

Public Statement on Values and Practices

Orang Utan Republik Foundation (OURF)

At the **Orang Utan Republik Foundation (OURF)**, we are guided by a deep sense of responsibility toward the conservation of orangutans and the forests they inhabit, as well as the people whose lives are intertwined with these critical ecosystems. Our work is built on the foundation of ethical practice, transparency, mutual respect, and scientific integrity.

Our Core Values

1. **Conservation Through Education**

We believe that long-term conservation of orangutans can only be achieved by addressing the root causes of habitat loss and human-orangutan conflict—primarily through education, community empowerment, and behavior change.

2. **Respect for Life and Indigenous Wisdom**

We honor all forms of life and draw inspiration from the indigenous communities of Indonesia who have lived in harmony with orangutans and nature for generations. We work with, not over, local people to find conservation solutions rooted in shared stewardship.

3. **Transparency and Accountability**

We commit to openness in all aspects of our operations—programmatic, financial, and organizational. We provide timely, accessible information to our supporters and stakeholders through public reports, audits, and impact assessments.

4. **Scientific Rigor and Innovation**

Our approach is grounded in science. From research on orangutan cognition and communication to conservation technology and monitoring, we embrace both traditional fieldwork and innovative tools to advance orangutan survival.

5. **Integrity and Ethical Conduct**

We uphold the highest ethical standards in our relationships with partners, donors, staff, volunteers, and the communities we serve. We do not tolerate corruption, exploitation, or greenwashing in any form.

6. **Inclusivity and Equity**

We prioritize inclusive participation, ensuring that women, youth, students, and marginalized communities have access to knowledge, opportunity, and leadership roles within conservation efforts.

7. **Sustainability and Long-Term Impact**

We are committed to solutions that are ecologically sound, culturally appropriate, and economically viable over the long term. Our programs are designed not only to achieve short-term success but to build the capacity of individuals, communities, and institutions to continue conservation independently. We aim to reduce dependency, promote resilience, and ensure that conservation gains endure for future generations.

Our Practices

- **Governance and Oversight**
OURF is governed by a Board of Directors who oversee strategic direction, ethical conduct, financial stewardship, and compliance with U.S. nonprofit law (IRS 501(c)(3)).
- **Partner and Donor Relations**
We are committed to respectful and transparent relationships with all donors and partners. All donations are tracked and reported in alignment with donor intent and our mission. Reports are shared annually and upon request.
- **Program Delivery and Impact**
We deliver educational programs such as the **Orangutan Caring Scholarship**, community outreach through the **CECP**, research opportunities through the **LP Jenkins Fellowship**, and advocacy through lectures, publications, and events. We track and report measurable impacts.
- **Financial Transparency**
OURF publishes annual financial summaries and IRS Form 990s, which are accessible via our website. We follow best practices in nonprofit accounting and fund allocation.
- **Compliance and External Validation**
OURF is a registered U.S. nonprofit, a **member of the UN's Great Ape Survival Partnership (GRASP)**, an **ordinary member** of the **Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO)**, and a **Top-Rated Nonprofit** on GreatNonprofits as well as **Charity Navigator** and **Guidestar**. We serve as a fiscal sponsor for and the US-chapter of **The Orangutan Project**. We adhere to sector best practices and welcome third-party evaluations and reviews/audits.

Verification and Continuous Improvement

We conduct regular internal reviews and planning sessions to assess our alignment with our stated values and to improve our programs. Our **Self-Verification Letter** and links to external validation platforms can be found on this page:

https://www.orangutanrepublik.org/static/media/uploads/pdf-documents/ourf_self-verification_letter.pdf

We invite questions, feedback, and collaboration. You can contact us at info@orangutanrepublik.org.

Together, let us create a future where orangutans, forests, and people thrive in harmony.

Dr. Gary L. Shapiro

President and Co-Founder

Orang Utan Republik Foundation

www.orangutanrepublik.org