

Orang Utan Republik Foundation aka The Orangutan Project-USA 2309 Santa Monica Blvd., #828 Santa Monica, CA 90404 (310) 401-6602 info@orangutanrepublik.org

## Orang Utan Republik Foundation



Saving a species through education initiatives & innovative collaborative projects that inspire people to action.

OrangUtanRepublik.org

### The orangutan crisis

All three species of wild orangutans are critically endangered, and only found on the islands of Borneo and Sumatra. The two Sumatran species, *Pongo abelii* and the newly described *Pongo tapanuliensis*, consist of only 13,800 and 800 animals, respectively. On Borneo 70,000—100,000 orangutans remain. It's estimated that approximately 10% of the populations are lost each year. Between 1999 and 2015, over 100,000 Bornean orangutans died due to loss of habitat and hunting At this rate of decline, the species is projected to become extinct in much of its range within 10 years.

While rain forest habitat loss is the main threat to orangutans, they're also killed as pests or in the process of acquiring them as pets. Others struggle to compete in dwindling pockets of habitat and starve. To save the orangutan from extinction, local Indonesians must come to value orangutans and take action.



### How OURF is helping

The Orang Utan Republik Foundation (OURF) was founded in 2004 as an initiative to help save wild orangutans from extinction through education initiatives and innovative collaborative projects.

## Raising awareness locally & globally



Together with local partners in Indonesia, OURF uses a variety of programs and approaches to achieve its mission, including:

- Hosting International Orangutan Day, Orangutan Caring Week, and Earth Day activities that shine a spotlight on the orangutan's plight.
- Running the Community Education & Conservation Program (CECP), which reduces human-orangutan conflict through education and by improving the livelihoods of villagers who live near orangutan habitat.

- Providing scholarships, internships, and fellowships to promote higher education and to develop a cadre of graduates that are advocates for the species.
- Promoting public campaigns to stop the illegal orangutan trade, destructive actions such as converting biodiverse forests to unsustainable monocultures, and mining in habitat areas.
- Helping our local partners to become more effective and accountable conservation educators in all sectors of society through capacity building.
- Organizing conferences, seminars, workshops, and summits that bring together Indonesian educators, government officials, and other stakeholders.
- Networking with other organizations and participating in policy-making to voice concerns about the uncertain future of the orangutan.



#### **Our vision**

OURF continues to positively impact attitudes and perceptions of local people regarding the



orangutan and its habitat. Over time, we expect that local people will increase their appreciation of orangutans and embrace the species as one symbol of national pride. In the long term, this will help ensure orangutan survival and realize OURF's vision in which orangutans are **"Free to be Wild."** 

OURF is a 501[c](3) organization with Tax ID number 26-0880405. The funds raised are used to meet its mission of saving the orangutan through education, outreach and innovative collaborative projects in Indonesia and elsewhere.

#### **OURF** leadership



OURF President Gary Shapiro, Ph.D. became fascinated with orangutans nearly five decades ago when he taught symbolic communication to a juvenile Sumatran orangutan at the Fresno Zoo. He later spent several years in the forests of

Indonesian Borneo teaching sign language to ex-captive orangutans and studying their habitat. In 1985, he cofounded the 1st orangutan advocacy organization that supported orangutan conservation in Central Borneo.



OURF Founders Inggriani & Gary Shapiro with former Indonesian Minister of Environment Rachmat Witoelar.

Dr. Shapiro and his Indonesian wife, Inggriani, were inspired to create Orang Utan Republik Education Initiative in 2004 and OURF in 2007 in response to the dramatic population decline facing wild orangutans. In 2016, OURF partnered with The Orangutan Project to become their fiscal sponsor in the US forming TOP-USA.

With a committed board of directors and a volunteer support group, OURF & TOP-USA work hard to raise and administer funds that provide the resources needed to accomplish the foundation's goals and objectives.



# How you can Help

Become a Supporting Member through an annual or monthly recurring donation at these levels:
□ \$100 or more/year □ \$9 or more/month
Supporting members receive special benefits– visit orangutanrepublik.org/member for details
□ Other \$all donations are appreciated
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