

Orangutan Foundation International

Annual Report



2020

ORANGUTAN FOUNDATION INTERNATIONAL

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

Like most, Orangutan Foundation International (OFI) was not expecting a global pandemic in 2020. Although it was unexpected, OFI immediately followed international public health guidelines to prevent and mitigate the spread of COVID-19. In the first week of March 2020, the Orangutan Care Center & Quarantine (OCCQ) and sanctuary went into lockdown. Camp Leakey and all field camps followed on March 19, 2020. We created rigorous new procedures to maintain daily operations at the OCCQ while ensuring no staff or orangutans contracted COVID-19. Following the lockdown, no foreign visitors or dignitaries were allowed on-site, including the local police chief. Half of our regular staff was allowed entry, and this was only done after having assistants take their temperature on arrival, change into sterilized uniforms once on the premises, wear face masks and gloves as well as other Personal Protective Equipment based on their proximity to the orangutans, and test negative for COVID-19. The other half of our regular staff were put under self-quarantine for two weeks. Thereafter, staff were regularly rotated on a two-week basis between working at the OCCQ and self-quarantining at home. Staff were paid in full even while self-quarantining. This process continued for much of the year.

Our efforts to prevent human and orangutan infection of the virus went beyond basic workplace procedures. Orangutans were regularly tested for COVID-19 by OCCQ veterinarians. OFI installed multiple extra hand washing stations throughout the OCCQ and at the entrance, and staff were required to wash hands at entrance and exit. OFI built a hygiene room at the entrance to the OCCQ where staff could leave their shoes behind as they changed into shoes used only at the OCCQ during the workday. No vehicles other than OFI vehicles were allowed entry into the OCCQ, and these were sprayed with disinfectant before entering. Everything that came into contact with orangutans was washed daily. This included food containers, produce, and wheelbarrows. OFI also halted all construction on the premises and paused and adapted our education and outreach programs to the new situation.

In addition to the daily operation changes made at the OCCQ by OFI, Camp Leakey and Tanjung Puting National Park were closed by the Indonesian government on March 19, 2020, as officials escorted guides and tourists from the Park. OFI staff continued to patrol and provide food for orangutans at all feeding stations in the Park and outside of it. The staff at release camps and at Camp Leakey self-quarantined, wore face masks and gloves at feeding stations, and thoroughly washed all produce provided to orangutans. Staff were instructed to self-distance if an orangutan were to approach them on the ground. OFI staff did not come closer than 10 meters (~30 feet) to an orangutan unless staff were wearing face masks and gloves.

Our effort to keep our staff and the orangutans healthy was costly and exerting, but it was absolutely necessary. We are proud of our prompt and expansive response. By following these measures, we ended the year with no cases of COVID-19 among staff or any orangutans at the OCCQ.

The number of orangutans requiring OFI's aid did not abate during the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Forestry Department (KSDA agency) brought five wild born orphaned infants to the OCCQ for rehabilitation in 2020. Another five wild orangutans and three previously rehabilitated and released orangutans were brought into the OCCQ for care and treatment after being found injured, in poor health, or in potentially dangerous situations in or near human settlements. Wild adult female orangutan Sweet Dee was found emaciated with her infant son Simon clinging onto her. The pair were brought to the OCCQ for nutritional therapy. After gaining

18 pounds in three weeks, Sweet Dee was translocated with Simon to a forest area where they would be more likely to find sufficient sustenance.

OFI was able to release three rehabilitated wild born ex-captive orangutans into the wild before strict COVID-19 lockdown regulations went into effect. Four wild orangutans who received treatment at the OCCQ for short periods of time were re-released to the wild in April 2020. Soon after, the government ordered all releases of rehabilitated wildlife to cease. However, we were still permitted to aid in translocating 19 wild orangutans found in potentially dangerous situations to more remote forest habitat.

In many parts of the world, poachers took advantage of COVID-19 lockdowns. However, OFI rangers who continued forest patrols did not encounter any uptick in illegal intrusions. In late 2020 the Tanjung Puting National Park Director, Ibu Murlan, ousted an illegal palm oil operation from the eastern side of the National Park, further reinforcing protections for orangutan habitat. We commend Ibu Murlan for her actions.

In this challenging year the constant rain was a welcome change from previous droughts. While the downpours that continued throughout Borneo's "dry season" caused extensive flooding throughout the general area, the flooding in the Orangutan Legacy Forest and the National Park was minimal. The immediate area around the Pondok Tanggui post and former release site in the Park was flooded with knee-deep water during the month of July. This did not stop some orangutans such as adult male Doyok from coming into the vicinity of the post by wading through the floodwaters. There was widespread flooding north of Pangkalan Bun in the mountain villages near the border of West Borneo. In general, flooding seemed preferable in comparison to the massive wildfires of 2019 which devastated many forests in Borneo.

While the acquisition of forest land in 2020 was made difficult due to COVID-19 lockdowns, we were still able to purchase and protect 277 acres of forest with the help of Indonesian collaborators. This land is contiguous with and expands upon the Orangutan Legacy Forest, critical habitat for a relic population of wild orangutans still surviving in the local area.

OFI's Reforestation Team planted 25,670 native seedlings on degraded land throughout 2020. This number is smaller than what was planted in previous years because of staffing and logistical restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Nonetheless, under the circumstances this still constitutes a significant number of native trees planted by OFI.

OFI's education and outreach activities in Borneo continued as usual until the onset of COVID-19 lockdown in March 2020. OFI educators had to adapt to virtual education programming delivered over Zoom. When the most intensive lockdowns were lifted in late May 2020, OFI resumed its in-person education efforts with significant modifications to ensure health and safety. All education events were held outdoors with limited participants. Presenters and attendees wore masks and practiced social distancing. OFI educators were able to directly reach almost 7,000 people in 2020. To encourage participation in our education programs during this difficult time, we engaged participants in schools and villages by bringing native tree seedlings to plant during and after OFI's education programs. In celebration of International Orangutan Day in August 2020, OFI distributed seedlings to several villages. School children were especially excited to be directly involved in a hands-on conservation activity. Over 50,000 tree seedlings were distributed as part of OFI's education programs in 2020. This brought the total number of trees planted in 2020 through OFI's efforts to almost 76,000. Subsequent monitoring of trees planted by schoolchildren, villagers, and OFI staff indicated survival rates of seedlings were over 90%. The year's bountiful rain probably helped all trees and seedlings survive and thrive.

Just before the onset of COVID-19 lockdowns, I was invited to give the inaugural speech for the Anne Innis Dagg Lecture Series on March 9th at Wilfrid Laurier University in London, Ontario, Canada. In June 2020, OFI staff arranged for a live virtual event on OFI's Facebook page in which I was able to speak to followers about my work with orangutans in Borneo and answer their questions. This event received great engagement and I was only able to answer a fraction of the questions posed.

The wild orangutan research continued throughout 2020, marking its 49th year. Research assistants remained at Camp Leakey within Tanjung Puting National Park even through COVID-19 lockdowns. Assistants were able to collect hundreds of hours of observations on wild orangutans as well as to regularly monitor the phenological plots within the study area.

We are delighted to announce that there were several orangutan infants born to mothers who still occasionally came to OFI's feeding stations within Tanjung Puting National Park in 2020. There were five infants observed with wild born ex-captive mothers or their descendant daughters/granddaughters in Camp Leakey. One infant was actually a great-granddaughter of an ex-captive female released at Camp Leakey in 1971. At Pondok Tanggui, one infant was observed with a wild born mother whose own mother was a wild born ex-captive female released at Pondok Tanggui many years ago. This makes the new infant a grandchild of a released wild born ex-captive orangutan female.

On October 6, 2020, we were in attendance when the Regent (Bupati) of Kotawaringin Barat, Ibu Hj. Nurhidaya, cut a ribbon at a re-opening ceremony for Tanjung Puting National Park (the Bupati is the highest-ranking local official in the region). Since Indonesia's borders are still closed to tourists, only locals will visit the Park.

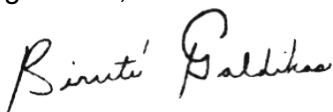
The provincial Culture and Tourism Department of the government of Kalimantan Tengah (Central Indonesian Borneo) province issued a post on social media celebrating OFI's Orangutan Awareness Week on November 1-8, 2020.

We were relieved that satellite data recorded no hotspots (indicative of fires) within Tanjung Puting National Park during the year. The La Niña cold wave brought heavy rains to Indonesia throughout what was normally the dry season. This lack of hotspots and fires in 2020 is notable and we hope that the rains continue throughout 2021.

We will miss Pak Helmi, who retired from the Forestry Department and left as head of Tanjung Puting National Park on March 31, 2020. He was replaced by Ibu Murlan, whose arrival we welcomed in September 2020.

The year 2020 was a very difficult year for both people and wildlife throughout the world. However, we adjusted and continued our work to protect orangutans, forest, and wildlife in Borneo. Despite everything that was thrown our way, considering the circumstances, OFI had a successful year in pursuit of our mission.

In deep gratitude,



Dr. Biruté Mary Galdikas
President and Founder, Orangutan Foundation International
Full Professor, Simon Fraser University

OUR VISION: DEEP CONSERVATION



Wild born ex-captive orangutan Trudeau undergoing rehabilitation at OFI's Orangutan Care Center and Quarantine in Borneo

Orangutan Foundation International has a strong vision for the future that includes:

- Protecting tropical rainforest habitat and native wildlife, including orangutans, throughout the world
 - Rewilding degraded and destroyed rainforest
 - Saving Great Ape and Small Ape populations, especially orangutans who are critically endangered, from extinction in the wild
 - Educating the public in Indonesia and throughout the world about orangutans and the biodiversity crisis
 - Saving individual wildlife, particularly orangutans, from captivity by rehabilitation and release back to the wild
 - Continuing long-term studies of wildlife, particularly orangutans, so we gain a better understanding of the biological processes of evolution and extinction
-

OUR MISSION

Orangutan Foundation International's (OFI) core mission is the conservation of orangutans and the tropical rainforest which is their only habitat.

OFI takes a holistic and comprehensive approach using multiple complementary strategies to combat the complex challenges facing orangutans and the rainforest. These strategies include:

- Creating and promoting awareness campaigns that disseminate knowledge and understanding of orangutans as a critically endangered species and as one of humankind's closest living relatives in the animal kingdom
 - Spreading awareness for wildlife, ecosystem, and biodiversity conservation throughout the world, particularly in Indonesia
 - Acquiring forested and forest-adjacent land (orangutan habitat) in collaboration with Indonesian partners
 - Actively planting native trees to rewild degraded and deforested orangutan habitat
 - Actively protecting wild orangutans and their native habitat on the ground through patrol teams which consist of OFI rangers, mobile brigades of national police, and forestry rangers, as well as building local and international support coalitions
 - Rescuing, rehabilitating, and releasing wild born ex-captive and orphaned Bornean orangutans into safe and secure sites in the wild
 - Conducting research on orangutan ecology, genetics, and behavior
-

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS OF THE BOARD

Dr. Biruté Mary Galdikas, **President**

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Janice Gleason Skow, **Treasurer**

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*Elected to the Board in November 2020

STAFF

Dr. Biruté Mary Galdikas, **President, Founder, Program and Operations Director**
(Indonesia and United States)

INDONESIA SENIOR STAFF

Fred Galdikas, **Executive Liaison & Operations Manager**
Ibu Waliyati, **Senior Administrator**
Luther Tumin, **Manager OCCQ**
Pak Kiswanto, **Interim Manager of Camp Leakey**
Ibu Sumiati, **Vice-Manager of OCCQ and Communications Officer**
Fajar Dewanto, **Field Director**
Robert Yappi, **Program Director GIS**
Renie Djojoasmoro, **OFI Representative/ Manager, Jakarta Office**
Pak Anton, **Patrol Coordinator**
Ibu Maryanti, **OCCQ Enrichment Coordinator**
Dr. Popowati, **Staff Veterinarian**
Dr. Prima, **Staff Veterinarian**
Dr. Ketut, **Staff Veterinarian**
Ibu Cici, **Acting Head of Herbarium and Reforestation Coordinator**
Ibu Dora Siburian, **Education Outreach Coordinator**

UNITED STATES STAFF

Michael Shabtaie, **Finance Director**
Marcus Foley, **Administrative and Development Manager**
Susan Miles, **Conservation Programs Consultant**
Emi Kusayanagi, **Social Media Coordinator**
Charlotte Bouaziz, **Office Assistant**

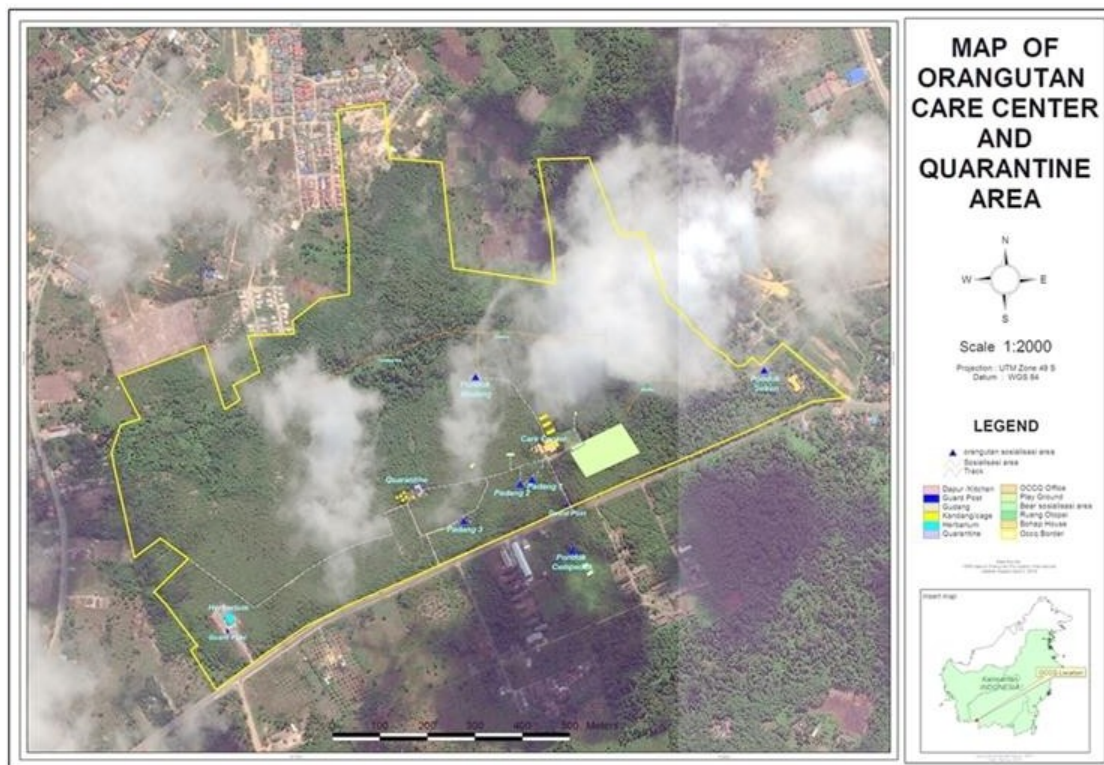
249 total local staff members at the Orangutan Care Center and Quarantine (OCCQ), Camp Leakey, and all facilities in other regions including Seruyan Forest and Rawa Kuno Orangutan Legacy Forest.

ANIMAL CARE AND REHABILITATION OPERATIONS

ORANGUTAN CARE CENTER AND QUARANTINE

OVERVIEW

The Orangutan Care Center and Quarantine (OCCQ) is crucial to OFI's efforts to rescue and rehabilitate native wildlife in Indonesian Borneo. The OCCQ provides basic veterinary care, long-term care by preparing orangutans and other wildlife for eventual return to the wild, and housing for wildlife who need long-term care. The long-term care includes daily enrichment, medical and behavioral monitoring, and helping wildlife build survival skills. It is through these efforts that the OCCQ prepares wild born ex-captive orangutans and other native wildlife for release back into the wild.



Satellite photo of Orangutan Care Center and Quarantine (OCCQ) facilities and Learning Forest used for building rehabilitant orangutan forest skills

The total number of orangutans cared for at the OCCQ throughout the year of 2020 was 311. After releases and re-releases, the number of orangutans residing at the OCCQ at the end of 2020 was 285.

OCCQ STAFF

In 2020, approximately 150 employees worked at the OCCQ Facility in the village of Pasir Panjang. This includes management and administrative personnel, security guards, veterinary staff, animal caregivers, enrichment team members, and general facilities staff. OFI is a significant employer in the village of Pasir Panjang and the surrounding areas. The majority of OCCQ employees are of indigenous (Dayak) background.

SARSCoV2 (COVID-19) PANDEMIC PROTOCOL IMPLEMENTATION

With the arrival of the COVID-19 Pandemic Orangutan Foundation International worked closely with the local health department, local forestry department, and local government in Kalimantan Tengah (Central Indonesian Borneo) to monitor the COVID-19 situation. Following guidance and recommendations from OFI veterinarian staff and regional government health officials, a number of precautions and new standard operating procedures were implemented at the OCCQ, Camp Leakey, and all OFI release sites and protected forest.

The following were implemented at the OCCQ:

- Beginning in the first week of March 2020 the OCCQ underwent a complete quarantine/lockdown with only designated assistants being allowed entry.
 - No entry was permitted for visitors, dignitaries, contractors, or locals delivering supplies or food.
 - All OCCQ construction ceased, with the exception of routine maintenance by regular OCCQ staff.
 - All incoming supplies and food were washed with animal safe gentle disinfectant prior to being brought on grounds.
 - With the exception of designated OFI vehicles, no vehicles were permitted entry. The OFI vehicles with permitted access underwent disinfection protocol prior to entering OCCQ grounds.
 - Daily cleaning and disinfection protocols were adhered to for all items coming into contact with orangutans and their vicinity.
 - All OFI staff were required to don masks and designated Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). Those staff members in contact with orangutans, or with items coming into contact with orangutans, were required to wear gloves.
 - In order to maintain social distancing among staff the OCCQ functioned with half of the usual number of assistants while the other half remained home in self-isolation and were paid as if working full time. Following a minimum of a two-week self-quarantine period, staff were rotated.
 - Upon arrival to the OCCQ all staff underwent temperature screenings with a secondary temperature reading taken halfway through the scheduled work shift.
 - Any staff members with high temperatures or exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 were sent home to self-isolate and recover with pay.
 - All OFI staff were provided with additional uniforms and required to change into fresh/clean uniforms upon arrival to the OCCQ, with laundering protocols outlined.
 - A hygiene room was established at the front entrance where staff could leave their home shoes and change into work-only footwear that remained there until the end of the workday. Any equipment being brought into work by employees was disinfected at this location.
 - Showering rooms were made available to staff at the entrance.
 - Numerous additional hand washing stations were established around the OCCQ and at the front entrance. Hand washing was required of all staff upon entering and exiting the facility and regularly throughout their work shifts.
 - OFI school and education outreach programs were suspended or modified with COVID-19 best safe practices including social distancing and masking.
-

The following additional measures were implemented at Camp Leakey and all OFI Release Camps:

- On March 19th the Indonesian government officially closed Camp Leakey and Tanjung Puting National Park and all guides and tourists were escorted from the park.
- OFI staff at Camp Leakey and all OFI Release Camps self-quarantined without the option for returning upon departure. With OFI staff typically staying at these camps for months at a time this was not much different from standard shift lengths.
- All staff were required to don face masks and gloves when at the feeding stations.
- If orangutans were to approach on the ground, staff were required to maintain distance of a minimum of 10 meters (approx. 30ft.) unless wearing masks and gloves.
- All fruit and produce were washed with animal safe disinfectant and dried before being provisioned out at feeding stations.
- OFI patrols continued throughout the Park. With less staff around for reporting illegal activity to authorities, the Park became more vulnerable to opportunistic illegal extraction of resources and poaching. However, encroachment into the Park decreased during 2020 as local communities followed strictly enforced government lockdown recommendations.



Permitted vehicle undergoing disinfection prior to coming onto OCCQ grounds



OCCQ staff member receiving health check prior to entering facility

NEW ARRIVAL PROTOCOL REVIEW

TRIAGE

Upon arrival at the Orangutan Care Center and Quarantine (OCCQ), all orangutans and other wildlife receive a complete medical examination, or triage, that includes:

- Physical measurements
- Sampling blood, hair, urine, and feces
- Typhoid, hepatitis, and tuberculosis screenings
- Administration of anti-parasitic medications
- Microchip implantation

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Additionally, in order to distinguish individual orangutans, OCCQ employees record unique and identifiable characteristics. This process includes taking photos of face and ears, teeth, navels, hands, and feet.

QUARANTINE

All new arrivals undergo a minimum 30-day quarantine before being allowed to join the general OCCQ orangutan population. Additional precautions were implemented in 2020 with COVID-19 testing administered to orangutan individuals upon arrival and then again at the end of quarantine prior to their joining the general OCCQ orangutan population.



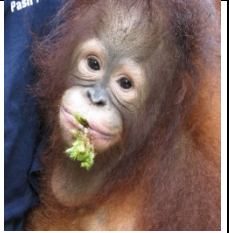

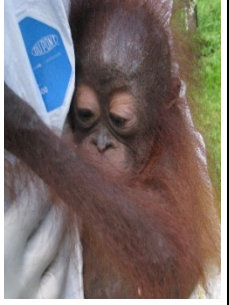
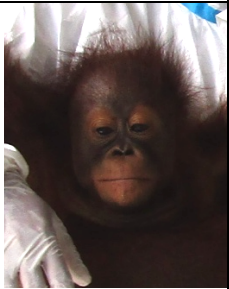
Orphans Jez and Vida arrive at the OCCQ, July 2020


ORANGUTAN ARRIVAL SUMMARY

The Orangutan Care Center and Quarantine (OCCQ) took in 13 additional orangutans for care during 2020. The sections below indicate which individuals were brought in for the first time, which ones were repeat rescues, and whether they were rescued from captivity or came directly from the wild. Those who were released back to the wild in 2020 are also listed. Refer to the 2020 Orangutan Release Summary for further details on released orangutans.

NEW ARRIVALS – FROM CAPTIVITY

The wild born infant orangutan orphans pictured below were brought to the OCCQ by Forestry Department officers in 2020 after being confiscated or relinquished from private owners. All five orangutans listed below are still undergoing rehabilitation at the end of 2020. All of the orphans were from Central Borneo (Kalimantan Tengah).

Arrival Date	Name	Age & Sex	Details	Photo
May 2020	Pedro	Infant Male	Surrendered by the Karya Unggang Village, Katingan Regency, Central Kalimantan	
July 2020	Jez	Infant Male	Surrendered by the Benua Usang village community, Seruyan Regency.	
July 2020	Vida	Infant Female	Surrendered by the Kanda Village, Kota Besi District, East Kotawaringin Regency	
September 2020	Ucok	Infant Male	Surrendered from the Simpung Village, Kota Besi District, East Kotawaringin Regency	

November 2020	Ojol	Infant Male	Surrendered from Jaya Karet Village, Mentaya Hilir Selatan District, East Kotawaringin Regency	
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© Orangutan Foundation International
OFI caregiver Ibu Ijum with Pedro, the first infant to arrive at the OCCQ in 2020



OFI infant nursery caregivers at the nursery playground

NEW ARRIVALS – FROM THE WILD

The five wild orangutans in the table below, who were brought to the OCCQ in 2020, consisted of three adult males, one adult female, and her infant son. They were found either injured, in poor health, and/or in potentially dangerous situations resulting from human-wildlife conflict.

Arrival Date	Orangutan Name	Age & Sex	Details
January 2020	Tanjung	Adult Male	Rescued from Tanjung Putri Village. Due to his age considerations the OCCQ veterinarians made the call to treat Tanjung at the OCCQ.
January 2020	Eko	Adult Male	Rescued from PT Sarana Titian Permata, a palm oil plantation, with his left arm caught in a noose, Eko was taken to the clinic for intensive care. Despite the vet team's best efforts passed away on March 25 th , 2020.
March 2020	Ulak Batu	Adult Male	Rescued from Teluk Pulau Village. Teluk Pulau, where Ulak Batu was captured a second time, is a village considerably south of Tanjung Harapan, also on the Park border. From the microchip examination it was found that this orangutan was previously rescued on April 23 rd , 2019, in Ulak Batu village, Seruyan area, and translocated on April 27 th 2019 to the TNTP boundary in Tanjung Harapan. Ulak Batu made his way from Tanjung Harapan to Teluk Pulau during the 11 months after his first translocation from the village of Ulak Batu to Tanjung Harapan.
March 2020	Sweet Dee (mother) Simon (son)	Adult Female Infant Male	Sweet Dee and her infant Simon were rescued by OFI staff and Indonesian Forestry officials. Upon rescue Sweet Dee was emaciated. The decision was made to bring her and son Simon to the OCCQ for nutritional therapy.



Sweet Dee and son Simon

REPEAT ARRIVALS

The following three orangutans had previously received care at the OCCQ and were released to the wild. They were brought back to the OCCQ in 2020 when found injured, in poor health, and/or in potentially dangerous situations involving human-wildlife conflict. All three are still receiving care at the OCCQ at the end of 2020.

Arrival Date	Orangutan Name	Age & Sex	Details
February 2020	Junai	Adult Male	Junai was brought to the OCCQ from OFI's Pos Natai Lengkuas, where he was released on December 16, 2019. He had a large open tear on his left upper lip.
February 2020	Ulin	Adult Female	Ulin was brought to the OCCQ from OFI's remote Camp Filomena where she had been released on November 15 th , 2018. She had a suspected hernia, as field staff reported a visible lump on her lower abdomen.
February 2020	Rossy	Adult Male	Rossy was reported roaming the palm oil plantation located near the release forest of Camp Seluang Mas where he had been released on December 17 th , 2019. He was brought to the OCCQ for care due to extreme emaciation and having cuts on his hands.

Nineteen additional wild-living orangutans were found in compromising situations in 2020 and immediately translocated to safer areas without being admitted into the OCCQ for care. Four wild orangutans were translocated following receiving care at the OCCQ. Please see the Translocation and Release Summary section below for details.

ORANGUTAN RELEASE PROTOCOL REVIEW

CANDIDATE SELECTION

Orangutans are selected for review for release by Dr. Galdikas, the veterinary team, and OCCQ staff members. Release criteria focus on the orangutan's chance of forest survival. If an orangutan is suggested for release but does not meet all release criteria, his/her release will be delayed until OFI's team is confident that the orangutan has the skills necessary to survive in the wild.

RELEASE CRITERIA:

- Medical Assessment: OFI screens all orangutans for communicable diseases and other health conditions. Additionally, the screening process ensures orangutans meet standards for size and weight, based on age.
- Life Skills Proficiency: Orangutans must demonstrate knowledge of essential survival skills, such as forest foraging and night nest construction.
- Disinterest in Human Interaction: Orangutans must demonstrate a large degree of disinterest in human interaction.

QUARANTINE & MEDICAL ASSESSMENT

To minimize possible disease transmission, orangutan release candidates are put in pre-release quarantine for a minimum of thirty days. This allows OFI to restrict contact with orangutan release candidates to a few select caregivers and veterinary staff during quarantine.

OFI's pre-release medical tests include, but are not limited to:

- Malaria
- Hepatitis
- Glucose & protein abnormalities
- Tuberculosis (skin & eyelid protocols)
- General health review

If the medical assessments reveal abnormalities in the orangutan's general health, OFI refers the orangutan for additional treatment and the orangutan's release will be delayed.

RELEASE SITE

Release sites are determined and established well in advance of a release. All sites are chosen with the permission of BKSDA (Natural Resources Conservation Agency of the Indonesian government) and the National Park authority, if the orangutan is released on a park boundary or within the park. These sites are usually on or near the border of Tanjung Puting National Park or in other protected and patrolled areas. Release sites are prepared in advance with feeding platforms and camps built for/by OFI staff. OFI releases rehabilitated orangutans only to sites with permanent OFI staff.

DAY OF RELEASE

Dr. Galdikas and OFI management oversee orangutan releases with members of Tanjung Puting National Park management and BKSDA. Also present are OCCQ veterinary staff members and orangutans' primary caregivers. The release team and primary caregivers move the orangutan candidates into transport cages often the night before the release and then the orangutans and team travel to the selected release camp before dawn. Usually in the early morning, release team members open the cages, and the orangutans exit when ready (usually right away!).



OFI release staff member and Forestry Department officials at Erry's release

POST RELEASE

OFI assigns two staff members, the orangutan's primary caregiver and a release team staff member, to monitor each orangutan's transition to the wild for at least ten days. These staff members include someone familiar with the terrain and someone with whom the orangutan is familiar. The monitoring process includes recording of feeding behaviors, interactions with other orangutans, nest building, and range and direction of travel. Focal follow monitoring continues for a minimum of ten days or longer but sometimes the newly released orangutans are so eager to return to the wild, especially in the deep swamps, that within a few days they elude the staff members who are monitoring them.

ORANGUTAN RELEASE SUMMARY

Release efforts in 2020 were substantially impacted by the COVID-19 Pandemic lockdowns. In 2020 OFI released a total of three rehabilitated wild born ex-captive orangutans into the great forest. These releases occurred during one primary release event in March of 2020. Four wild orangutans were “re-released” after brief periods of treatment at the OCCQ, and nineteen wild orangutans were translocated to “safe” forest.

RELEASES

March 31st, 2020. The following orangutans were released for the first time:

- Cantik “Pretty” (female)
- Natalia (female)
- Rimut (male)



Rimut release



Natalia and Cantik release to the Great Forest

Natalia and Cantik became fast friends after meeting one another upon their arrival at the OCCQ as infants. Following years of rehabilitation at the OCCQ, older adolescents Natalia and Cantik were selected to spend time in Wally's World II, one of OFI's “Ha-Ha” forested islands that consists of approximately 2 hectares of forest. These semi-wild forested enclosures serve as an intermediary time/space for orangutans after rehabilitation and before ultimate release to the wild. In these Ha-Ha semiwild enclosures, OFI staff are able to closely monitor orangutans' skills for survival, i.e., nest-making and sleeping safely off the ground, before these wild born ex-captive rehabilitated orangutans are released in the wild. Clearly both Natalia and Cantik were skilled nest-builders who seemed capable of living in the wild.



Natalia and Cantik



Natalia & Cantik with adult male Ricky in "Ha-Ha" forested enclosure prior to ultimate release



Drone image of Wally's World II (on left) 2 hectares & Wally's World I (on right) 1 hectare

ORANGUTAN TRANSLOCATION AND RE-RELEASE PROTOCOL REVIEW

TRANSLOCATION

The relocation or “translocation” of wild orangutans occurs when OFI transports orangutans directly from one wild location to another. If a visit to the OCCQ is required, it is usually a very short visit, often overnight. Wild orangutans being translocated are microchipped and moved to safe protected forests as far away from human settlements and plantations as possible to give them the best chance of survival.

OFI, in collaboration with BKSDA (the natural resources agency of the Ministry of Forestry), translocates wild orangutans observed or found in areas that may pose a danger to the orangutan(s) themselves or to humans in the vicinity, such as near agricultural operations or human settlements. Locals or agricultural workers often contact OFI or BKSDA staff either by phone or in person to alert OFI/BKSDA personnel to an orangutan needing translocation.

After receiving information about an orangutan in danger and his/her location, OFI/BKSDA dispatches a rescue team with a veterinarian to conduct a field health assessment to determine if the orangutan is a good candidate for translocation. If the orangutan is an orphaned youngster, OFI/BKSDA immediately transports him or her to the OCCQ because these young orangutans lack the physical development and necessary life-skills required for survival without their mothers.

Field assessments determine the following:

- Age of orangutan and body condition (ability to survive without medical intervention)
- Current location (does the location pose a threat to the orangutan’s safety or the safety of others)

RE-RELEASE

Orangutans who have previously been in care at the OCCQ and reside near any OFI camp or facility receive lifelong support.

If the responding OFI field veterinarian is unable to treat an ill or injured orangutan on site, the orangutan will be brought back to the OCCQ for more intensive care. In the case of released wild born ex-captives, these may be individuals who are not adjusting to life in the wild, or those who wander into contact with humans some distance from release sites. These may also be adult males seriously wounded in combat with other males. Sometimes these are wild males because adult males have little tolerance for each other’s presence. Once the orangutans have recovered and attained good health, they are re-released back into the wild.

TRANSLOCATION AND RE-RELEASE SUMMARY

Four wild orangutans were re-released after getting treatment at the Orangutan Care Center and Quarantine (OCCQ).

Date of Re-Release	Orangutan Name	Orangutan Sex	Orangutan Details
April 2020	Sweet Dee (mother) Simon (infant son)	Female Male	Since Sweet Dee was emaciated upon rescue, she and her son Simon were brought to the OCCQ for nutritional therapy. Over the course of 3 weeks Sweet Dee gained 18lbs while Simon gained 0.3lbs before being successfully translocated.
April 2020	Bengaris	Male	Adult male Bengaris was reported to be eating fruit from villagers' trees for several days. When villagers were no longer tolerant of his presence they reported him for translocation. Bengaris was rescued by OFI and forestry department rangers and brought to the OCCQ where veterinarians took radiographs revealing shotgun pellets in his neck/throat area. OFI veterinary staff removed one with another pellet found to be too deeply embedded for removal. After a thorough examination/health check it was determined it wasn't necessary for him to stay at the OCCQ further and he was immediately transferred back to his transport cage and translocated.
April 2020	Erry	Male	Adult male Erry had a brief stay at the OCCQ between rescue and translocation. During his OCCQ stay he gained a healthy 7kg.



Sweet Dee and Simon release/translocation



OFI and Forestry rangers (BKSDA staff) rescuing adult male Bengaris for translocation



OFI veterinary staff members taking x-rays of Bengaris to assess the severity and location of shotgun pellets before removing them



Bengaris successfully released after shotgun pellet removal and receiving the all-clear from OFI veterinarians



Rescued wild adult male orangutan Erry being transported for translocation



Erry's translocation release

Nineteen wild orangutans were translocated without needing admittance to the OCCQ.

Date of Translocation	Orangutan Name	Orangutan Sex
January 2020	Jamri Bahaur Kekem (mother) Kokom (juvenile daughter) Kukuh (infant son)	Male Male Female Female Male
February 2020	Sarwani (mother) Sarwana (juvenile son)	Female Male
March 2020	Maharani (mother) Pure (infant daughter)	Female Female
June 2020	Utamar Mastiar Jeck	Male Male Male
July 2020	Rini Muhlan Jerebu	Female Male Male
August 2020	Ujang01 Tendang Mampai Kiki	Male Male Male Female

NON-ORANGUTAN ARRIVALS, TRANSLOCATIONS, AND RELEASES

The Orangutan Care Center and Quarantine (OCCQ) occasionally takes in other wild Bornean animals who require care.

MALAYAN SUN BEARS

Sun bear cubs are left orphaned after their mothers are killed for body parts and, possibly, meat. Sun bears under two years of age on arrival are possible candidates for rehabilitation. They may successfully return to the wild once they are older. However, beyond the age of two these bears are typically too habituated to human presence, may associate people with food, and do not display the skill sets needed to survive in the wild. These individuals require life-long care. The OCCQ provided care to a total of 17 sun bears in 2020.

In 2020 there were no new sun bear arrivals at the OCCQ. However, OFI staff conducted two sun bear translocations in 2020. An adult male bear was rescued from a plantation, PT Agro Indomas, on August 21, 2020, and was translocated to Lamandau Wildlife Reserve. An adult female bear was rescued from Rungau Raya Village on October 1st and also translocated to Lamandau Wildlife Reserve. Unfortunately, it was impossible to monitor these two bears after release because they simply ran away.

GIBBONS

OFI sometimes receives confiscated ex-captive gibbons from the police or wild gibbons in need of medical attention from BKSDA. Because gibbon rehabilitation is not our expertise, we collaborate with Chanee Kalaweit of the Kalaweit Project. This project specializes in gibbon rehabilitation and conservation in Indonesia. After giving rescued gibbons necessary medical care and allowing them time to stabilize at the OCCQ, we transfer them to the Kalaweit Project in Central Kalimantan's provincial capital, Palangka Raya. In 2020 there were no gibbon arrivals or transfers from the OCCQ.

ORANGUTAN AND OTHER ANIMAL CARE

FOOD AND DIET

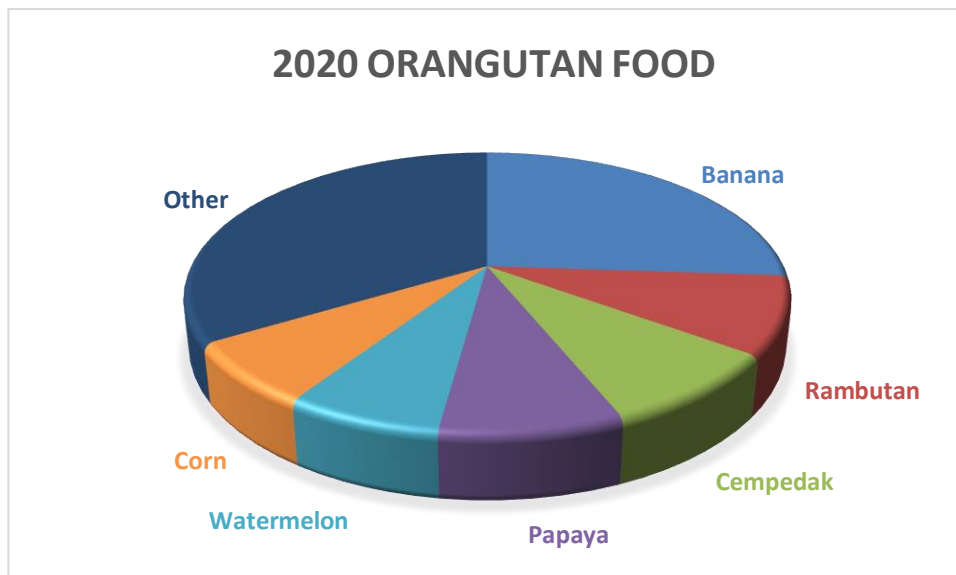
Wild orangutans are primarily frugivorous as well as consuming vegetation, insects, and fungi. Although we cannot exactly duplicate wild orangutan diet for the rehabilitant orangutans in our population, we do our best in providing them with fresh ripe fruit and some vegetables. In addition, we collect wild foods from the forest when they are available: termite nests, fungi, ripe fruits, and young leaves and ferns.

In 2020 around 585,650 kg or 1,292,137 lbs. (645 US tons) of fruit and vegetables were purchased and distributed as food for orangutans and other wildlife under OFI's care. Each month the Orangutan Care Center and Quarantine (OCCQ) requires and receives on average over 48,804 kg or 107,594 lbs. (53 US tons) of fruit and vegetables which are also distributed to the various field camp and release locations.

Bananas are the produce most consumed with a 2020 total of 152,635 kg or 336,502 lbs. while other types of produce often provided for orangutans and other animals in OFI's care were rambutan (52,379 kg or 115,475 lbs.), cempedak (51,553 kg or 113,654 lbs.), papaya (48,894 kg or 107,693 lbs.), watermelon (41,764 kg or 92,073 lbs.), and corn (41,625 kg or 91,767 lbs.). Other fruits such as pineapple, jackfruit, mango, sugar cane, durian, and various vegetables and greens were also given in varying amounts.

OFI requires sufficient funding for the OCCQ to ensure that all the orangutans and other wildlife receive the nutrition they need during rehabilitation.

OFI strives to provide orangutans and other wildlife under our care with a varied diet year-round as much as possible and uses in-season local fruit as a staple. OFI often purchases from local markets supplied by local farmers in nearby Dayak (indigenous) villages. This fosters good relationships with the local community as well as ensures fresh produce for the orangutans under our care. Additionally, OFI regularly buys bananas and other fruit from a women's cooperative in the small Melayu village on the boundary of Sungai Cabang in the southern part of Tanjung Puting National Park. Produce not locally available requires import from Java, South Borneo, or West Borneo.



Milk, both regular dairy and soy, is given several times a day to infants and juveniles. Milk is also given twice weekly to adolescents and adults. Our experience is that milk is very beneficial for the health and development of the wild born ex-captive orangutans at the OCCQ.

FEEDING SCHEDULES

At the OCCQ, orangutan feedings are scheduled five times per day. In addition to the feedings, orangutans receive a variety of fluids consisting of milk, electrolytes, weak sugarless tea, and fresh water as well as occasional fresh fruit juice. Recently released orangutans also receive a similar diet and fluids at feeding stations. At the release sites, feedings usually occur once or twice a day.

REHABILITATION

THE REHABILITATION PROCESS

For wild born ex-captive orangutans, rehabilitation and release protocols are complex and based on the individual needs of the orangutan. Those orangutans who were held illegally as pets for long periods of time prior to rescue and who arrived as infants or young juveniles at the OCCQ may require a long rehabilitation period. Rehabilitation plans are designed to address various needs resulting from individuals being orphaned at a young age. These issues often arise from orphans being fed a poor diet or being held in a small cage while captive over many years.

The rehabilitation process is meant to prepare orangutans for eventual release. While the process may vary by individual, the standard for rehabilitation is to prepare orangutans for the following:

- How to engage appropriately with other orangutans
- How to navigate through the forest canopy
- How to forage for food
- How to construct a night nest

BEHAVIOR

Males

Rehabilitation may be an especially difficult process for male orangutans. Released ex-captive males must exhibit proper behavior in order to share the forest with wild adult male orangutans. This is especially important when encountering dominant adult males and/or aggressive sub-adult males. Ex-captive males must be prepared to be vigilant since male-male competition is standard among wild orangutans. This competition may include aggression and combat.

Females

Although more social in nature compared to males, released ex-captive orangutan females face challenges as well. Wild adult females could injure released females, seeing them as competitors for food in the same range. Released females must learn to avoid unnecessary interactions with their wild counterparts and/or be submissive. Learning appropriate behavior in preparation for possible interactions in the wild helps ex-captive female orangutans avoid aggression from wild females and lessens the stress on themselves and their offspring.

LEARNING FOREST

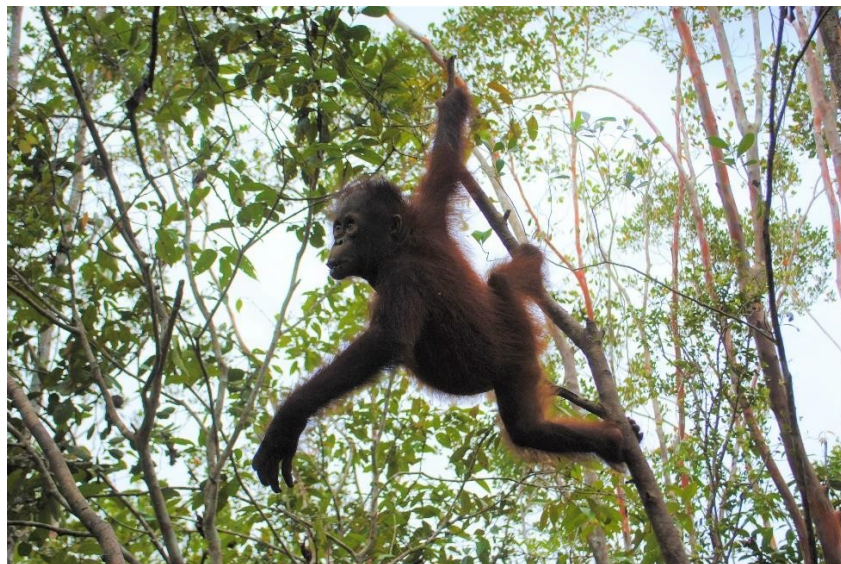
The *Learning Forest*, which surrounds the OCCQ, is a “teaching” forest essential to orangutan rehabilitation. The *Learning Forest* sits on approximately 100 hectares (about 250 acres) of land and consists of primary peat swamp forest, mixed/dry lowland secondary forest, and relic dry ground primary rainforest. This forest combination closely mirrors local orangutan habitat at release sites.



Heading out to the Learning Forest

Within the *Learning Forest*, there are over 200 species of trees and vines as well as various insects and fungi which wild orangutans are known to eat. This provides orangutans in rehabilitation at the OCCQ the opportunity to develop familiarity with natural food resources. In addition to helping young orangutans develop essential skills, the *Learning Forest*, by its very existence, also benefits the numerous other native wildlife species who inhabit the area. A local population of crab-eating macaques sometimes enjoys the leftover food dropped by the orangutans while bearcats, civets, and even the occasional Malayan sun bear and barking deer make an appearance. Until recently, a family of gibbons lived in the *Learning Forest*, but have since moved away.

Infant, juvenile, or otherwise immature orangutans at the OCCQ are released from their sleeping enclosures to develop essential survival skills and learn proper orangutan “etiquette.” We emphasize that adolescent orangutans are released into the *Learning Forest* on alternating schedules. Males and females visit on alternative days to prevent possible mating that may lead to unplanned pregnancies. We do not, in any way, shape, or form, want the OCCQ to become a breeding facility. On the days adolescent orangutans don’t visit the *Learning Forest*, they are provided with intense enrichment activities by specialist OFI staff members of the Enrichment Team.



Orangutan Duyu practicing life skills in the Learning Forest

ENRICHMENT

ENRICHMENT CRITERIA

Orangutans are highly intelligent primates who need daily stimulation. Enrichment is key for the maintenance of orangutan mental and physical health during rehabilitation, it further provides the opportunity to exhibit and practice natural specie-specific behaviors and helps reinforce important survival skills. OFI has designated a number of staff members as an Enrichment Team. Their sole responsibility is to provide daily enrichment to the orangutans in rehabilitation at the OCCQ and surrounding camps. The team develops and designs enrichment that is appropriate and specific to differing age ranges and skill levels as the orangutans grow older.

ENRICHMENT CATEGORIES

Enrichment at OFI falls under the following well recognized enrichment categories: Physical/Habitat, Cognitive, Sensory, Food, and Social. It is important to recognize these categories are not mutually exclusive and one form of enrichment might very well fall under multiple categories.

Physical/Habitat

This form of enrichment is excellent for providing opportunities for physical exercise, building dexterity and strength, improving cardiovascular health, and exhibiting and practicing critical skills (like climbing and swinging) for survival in the wild. The OFI Enrichment Team staff can be found regularly developing, building, and installing numerous forms of physical/habitat enrichment – both within orangutan enclosures as well as at daily forest school playgrounds near their *Learning Forest* release sites. Examples can include hammocks, wood ladders, ropes, balls, barrels, raised sleeping platforms off the ground, bedding/nesting materials, etc.



Physical/Habitat enrichment installed at a forest school playground near the Learning Forest



Enrichment Team staff member installing physical/habitat enrichment inside a nursery enclosure

Cognitive

This form of enrichment is critical for providing psychological stimulation and opportunities for exhibiting and practicing problem solving behavior, a critical skill for survival in the wild. This particular form of enrichment becomes even more important, by providing adequate stimulation in the rehabilitation environment, as the orangutans age and see an increase in their cognitive capabilities and skill levels. OFI Enrichment Team staff provide cognitive enrichment through distributing novel items, and puzzle-type feeders, activities, and toys made from natural materials with difficulty levels tailored to their specific age group and individual needs and restrictions.



OFI Enrichment Team staff with food parcels/puzzle feeders



Peanut puzzle feeder logs & rattan balls stuffed with favored food items

Food

Food enrichment can encompass any enrichment that includes food items, whether novel or infrequently received types of foods and special treats, or in how food items are presented and accessed. Studies have shown animals to engage in behavior known as ‘contra-free loading’, essentially the phenomenon that when an animal is presented with the choice between food that is offered/freely available and the same exact food that is presented in a way that requires effort to obtain, the animal chooses the option requiring effort/problem solving. With this in mind, it can be beneficial to present daily diet in a way that requires effort, thought process, and problem solving. An example of food enrichment the orangutans at the OCCQ enjoy are novel and highly desired food items presented in leaf and vine parcels, puzzle feeders, and other devices made from natural materials.

Sensory

Sensory enrichment is very broad and is essentially any enrichment that stimulates the senses. This can be as simple as having housing that allows for access to normal environmental stimulation whether fresh air and wind, natural forest sounds, visual stimulation from natural surroundings, nature smells, etc. The enclosures at OFI are designed in a way where orangutans are not removed/cut off from these normal environmental stimuli. Additionally, many forms of enrichment provided by OFI Enrichment Team staff stimulate the senses through items that provide novel tastes, smells, textures, etc.

Social

Though orangutans are not known to be considered highly social primates, immature orangutans seem to be much more social than fully mature orangutans. For young orangutans, having shared housing and shared *Learning Forest* release sessions provides individuals with opportunities to learn from one another through play and social interaction. The stimulation that comes from being around conspecifics is beneficial to mental health for young orangutans.



Orangutans Kevin, Best, and Turner learning and exploring together

MEDICAL REPORT

OVERVIEW

The medical staff at the Orangutan Care Center and Quarantine (OCCQ) consists of three full time veterinarians who are among the most experienced orangutan medical professionals in Indonesia. The OCCQ medical facility includes a full operating room, an x-ray, a laboratory, and refrigerated medical storage rooms. The Care Center is equipped with many sophisticated medical tools, such as a defibrillator, ultra-sound machine, and an anesthesia machine.

ROUTINE MEDICAL ACTIVITIES

Routine medical activities include general examinations and weight monitoring of all orangutans conducted on the first of each month. Weighing the largest orangutans can be an intensive and time-consuming process because large orangutans are not easily handled.

De-worming or anti-parasitic medication is given to all orangutans on arrival to the OCCQ, every three months during their rehabilitation, and before they are released into the wild. In addition, OFI staff are given similar medications every six months. To avoid the development of resistance over time, alternating types of anti-parasitic medications are administered in different sessions.

COMMON HEALTH ISSUES

Orangutans with identified health issues, like poor nutrition or other underlying conditions, are kept under close observation. Poor nutrition is a major problem for captive orangutans. In the worst scenarios, captive orangutans are severely malnourished to the point of near starvation. Captive orangutans are often given food which is inappropriate or inadequate. When confiscated or surrendered, orangutans are brought to OFI and health problems are immediately treated. Treatment for more complex conditions caused by malnourishment, such as protein deficiencies or stunted growth, require extensive ongoing care and can affect individual orangutans over their lifetime.

MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES

In addition to physical health conditions, many ex-captive orangutans who have been kept as pets may develop negative associations with specific foods related to trauma in captivity. It can be difficult to have ex-captives re-learn to eat healthy foods. Additionally, these orangutans have difficulty maintaining and/or gaining weight. These individuals will be monitored more intensively than other orangutans. Treatment protocols can vary but generally involve food supplements.

Unfortunately, many captive orangutans are kept in abusive or neglected conditions by unaware owners who don't comprehend the intelligence, sensibilities, and fragility of primate "pets" such as orangutans. These conditions may affect behavior and physiology over captive orangutans' lifetimes.

PROCEDURES

Sometimes it is necessary to anesthetize orangutans to perform surgery or conduct other emergency procedures.

In 2020 the use of anesthetics was used in the following cases:

- Facilitate orangutan rescue or translocation
- Wound treatment, x-ray, or surgery
- Implantation of telemetry devices
- Pre-release medical examinations and testing

In addition, when necessary, orangutans may be anesthetized so that caregivers can safely make repairs to their sleeping enclosures or to ensure safe transport.

OCCQ ORANGUTAN BIRTHS

OFI goes to great lengths to keep sexually mature male and female orangutans separate at the OCCQ facilities to avoid breeding and overpopulation issues. Male and female adolescents and older juveniles are released into the *Learning Forest* on alternating days as the young males, in particular, show great interest in the young females and sometimes harass them trying to copulate. However, on very rare occasions the will to procreate cannot be denied. Fortunately, in 2020 there were no births recorded at the OCCQ.

WILD-LIVING ORANGUTAN BIRTHS

During 2020, five wild born ex-captive orangutan females or their descendants were observed bearing newborn infants. On February 25, Uning came with a small newborn infant of unknown gender. Uning herself is the wild born offspring of a wild born ex-captive female released in the mid 1970s. We were unable to identify the gender of Uning's infant because Uning kept her infant very close to her own body. This is typical of mothers with newborn infants. In March, Carey came to the feeding platform, bringing a small infant. Again, it was impossible to see the infant's gender. Carey was one of the original wild born ex-captives who first came to OFI in the very beginning of the 1980s. In June, misnamed female Aristotle brought a young infant to the feeding station. Since Aristotle is the granddaughter of Akmad who was the first wild born ex-captive female released at Camp Leakey, Aristotle's new infant of unknown gender is Akmad's great grand offspring. Since Akmad was a local girl originally from the Sekonyer River area, this means her great grand offspring may also be local. In September, Yolanda came with a new offspring while in November, Gina brought a new infant. Both Yolanda and Gina are offspring of original wild born ex-captive mothers who were released at Camp Leakey in the 1970s. This means Yolanda's and Gina's infants are grand offspring of original releasees.

In March 2020, Monet came to Pondok Tanggui with a new infant. Monet is the offspring of a wild born ex-captive orangutan originally released at Pondok Tanggui.

It should be emphasized that there are released wild born ex-captive orangutan females and their descendants who rarely or never appear close to the release camps or feeding stations. It's very possible that these females have also given birth to infants at unknown times. Sometimes females who are released to the wild disappear and then come back a few years later with infants. The precise date of birth of these infants is not known but can sometimes be approximated. It is very much possible that there have been more births during 2020 in the community of released wild born ex-captive rehabilitants and their descendants than reported here.

ORANGUTAN MORTALITIES

OFI always does its utmost to save the life of each orangutan, as every loss is one too many. Despite our best efforts, in 2020 we lost a total of three orangutans under our care.

Date of Death	Orangutan Name	Age	Sex	Orangutan Details
March 2020	Eko	Adult	Male	Despite OFI veterinarians' best efforts with providing wound care and physiotherapy, wild orangutan Eko succumbed to the injuries he had sustained which had led to his rescue from the forest and then transfer to the OCCQ.
July 2020	Jezza	Infant	Male	Jezza was an infant who arrived at the OCCQ in October 2019. He seemed healthy. He died abruptly of unknown causes in his sleep. Consultation with medical professionals indicated that his demise might have been due to "sudden infant death syndrome."
November 2020	Hockey	Adult	Female	Hockey was an ex-captive orangutan who was loved by all who knew her. She arrived at the OCCQ as a young orangutan. Prior to her arrival she had suffered a stroke that left her partially paralyzed and susceptible to seizures throughout her life. Her condition made it so she couldn't be released and survive in the wild. Hockey lived at the OCCQ for 14 years with staff dedicated specifically to her care. Despite her medical condition, she thrived. In 2020 Hockey suffered a short illness (non-COVID-19 related) and she passed away in her sleep with her devoted caregivers by her side.

INTERNATIONAL FIELD VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE

Ruth Linsky (former Intern, former Construction Team Coordinator, current graduate student)
Celine Vincart (Construction Team Coordinator)
Noor Sheikh (former Volunteer Field Correspondent)

OFI's long-term volunteer program in the past has consisted of carefully selected volunteers hailing from around the world who come to assist with communications, enrichment, construction, and to serve as interns. With the arrival of the pandemic, the long-term volunteer program was paused during 2020.

CONSTRUCTION TEAM PROGRAM

In non-pandemic years the OFI construction volunteer program brought together wildlife and rainforest enthusiasts from around the world to work "hands on" in Central Kalimantan. Teams of up to 10 people worked together for three weeks to support OFI's ongoing infrastructure and building projects. Financial contributions from volunteers enabled OFI to hire Indonesian carpenters, cooks, and other necessary staff to facilitate volunteer activities, thus increasing local employment. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic this program was paused for the 2020 year.

FIELD PROGRAM UPDATES

EDUCATION

“CAMPAIGN ORANGUTAN” PROGRAM IN SCHOOLS AND VILLAGES

In August 2018, Orangutan Foundation International (OFI) established a public education program in Kalimantan (Indonesian Borneo) to conduct outreach primarily to school children in the areas where OFI works. OFI hired a former government official and regional “influencer,” Ibu Dora Siburian, to be the Education Outreach Coordinator. Ibu Dora immediately launched the “Campaign Orangutan” program in local schools and villages. The focus of Campaign Orangutan was to encourage children in the region to feel ownership of the rich biodiversity that constitutes the natural heritage of the province and of Indonesia. Kalimantan Tengah (Central Indonesian Borneo) has the largest population of orangutans in the world, ancient tropical rainforests, as well as many species endemic to Borneo such as proboscis monkeys.



Local schoolchildren holding native tree seedlings before planting

Campaign Orangutan was hailed by government officials as a worthy component of education in local schools. Ibu Dora spoke to pupils and students at both public and religious schools as well as distributing materials such as our colorful Indonesian conservation newsletter, *Pesan Dari Alam (Message from Nature)*. Ibu Dora and her assistants spoke not only about orangutans, but also about tropical rainforest conservation, environmental issues such as global climate change, and about OFI Founder and President Dr. Biruté Mary Galdikas' pioneering research and conservation activities in the region. Lessons also included activities such as coloring contests, educational games, and group discussions which also involved teachers and even school principals. This program has an extensive reach to thousands of schoolchildren and individuals with the 2019 presentations across 136 schools reaching 23,572 people, and

some very popular events such as the Campaign Orangutan Parade attracting as many as 2,000 schoolchildren as participants.

With the arrival of the 2020 pandemic, Campaign Orangutan underwent significant modifications in accordance with best practices to protect local communities from COVID-19. From the beginning of the year 2020 until March 14th Ibu Dora and OFI educators presented to a total of 3,730 people across 20 schools with the following breakdown:

- 9 elementary schools – total of 1,430 students
- 7 middle schools – total of 1,350 students
- 4 high schools – total of 950 students

In addition to the educational presentations discussed above, these school visits included activities such as tree planting and garbage clean-up. On March 14, 2020, OFI held additional special activities to commemorate World Water Day. During the beginning of 2020 OFI emphasized the in-person conservation activities of the local

schoolchildren, particularly tree-planting. During these in-person school visits across 20 schools, a total of 1,910 trees were planted by students and teachers.

In order to continue this critical education campaign following COVID-19 lockdowns, Ibu Dora implemented virtual classroom presentations delivered via Zoom. These virtual education events were presented to 23 schools reaching a total of 673 students with the following breakdown:

- 9 elementary schools – total of 309 students
- 8 middle schools – total of 254 students
- 6 high schools – total of 110 students

All in-person education and outreach events went on pause during lockdowns from mid-March to the beginning of May. Once this lockdown period was lifted, Ibu Dora continued OFI's education and outreach efforts with significant modifications made for COVID-19 safety. In addition to school events for students, Ibu Dora and OFI educators took to visiting villages and holding events across the province of Kalimantan Tengah (Central Indonesian Borneo). All events were held outdoors with the number of attendees for each event reduced drastically to allow for social distancing. All participants and presenters were required to wear masks and follow best practices to avoid cross-contamination. Activities included educational presentations, planting tree seedlings, community garbage clean-ups, and special commemoration events for Orangutan Awareness Week November 4th-10th and Indonesian Tree Day in late November. Between in-person and virtual events combined, Ibu Dora and OFI educators reached a total of 6,868 people and planted a total of 54,485 tree seedlings in 2020.



World Tree Day celebrations conducted by OFI's Outreach and Education program

LAND ACQUISITION AND PROTECTION

HABITAT PRESERVATION

Orangutan Foundation International (OFI) has a multi-dimensional strategy to protect orangutan forest habitat. Protecting habitat is crucial to conservation. The rainforests of Borneo and Sumatra represent orangutans' only home.

OFI works with all levels of the Indonesian government to help establish national parks, reserves, and other protected areas where orangutans live. We work closely with local people and governments to ensure the land we purchase in collaboration with Indonesian partners is used for wildlife and forest protection. We provide local people with employment on these protected lands as forest guards and rangers.

In recent years with the support of the local indigenous community, OFI's Land Acquisition and Protection program continued in the areas of Pasir Panjang Village Forest which is near the Orangutan Care Center and Quarantine (OCCQ), several daily release camps, "Ha-Ha" forest island habitats, and the Rawa Kuno Orangutan Legacy Forest. OFI initiated the concept of an "Orangutan Wildlife Corridor" connecting these areas together. Habitat preservation and rewilding/planting efforts in these areas are critical to OFI's goal to ensure that habitat remains intact and connected for the remnant populations of orangutans, gibbons, macaques, Malayan sun bears, and clouded leopards who live in this area. In addition, in recent years Indonesian collaborators of OFI have continued to aggregate forested land along the north side of the Sekonyer River, which acts as a critical buffer for Tanjung Puting National Park. This area is under threat from palm oil plantations and local farmers to the north and still holds a remnant population of orangutans and many other wildlife species.

In the early months of 2020 OFI's Indonesian collaborators were able to acquire an additional 112 ha (277 acres) of land across seven locations for preservation. By March, land acquisition came to a halt for the remainder of the year due to COVID-19 restrictions.

FOREST PROTECTION AND FIREFIGHTING

OFI field and patrol staff carry out routine monitoring efforts across all OFI-associated land holdings including the Rawa Kuno Orangutan Legacy Forest, in and around Tanjung Puting National Park, and within the forested areas of the Seruyan Regency that act as a buffer for the National Park and OFI's release camps. OFI's year-round patrol efforts aid in the detection of local encroachment for poaching and illegal logging. Forest monitoring activities also increase the speed with which forest fires are located and extinguished. Patrol efforts span across three distinct regions with a total of eleven OFI release locations. These efforts were impacted with the arrival of the COVID-19 pandemic. Due to the pandemic, the level of monitoring that patrol rangers were able to carry out was less intensive in 2020 than in years past.

The 2020 efforts focused on the monitoring and cleaning of fire breaks around four particular patrol posts and the paths and routes between them. The 2020 closure of Tanjung Puting National Park did not impact OFI staff who continued to be stationed within the Park. Though less intensive, monitoring and patrolling efforts by OFI rangers continued.



OFI forest ranger & Indonesian police officer in front of OFI patrol post

In addition to monitoring through patrols, OFI mitigates the threat of forest fires with prevention and control assisted through hotspot monitoring via environmental satellite data. Hotspot numbers are always associated with the number of fires, and because Tanjung Puting National Park is an area known to experience fire almost every year, OFI staff monitor hotspots daily, especially in the dry season.

In 2020 the presence of hotspots was not detected in Tanjung Puting National Park. This is due to the frequency and intensity of rain in Indonesia brought on by the La Niña cold wave which resulted in stable rains even through the “summer,” which is usually the “dry” season in Borneo. The lack of hotspots and fires in 2020 is notable, especially considering the intensity of the fires with 857 hotspots recorded in the National Park between July and November 2019.

REFORESTATION AND REWILDING

The Orangutan Foundation International (OFI) reforestation project was launched in 2016 and 2017 after the devastating fires of 2015 destroyed several thousand hectares of rainforest within OFI-protected land, and hundreds of thousands of forested hectares throughout all of Borneo. With so little rainforest remaining in Kalimantan (Indonesian Borneo), and more being destroyed every day, it became apparent that along with conserving what forest remained, it was important to replant and restore forests in the areas where they had once been. OFI is assisting in the mitigation of climate change by helping maintain peat swamps, prime orangutan habitat. In these peat swamp forests carbon is stored underground and in the trees. As long as these forests remain intact and are not burned or logged, little carbon is released into the atmosphere. By cultivating and planting native seedlings in areas that have been burned, we are helping Bornean orangutan populations survive, as deforestation is one of the main threats facing orangutans in the wild.

The current OFI Herbarium seedling nursery was established in 2016 and initial planting efforts began in April 2017. In 2018 and continuing into 2019, the priority of the reforestation program focused on replanting areas within the Rawa Kuno Orangutan Legacy Forest that had been destroyed by fire in 2015 and by local anthropogenic disturbance, which included considerable amounts of illegal logging. Replanting sites were selected based on the impact caused by illegal logging, forest clearing to establish agricultural land and palm oil plantations, and especially, previously burned forest.



Native tree seedlings in OFI's nursery



OFI's Herbarium Manager and Reforestation Coordinator Ibu Cici at the seedling nursery

Rewilding and planting efforts of 2020 were substantially impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic with mandatory lockdowns and the accompanying limitations and logistical barriers to travel and to access planting sites. The Herbarium Manager and Reforestation Coordinator Ibu Cici led the herbarium, nursery, and rewilding team staff in planting a total of 25,670 seedlings in 2020. These planting efforts included 12 different native species, including vulnerable and endemic species, across six different OFI rewilding sites. The 2020 year's planting efforts brought OFI's total planting numbers to 370,145 seedlings since the inception of the Reforestation and Rewilding Program.



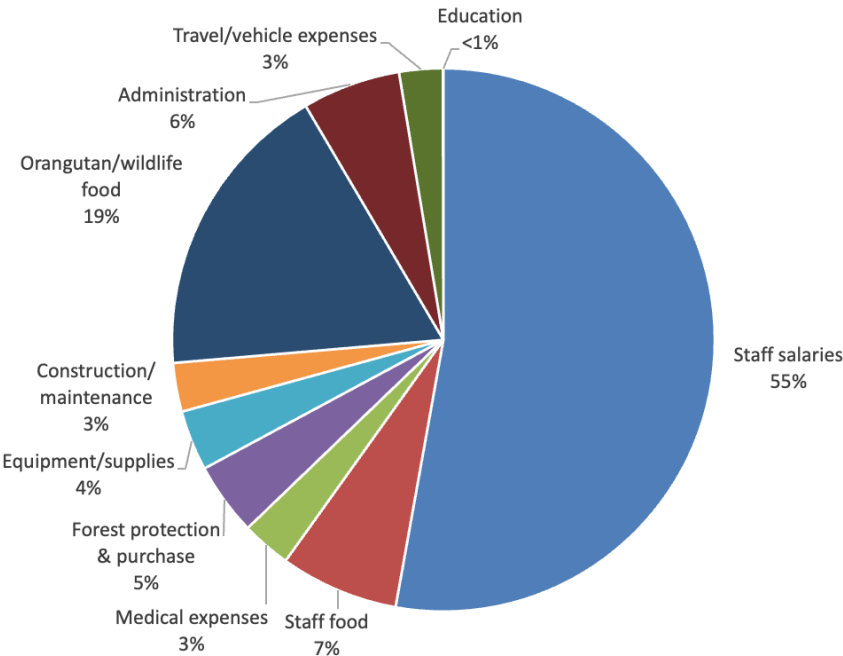
OFI's Reforestation Team maintaining tree-planting efforts in 2020

FINANCES AND DONATIONS

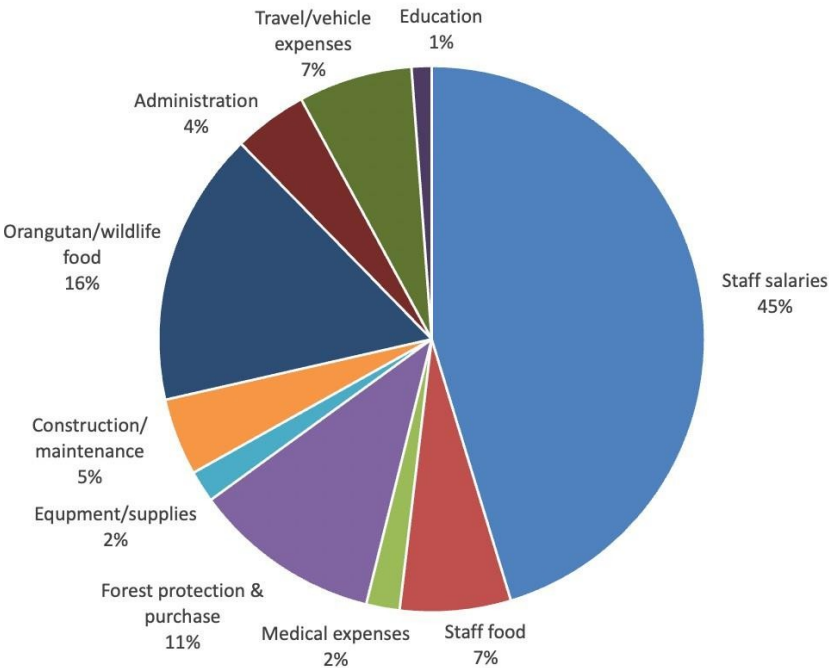
FIELD EXPENSES

The following graphs show OFI’s Indonesian field expense percentages in 2020 compared to 2019. “Staff salaries” include all Indonesian staff.

FIELD EXPENSES IN 2020



FIELD EXPENSES IN 2019



DONATIONS SUMMARY

OFI raised a total of **\$2,611,855** from all sources in 2020. OFI implements a diversified fundraising strategy composed of many channels. Most of our funding comes from the United States and some comes from our sister organization OFI Australia.

Our Canadian sister organization, OFI Canada, provides funding separately and not directly through OFI.

OFI's funding channels include:

STANDARD DONATIONS

Standard donations are unrestricted gifts from private individuals and other supporters who contribute online (via credit card or PayPal), mail checks to the LA office, or provide payment information over the phone. Legacy bequests are included in standard donations. OFI was fortunate in 2020 to receive a very large bequest.

INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT

Institutional support refers to foundations, grant makers, and other institutional supporters who grant funding for specific programs or general operations.

APPEALS

Appeals are formal letters sent via post and email to OFI's entire fundraising list, as well being promoted on our website and across social media channels. The 2020 Fall Appeal urged our supporters to contribute towards helping to feed the 300+ orangutans in rehabilitation at the OCCQ.

CAMPAIGNS

Campaigns refer to specific conservation programs that donors choose to fund.

INDIRECT DONATIONS

Indirect donations are gifts of stock, employee matching contributions, vehicle donations, or third-party fundraisers.

ECOTOURS

EcoTours are exclusive trips to visit Camp Leakey and the OCCQ, as well as to meet Dr. Galdikas. OFI receives a donation per traveler for the standard tour, and another donation per traveler for the extension tour. EcoTours are managed by a third-party travel agency, ProTravel. Included in the funds from the EcoTours are additional donations made by tour participants after or during the tours. With the closure of Indonesia's borders and Tanjung Puting National Park, as well as COVID-19 safety measures and protocols implemented at the OCCQ, EcoTours were cancelled and not conducted during the 2020 year.

FOSTER PROGRAM

With a gift of \$100 supporters can choose to "foster" orangutans at the OCCQ and receive photos and updates on the foster orangutans' progress. This is one of OFI's longest running fundraising and educational outreach programs.

EVENTS

Events include fundraisers such as donor get-togethers, lectures, cultural fairs, and other events in which OFI participates.

PROJECTS

Supporters can give funding towards specific projects that are not associated with current appeals or campaigns.

MEMBERSHIP

The membership program offers tiered giving levels that provide special member benefits associated with each level. Benefits include welcome kits and may include activity booklets and tote bags.

IN-KIND

In-kind gifts are non-monetary donations such as medical equipment, office supplies, etc.

MERCHANDISE

Merchandise sales are generated from OFI's online gift shop. This fundraising channel currently contributes only a small portion to OFI's funds.

COMMUNICATIONS AND SOCIAL MEDIA

WEBSITE

The number of visits to the Orangutan Foundation International (OFI) website has increased significantly around the world in recent years. In 2020, there was a total of 3,128,224 visits to the website. The bulk of visitors were from the United States with the next highest visitor numbers coming from Indonesia, followed by Canada.

Country	No. of Visits	% Total Visits
United States	1,940,909	62
Indonesia	402,087	13
Canada	135,525	4
Great Britain	127,570	4
Australia	65,454	2
China	48,894	2
Turkey	46,792	1
Germany	34,511	1
India	30,406	1
France	30,126	1

There were a number of articles posted to OFI's blog throughout 2020, including Orangutan of the Month features, COVID-19 safety measure announcements, News from the Field articles, and Appeal Letters asking for targeted donations. Articles were written by volunteers with experience in the field, OFI office staff, and OFI President and Founder Dr. Biruté Mary Galdikas.

The most popular products from OFI's online store in 2020 were orangutan-themed face masks and palm oil free soaps from our partners at Unearth Malee and Our Planet Soap. Free palm oil awareness documents were frequently downloaded from our website.

SOCIAL MEDIA

OFI's Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter accounts are used to foster engagement with supporters and increase awareness of our mission, vision, and field conservation work.

On these platforms OFI shares a variety of content which may include the following:

- Photos from the field
 - Excerpts from blog and newsletter articles
 - Appeal and campaign announcements
 - Fundraising partnership posts
 - Conservation related posts
 - Historical photos
 - International awareness days
-

- Orangutan and other conservation related movements
- Posts from supporters, partners, and sister organizations if and when appropriate

Activity on social media platforms is monitored to ensure regular engagement with followers. Positive comments about our posts are either “liked”, shared, or replied to by the OFI account.

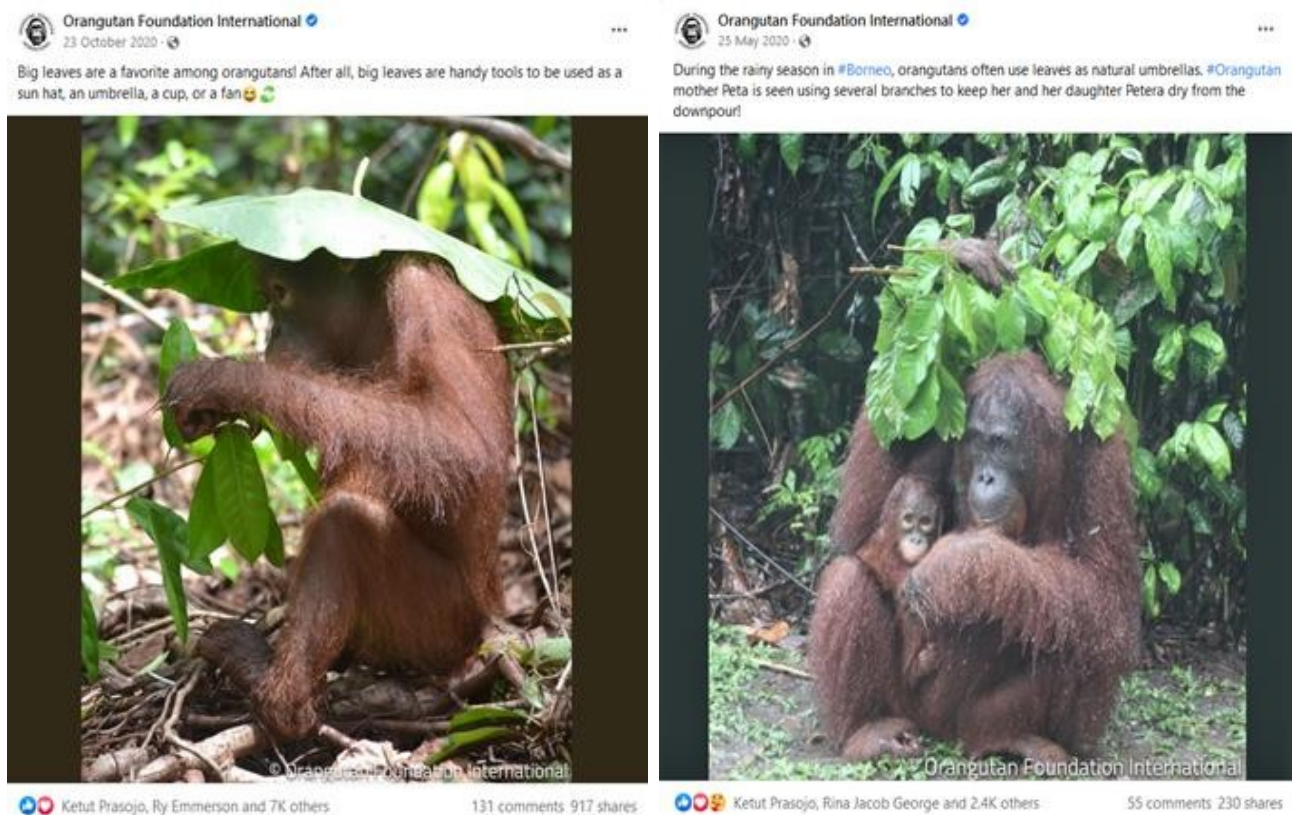
SOCIAL MEDIA ENGAGEMENT

OFI continued a push to build engagement across social media platforms throughout 2020.

Across our social media platforms, our most liked posts were those that show photos and videos of orangutans or OFI caregivers with orangutans, stories of orangutan rescues and releases, orangutan facts and news stories, posts about OFI Founder and President Dr. Biruté Mary Galdikas, as well as palm oil related topics.



OFI's most liked Facebook posts for 2020 included photos of orangutans accompanied by orangutan facts, and a video from the OFI OCCQ nursery.





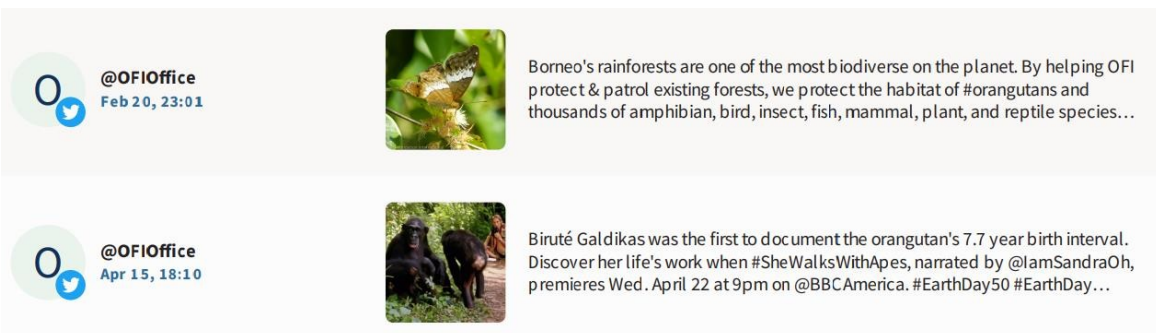
Instagram

OFI's most liked Instagram posts of 2020 included photos of orangutans (especially infant or juvenile individuals) in rehabilitation at the OCCQ, and a post of an infant with mother at a Camp Leakey feeding platform.





OFI's most liked Twitter posts from 2020 included content about palm oil education and palm oil free products sold on the OFI website, Borneo's biodiverse rainforests and supporting OFI's forest protection efforts, and the announcement of the premiere of *She Walks With Apes*, a BBC America series highlighting the achievements of OFI Founder and President Dr. Biruté Mary Galdikas, among others.



HONORS, TALKS, AND PUBLICATIONS

INAUGURAL SPEECH, ANNE INNIS DAGG LECTURE SERIES

Orangutan Foundation International (OFI) Founder and President Dr. Biruté Mary Galdikas was invited by Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo, Ontario, Canada to give the honored inaugural speech for the Anne Innis Dagg Lecture Series on March 9, 2020. Dr. Galdikas launched the event with a talk entitled “Barriers, Obstacles, and Success: Working with Orangutans in Borneo.” The event was open to the public with Dr. Anne Innis Dagg in attendance. Wilfrid Laurier University’s Department of Biology Professor and Chair, Mathew Smith, was quoted on the university’s website stating, “Dr. Galdikas – one of the so-called ‘Trimates’ or ‘Leakey’s Angels,’ along with Jane Goodall and Dian Fossey – is among the highest profile scientists working in Canada and we couldn’t think of a more appropriate person to launch the series.”

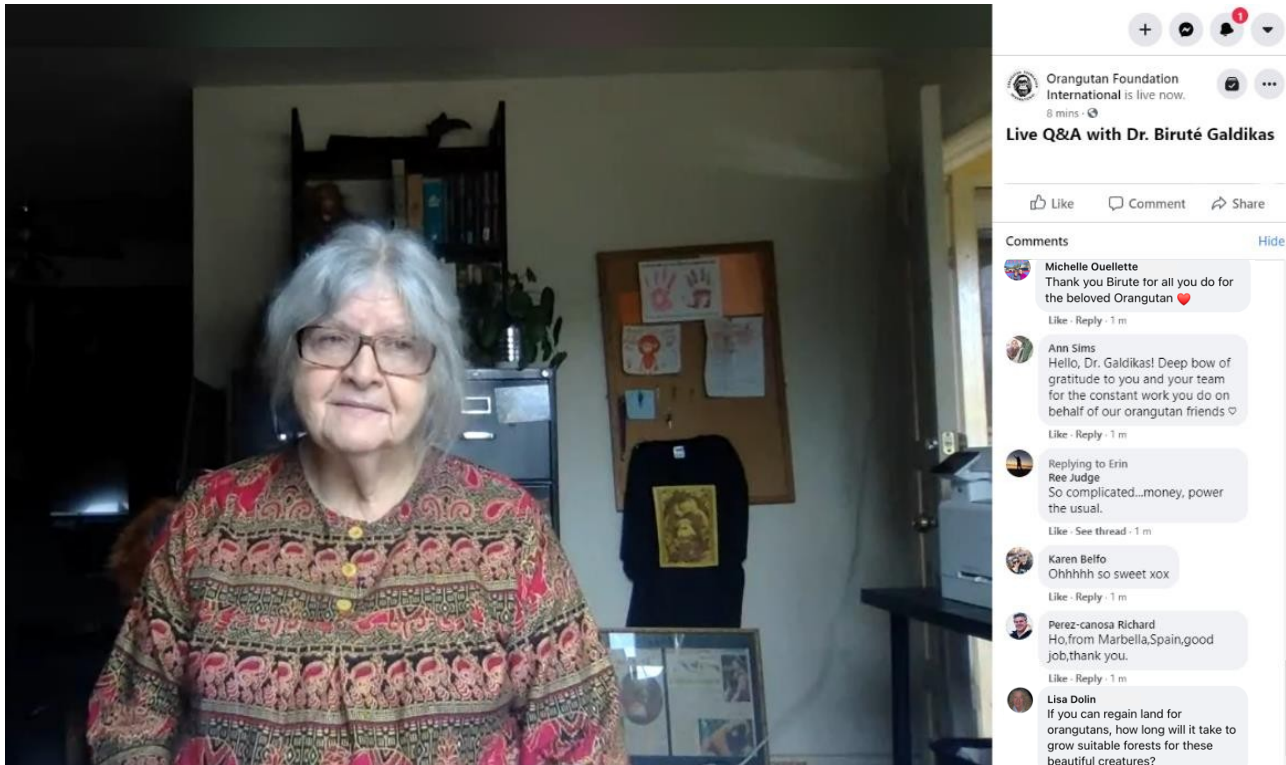


Dr. Galdikas is introduced before her inaugural speech for the Anne Innis Dagg Lecture Series at Wilfrid Laurier University in Ontario, Canada

Earlier that day the Centre for Women in Science group hosted an RSVP “Lunch and Learn” luncheon with Dr. Biruté Galdikas as their featured guest.

FACEBOOK LIVE

In June 2020, OFI's Facebook social media page hosted a Live Q&A for followers and supporters to ask questions and hear from OFI Founder and President Dr. Biruté Mary Galdikas about her lifelong work studying and protecting orangutans in Kalimantan Tengah (Central Indonesian Borneo). The Facebook Live clip was subsequently shared across all OFI social media platforms and brought in wonderful engagement from followers and supporters.



Screenshot from Facebook Live Q&A with Dr. Galdikas, showing engagement from followers on the right



ORANGUTAN FOUNDATION INTERNATIONAL

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With support from our sister organizations:

