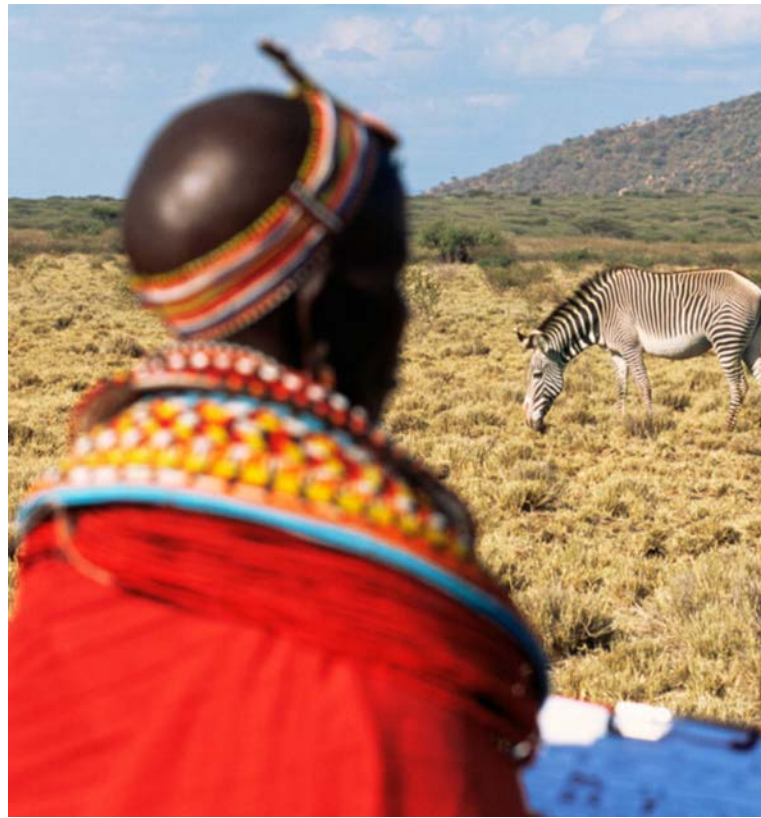


EPISODE 3 : Topher White: The Electronic 'Ears'

American technologist Topher White has come up with one possible answer: using mobile phones to create a network of forest "ears" that can report illegal activity as well as live-stream the sounds of wildlife in remote regions such as the Amazon, Central America and Asia. White's NGO, Rainforest Connection (RFCx) has built the hardware and software that are able to cheaply and effectively protect rainforests from illegal logging and poaching around the world, with RFCx technology deployed in 9 countries, 5 continents and protecting nearly 3,000 square kilometres of rainforest. The same technology is also being used to monitor the sounds of rare or important species of birds and animals, providing scientists with a way to study the health of wildlife populations in a given area, adding momentum to conservation. The sounds are live-streamed, creating a vast digital library that gives scientists raw acoustic data.



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EPISODE 4 : Belinda Low Mackey: Saving Grevy's zebras

Grevy's zebras are critically endangered. Only 2,000 adults remain in the wild, and their range has shrunk from a significant swath of the horn of Africa to a few places in northern Kenya and just across the border with Ethiopia. Belinda was born and raised in Kenya. She has 19 years of experience working with Grevy's zebra, including 17 years working with communities on Grevy's zebra conservation. In 2003, she started Grevy's Zebra Scout program while working for the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy. This basic approach involved pastoral communities in the conservation of Grevy's zebra and led Belinda to co-found Grevy's Zebra Trust in 2007. The result was the restoration of millions of acres of savannah and the assured livelihoods of 100,000 herders. GZT is the only organization in the world fully dedicated to rescuing Grevy's zebra and protecting their habitats in the community pastures of Kenya and Ethiopia. GZT's valuable work is done in partnership with local communities that share the land with Grevy's zebras.



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EPISODE 5 : The Black Mambas : The anti-poaching unit

The Black Mambas anti-poaching unit was founded in 2013 by Trans-frontier Africa NPC to protect the western Olifants region of the Balule Nature Reserve. Black Mamba teams work on the concept of the "Broken Window" philosophy, striving to make the protected area the most undesirable, most difficult and least profitable place for poaching of any species. With a passion for wildlife and rhino conservation, these women are the voice in the community through their conservation work. The objectives of the Black Mamba project are not only the protection of rhinos through the boots on the ground, but also to be a role model in their communities. These 23 young rangers and 7 environmental observers want their communities to understand that the benefits are greatest through rhino conservation rather than poaching, addressing the social and moral decay that is a product of rhino poaching within their communities. They are concerned for the sake of their children as the false economy has brought morals and narcotics into their communities.



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EPISODE 6 : Mario Cipollone: Rewilding Apennines, Italy

Mario has been working in conservation since 2012. In 2019 he became the Team Leader of Rewilding Apennines. Mario wants people visiting the Central Apennines to know that the natural landscape is the most valuable asset that we all own. Protecting it doesn't impede individual wealth, but make all of us richer, thanks to a heritage of natural resources, wildlife, and healthy environments from which preservation we may all benefit. The Central Apennines is now a true biodiversity hotspot, with real wilderness at the very heart of bustling Italy, only 1.5 hours from Rome. The Central Apennines, a majestic range of limestone peaks reaching an altitude of almost 3,000 metres concealing caves, deep canyons, some of Europe's oldest beech forests and a wide range of grasslands – inhabited by the Marsican brown bear, grey wolf, Apennine chamois, red deer, golden eagle, vultures and an astonishing set of endemics.



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ADDITIONAL EPISODE IDEAS

[Renata Cao](#) has been in the field for 15 years. Worked in Maya forest, where we have the second largest Jaguar population.

[Prem Kawar](#)- Ranger from India, first girl to go to school and join the forest department in her family, Brilliant speaker, was keynote speaker at the world ranger congress, even Dr Jane Goodall appreciated her work. Doesn't speak English but as the director of Korean movie *Parasite* said "Once you overcome the 1-inch-tall barrier of subtitles, you will be introduced to so many more amazing films," and we will be introduced to amazing characters of the conservation field.

[Hamera Aisha](#)- working on dolphins, snow leopards and wildlife crime an insanely male dominated field in Pakistan (for that matter rest of the world). [Medium blog](#) post by Hamera on the plight of the river dolphin.



Prem Kawar



Hamera Aisha



Renata Cao



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