



Photo: © Andreas Klotz

Presentation of the campaign »GORILLAS our friends FOREVER«

A thousand little memorials to the last thousand mountain gorillas

Mountain gorillas are amongst the most endangered great apes in the world. The round about 1,000 last remaining of this magnificent species can only be found in the Virunga volcano region of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Rwanda and in South-western Uganda.

On the initiative of the Mondberge project in cooperation with the Max Planck Institute, the Ugandan NGO Conservation through Public Health and the Berggorilla & Regenwald Direkthilfe association, a thousand small tin monuments are to be dedicated to the legendary silverback Ruhondeza on the 10th anniversary of his death, in a campaign called "GORILLAS our friends FOREVER". The Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA) also supports the campaign in Bwindi Impenetrable National Park.

The eco-box with the tin figure of Ruhondeza and his family of mountain gorillas

Supported by RISSMANN, the manufacturer of packaging, the paper factory Koehler Greiz, the printing company druckpartner, Feinhütte Halsbrücke, the advertising agency TiPP 4, the media service provider w&co and the publisher of cultural-historical pewter figures bel-



Photo: © Radmila Kerl

The silverback Ruhondeza was the first mountain gorilla in Uganda that allowed tourists to visit his group. It is estimated that he saw around 50,000 people. The 10th anniversary of his death will be in 2022.



MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE
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Ambassador for Uganda: Dr. Gladys Kalema-Zikusoka collecting stool samples. The CTPH has already tested over 200 mountain gorillas for Covid. Photo: © Jo Anne McArthur

lazinnfigur, a high-quality packaging made of recyclable material with a cultural-historical pewter figure was released.

Craftsmanship for the protection of species

The pewter figure, illustrated by the artist Sascha Lunyakov and hand-engraved in slate by the master engraver Regina Sonntag, depicts the silverback Ruhondeza with his family of mountain gorillas surrounded by ancient trees of Bwindi tropical rainforest in South-western Uganda.

Sustainable & conflict-free

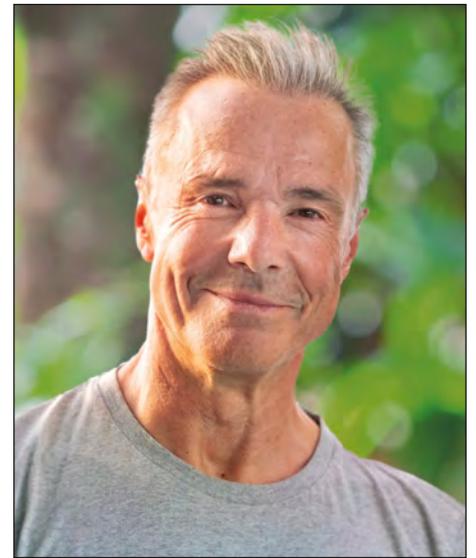
With the Eco-Box, proceeds and donations are to be collected worldwide. All parts of the Eco-Box were not only made from recyclable material but were also produced in Germany in a climate-neutral and conflict-free manner. Various national and international institutions such as the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, the European Commission and

the GreenTin+ label have certified the high-quality Eco-Box.

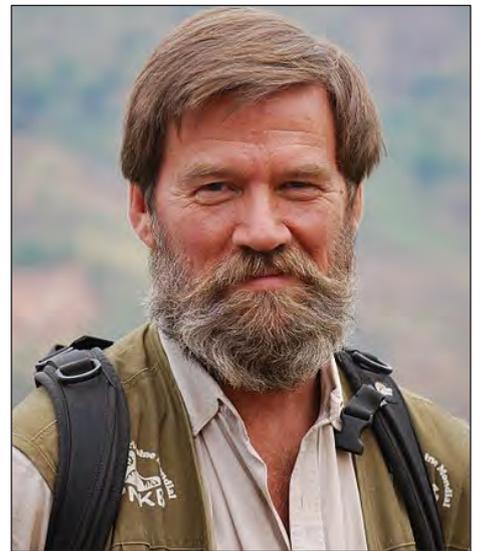
Feinhütte Halsbrücke produced the special metal alloy for the pewter figure. The use of recycled materials prevents child labor and the exploitation of metal mines in crisis areas.

Personalities as ambassadors

Well-known personalities are involved in the campaign, such as the Ugandan species activist Dr. Gladys Kalema-Zikusoka who recently received the "Champion of the Earth for Science and Innovation 2021" award from the United Nations Environment Program for her commitment. Also German-US American actor, author and environmental activist Hannes Jaenicke who has been committed to the conservation of endangered species for many years and British biologist, conservationist and non-fiction author Ian Redmond who, together with Dian Fossey, studied the mountain goril-



Campaign ambassador: the German-US-American species protection and environmental activist Hannes Jaenicke. Photo: © Andreas Klotz

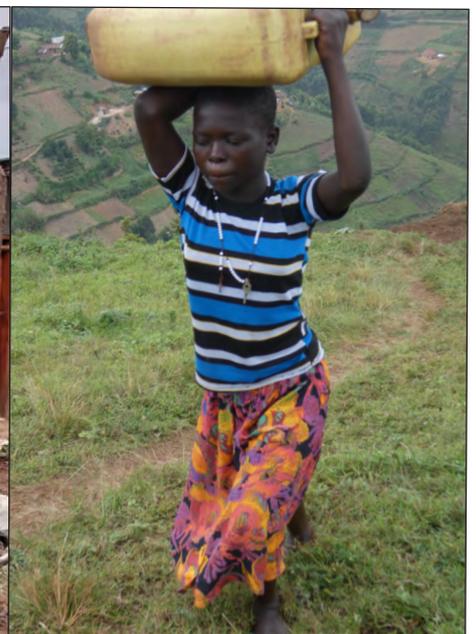


Campaign Ambassador for the UK: Biologist and conservationist Ian Redmond OBE says that some of his best friends are gorillas. Photo: © Michael O'Donnell

Outside the rainy season, it is usually the young girls who have to fetch water from the valley twice a day. How are they supposed to find energy and motivation for school?

A first water tank funded by the campaign was built in May 2022. Water tanks enable young girls in particular to find more time for school.

Photos: © Emily Turinawe





The Mondberge Tree Network, which brings together various organizations and local communities, plans to plant 1 million coniferous and fruit trees around the Bwindi Rainforest. Photo: © Raphael Studer

las in the late 1980s in Rwanda are both ambassadors to the campaign. Redmond was involved in the shooting of the film "Gorillas in the Mist" in an advisory capacity and has since been involved in countless international projects for species protection. Furthermore, Dr. Martha Robbins, Research Scientist from the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, who is responsible for the gorilla projects on site in Bwindi National Park is publicly supporting this initiative. Organizations and initiatives worldwide will make their networks available.

Funds flow directly into the projects

The proceeds and donations flow directly into environmental, nature and species protection projects. The aim is to help local people to protect the gorillas and preserve nature. The campaign focuses on three specific projects.

Water tanks for the communities

Access to water is a major concern for people living around Bwindi Impenetrable National Park. This campaign seeks to fund 1,500 liter water tanks for local communities to store the precious resource during the rainy season. It improves supply for the population and relieves women and girls in particular who often have to carry the water for kilometers in heavy canisters.

Health test laboratory

Everywhere in the Bwindi rainforest is a lack of health care equipment for humans and mountain gorillas. Such equipment supplied to laboratories and similar facilities is absolutely crucial to the preservation of species and their natural habitat. The campaign intends to finance said equipment.

Building a sustainable tree network

Together with the "Mondberge Tree Network" and the communities around the Bwindi forest, fast-growing conifers, fruit trees and indigenous tree species are planted on a large scale together with many other crops such as beans, potatoes, mangoes or bananas. This protects the rainforest from deforestation, provides fruit, wood for building houses and furniture and creates long-term work and sources of income for the families so that their children can go to school and have access to food. The campaign promotes people's education as the best foundation for long-term conservation of species.

Help people, protect gorillas, preserve nature

Only on the basis of solid education and only under socially acceptable living conditions can people live in harmony with nature and act sustainably. Education and training are closely related to the protection of the rainforest and the mountain gorillas that live there.



Photo: © Andreas Klotz
Photo bottom left: © Michael Matschuck
Bottom: Campaign ambassador, US-American Dr. Martha Robbins. She runs the research station of the Max Planck Institute in Bwindi National Park in southwest Uganda. Here with rangers monitoring gorillas.
Photo: © Susanne Maria Krauss





Support the campaign now by buying the beautiful Eco-Box!



GORILLAS
— our friends —
FOREVER



Donate now for one of the aid projects in Bwindi Rainforest!

Mondberge foundation for individual gifts

IBAN: DE54 4306 0967 0103 7008 00

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Reference: 60005 Donation - Initiative
Mondberge

100% of all proceeds flow directly into
the projects. For more information
visit www.gorillafriends.org

Miniature painting Oliver Helmert



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