



GLOBAL CHEETAH SUMMIT
conservation through collaboration

A CALL TO ACTION

Agenda

January 28-31, 2024

Addis Ababa Hilton

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

المدينة الملكية لمحافظة العلاء
Royal Commission for AlUla



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Cheetah
CONSERVATION FUND

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1 AGENDA OVERVIEW

The first Global Cheetah Summit –A Call to Action, convenes 28th – 31st January 2024 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The Summit brings together a diverse group of international stakeholders representing governments, universities, NGOs, policy and economy institutes, local and Indigenous communities, and private enterprise from around the world to discuss and act-on the plight of the fastest land animal and the most endangered of the big cats. The three major questions will be addressed during the event:

0	Setting the stage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are your perspectives and expectations for the summit? • What is the current view and perspectives of public authorities? 	<i>Day 1</i>
1	What is the current status of cheetahs worldwide?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the current status of wild cheetah populations? 1.1 • What are the key threats and pressures on cheetah prey and natural habitats? 1.2 • What are the persistent knowledge gaps? 1.3 • What is the status of captive cheetahs? 1.4 • What is our current understanding of cheetah genetics? 1.5 • What is the viability of current cheetah populations? 1.6 • What is the current understanding on cheetah health and reproduction? 1.7 	<i>Day 2</i>
2	How can we address threats & pressures impacting cheetahs?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the best practices in translocation and reintroduction? 2.1 • How to increase cheetah populations and ranges? 2.2 • How can the human-wildlife conflict be mediated and resolved? 2.3 • How to fight cheetah illegal wildlife trade? 2.4 	<i>Day 3</i>
3	What are the enablers for change? How to get started now?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to develop community-based initiatives for population restoration? 3.1 • What are creative and innovative financing and conservation solutions? 3.2 • How to translate vision into actions? What next steps? 3.3 	<i>Day 4</i>

1 DAY 1 – 28 January 2024 – Setting the stage

	Event	Speaker	Affiliation
1300-1700	Registration		
1730-1800 (10 min)	Summit overview & objectives	Cynthia Smoot Guillaume Thibault	CCF Ambassador, Master of Ceremonies Partner at Oliver Wyman, moderator
(10 min)	Welcome to the Global Cheetah Summit	Prof. Laurie Marker	Founder/Executive Director, CCF
(5 min)	Welcome Videos	Dr. Stephen O'Brien Dr. David Mallon	CCF, Chair Emeritus IUCN Antelope Specialist Group
1800-1810 (10 min)	Convention for International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)- CITES role in decisions on cheetahs and the CITES Big Cats Task Force	Pia Jonsson	Enforcement Support Officer -CITES
1810-1820 (10 min)	Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) role in the African Big Cat Initiative (ACI).	Dr. Nora Weyer	Associate Program Officer, Secretariat, Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species (CMS)
1820-1830 (10 min)	IUCN – Regional – Conservation to Help Save Species	Mr. Luther Anukur	IUCN Regional Director, Eastern and Southern African
1830-1835 (5 min)	Cheetahs a Regional Point of Interest for the United States	Ms. Johanna Fernando	United States Governments Regional Environmental Officer
1835-1840 (5 min)	The importance of collaboration in cheetah conservation in the Horn of Africa	Kumara Wakjira Gemeda	Director General Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority (EWCA)
1840-1850 (10 min)	Opening of the Global Cheetah Summit	H.E. Seleshi Girma	State Minister of Tourism, Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority (EWCA)
1900-2100	Welcome reception Location: Outdoor patio area	Cynthia Smoot	Moderator

2 **DAY 2 – 29 January 2024 – What is the current status of cheetahs worldwide?**

	Event	Speaker	Affiliation
0700-0745	Breakfast Location: Kaffa House		
0800- 0820 (20 min)	Introduction and Agenda for the Day	Cynthia Smoot Guillaume Thibault	CCF Ambassador, Master of Ceremonies Partner at Oliver Wyman, moderator
0820-0830 (10 min)	Cheetah Status, Problems and Solutions	Prof. Laurie Marker	Cheetah Conservation Fund (CCF)
0830 - 0840 (10 min)	Difficult Questions around Carnivore Conservation	Prof. Amy Dickman	Executive Director, Oxford Univ. Wildlife Conservation Research Unit (WildCRU)
0840-1000 Session 1.1	What is the current status of wild cheetah populations? Current information from the Regions including information from the Convention for Migratory Species (CMS) African Big Cat Initiative (ACI) meeting in May 2023.		
0840-0850 (10 min)	Southern Africa	Dr. Rosemary Groom	Southern African Coordinator Africa Range-Wide Cheetah Conservation Initiative (CCI)
0850-0900 (10 min)	Namibia	Uakendisa Muzuma	Carnivore Coordinator, Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism
0900-0910 (10 min)	East Africa	Dr. Sugoto Roy	IUCN SSC Cat Specialist Group
0910-0920 (10 min)	Northeast Africa	Dr. Bogdan Cristescu	Director for Ecology and Research, CCF
0920-0930 (10 min)	Ethiopia	Daniel Pawlos	Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority

	Event	Speaker	Affiliation
0930-0940 (10 min)	North Africa	Dr. Audrey Ipavec	North and West African Coordinator, Africa Range-wide Cheetah Conservation Initiative (CCI)
0940-0950 (10 min)	Managing the cheetah within the Algerian Cultural Parks, primarily Tassili and Ahaggar	Salah Amokrane	Heritage Inspector at the Algerian Ministry of Culture, Algeria
0950-1000 (10 min)	Cheetah report from Iran	Morteza Pourmirzai	Iranian Cheetah Society, Chairman
1000-1030	<i>Tea/Coffee Break – Group Photo</i>		
1030-1120 Session 1.2	What are the key threats and pressures on cheetah prey and natural habitats?		
1030-1045 (15 min)	Overview of African Antelope Populations	Tim Woodfine	Sahara Conservation Fund (SCF), IUCN Antelope Specialist Group
1045-1100 (15 min)	Long-term population trends of large herbivores in Ethiopia's dryland protected areas and consequences for large carnivores: A progress report	Dr. Paul Scholte	Senior Advisor, EWCA and Biodiversity and Forestry Programme (BFP) Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
1100-1110 (10 min)	Biodiversity Benefits of Cheetah Conservation	Stijn Verschueren	Ecologist, PhD Candidate, CCF
1110-1120 (10 min)	The Social System of Cheetahs and Its Implications for Conservation.	Dr. Jörg Melzheimer	Leibniz Institute for Zoo and Wildlife Research (IZW)

	Event	Speaker	Affiliation
1120-1200 Session 1.3	What are the persistent knowledge gaps? Field research necessary to monitor population changes takes years to conduct, and cheetahs are running out of time.		
1120-1200 (40 min)	Panel: Discussion of Research Needed - including agreed upon research protocols, tools, samples collection, collaboration. Moderators - Cynthia Smoot and Guillaume Thibault	Dr. Sugoto Roy Dr. Bogdan Cristescu Dr. Anne Schmidt-Kuentzel Dr. Paul Scholte Daniel Pawlos Dr. Jörg Melzheimer Dr. Rosemary Groom Dr. Charlotte Searle Abdoulkarimou Samna Hans Bauer	IUCN Cat Specialist Group CCF CCF GIZ EWCA IZW (CCI) Researcher WildCRU Niger, Cheetah Coordinator Oxford University WildCru
1200-1300	Lunch Location: Downstairs Atrium area		
1300-1400 Session 1.4	What is the status of captive cheetahs?		
1300-1310 (10 min)	Global/ Horn of Africa/ Population Overview	Prof. Laurie Marker Becky Johnston	International Cheetah Studbook (ICS) Keeper/ Assistant ICS Keeper
1310-1320 (10 min)	North American SSP Population Overview	Dan Beetem	Director of Animal Management The Wilds, AZA SSP and C2S2 member
1320-1330 (10 min)	EAZA Cheetah European Endangered Species Program (EEP) Population Overview - Europe/UK	Alex Sliwa	Curator, Cologne Zoo, EAZA Felid TAG chair
1330-1340 (10 min)	Overview – EAZA North African Population Overview and UAE update	Sean McKeown	EAZA North African Cheetah Studbook Keeper

	Event	Speaker	Affiliation
1340-1410 Session 1.5	What is our current understanding on cheetah genetics?		
1340-1410 (30 min)	Overview of Cheetah Genetics	Dr. Anne Schmidt-Kuentzel Dr. Stefan Prost	Director Animal Health and Research, CCF Assistant Professor for Biodiversity and Genomics, Univ. of Oulu, Finland
1410-1445	<i>Tea/Coffee Break</i>		
1445-1645 Session 1.6	What is the viability of the current cheetah populations?		
1445-1600 (75 min)	Vortex - Overview of Populations (wild and captive)	Dr. Kathy Traylor-Holzer	IUCN/SSC/Conservation Planning Specialist Group (CPSG)
1600-1645 (45 min)	Population Priority Discussion – Open discussion Moderators - Cynthia Smoot and Guillaume Thibault		
1645-1800 Session 1.7	What is our current understanding on cheetah health and reproduction?		
1645-1715 (30 min)	Assisted Reproduction	Dr. Adrienne Crosier	Smithsonian Institution/ National Zoo
1715-1730 (15 min)	Good Health and Immunity of Free-Ranging Cheetahs Encourage Conservation Efforts	Dr. Bettina Wachter	IZW
1730-1800 (30 min)	Health and Diseases of Cheetah	Prof. Karen A. Terio Dr. Emily Mitchell	Professor, Univ. of Illinois Zoological Pathology Program Univ. of Chicago Associate Professor of Pathology, Univ. of Onderstepoort Veterinary School, South Africa
1830-1930	Dinner Location: Harrar Grill		

	Event	Speaker	Affiliation
2000-2100 (60 min)	Cheetah Health - Discussion (optional)	Prof. Karen Terio Dr. Emily Mitchell Dr. Anne Schmidt- Kuentzel Prof. Laurie Marker Dr. Bettina Wachter Dr. Frank Reitkirk	Univ. Chicago, USA Univ. Onderstepoort, Veterinary School CCF CCF IZW CCF Netherlands
2100-2130 (30 min)	Cheetah Declaration Sub-Group	Prof. Laurie Marker Prof. Amy Dickman	CCF Oxford Univ./WildCru

3 DAY 3 – 30 January 2024 – How can we address threats & pressures impacting cheetahs?

	Event	Speaker	Affiliation
0700-0815	Breakfast Location: Harrar Grill		
0825-0830	Welcome & Objectives of the Day	Cynthia Smoot Guillaume Thibault	CCF Ambassador, Master of Ceremonies Partner at Oliver Wyman, moderator
0830-1100 Session 2.1	What are the best practices in translocation and reintroduction? Recent experiences across several range countries, and recent publications, support the ability to rehabilitate cheetahs at multiple life stages for reintroduction into wild and semi-wild situations.		
0830-0900 (30 min)	Augmentation/Reintroduction/Translocation as Intervention Strategies	Dr. Axel Moehrensclager	IUCN Conservation Translocation Specialist Group (CTSG)
1000-1030	Coffee/Tea Break		
0900-0915 (15 min)	Southern Africa - Meta Population	Vincent van der Merwe	The Metapopulation Initiative
0915-0930 (15 min)	Best Practices in Rehabilitation and Reintroductions	Eli Walker	Reintroduction Specialist, CCF
0930-0945 (15 min)	Managing Science, Public Opinion and Political Support for Cheetah Reintroduction in India	Prof. Yadvendradev V. Jhala	Sr. Professor & Dean (Retd.) Wildlife Institute of India. Lead Scientist on the Indian Cheetah Reintroduction Project, 2010 – 2023.
0945-1000 (15 min)	Managing the India Cheetah Reintroduction from a Government Perspective. Where is the Project now and plans going forward.	Dr. Amit Mallick	Inspector General of Forests National Tiger Authority, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Gov. of India
1000-1030	Coffee/Tea Break		
1030-1050 (20 min)	History of Cheetahs in Saudi Arabia; new Findings and Large Landscape Plans for the Future	Mr. Ahmed Ibrahim Alboug	General Manger of Terrestrial Wildlife Conservation Department - National Center for Wildlife (NCW)

	Event	Speaker	Affiliation
1050-1110 (20 min)	What is being done in Saudi Arabia for Habitat and Wildlife Restoration in Large Landscapes - is there room for cheetahs?	Robert Muir	Rewilding Lead - NEOM
1110-1210 Session 2.2	How to increase cheetah populations and ranges?		
1110-1210 (60 min)	Panel Discussion Moderators - Cynthia Smooth and Guillaume Thibault	Alex Sliwa Sean McKeown Dr. Frank Rietkerk Dan Beetem Robert Muir Dr. Anne Schmidt-Kuentzel Dr. Stefan Prost Dr. Alex Moehrenschrager Dr. Kathy Traylor-Holzer Prof. Laurie Marker SP Yadav Vincent van der Merwe	Curator, Cologne Zoo EAZA Felid Tag Chair EAZA North African Cheetah Studbook Keeper CCF Netherlands The Wilds, SSP and C2S2 NEOM Director for Animal Health and Research, CCF Assistant Professor for Biodiversity and Genomics, Helsinki and Viena Univ. IUCN SSC CTSG IUCN SSC CPSG CCF Director General (Project Tiger) & Member Secretary (NTCA). Ministry of Environment, Forest & climate Change, Government of India The Metapopulation Initiative
1215-1315	Lunch - Location: Downstairs Atrium Area		

	Event	Speaker	Affiliation
1315-1700 Session 2.3	How can the human-wildlife conflict be mediated and resolved? Human-wildlife conflict reduces the cheetah population in the wild, either through direct persecution or via illegal wildlife trade (IWT).		
1315-1345 (30 min)	Overview- Threats, interface with people, livestock, and predators	Dr. Sugoto Roy	IUCN – SSC - Human-Wildlife Conflict and Coexistence Specialist Group and Cat Specialist Group
1345-1400 (15 min)	Large mammal /prey depletion in W-C-Horn of Africa, and how livestock has taken over most of the herbivore biomass.	Dr. Paul Scholte	Senior Advisor, EWCA and Biodiversity and Forestry Programme (BFP) Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
1400-1430 (30 min)	Human Wildlife Conflict Mitigation Strategies – open discussion Moderators - Cynthia Smoot and Guillaume Thibault		
1430-1615 Session 2.4	How to fight cheetah illegal wildlife trade?		
1430-1445 (15 min)	Cheetah: National Treasure Turned Illegal Commodity	Dr. Shira Yashphe Abdinasir Hussein	Director Wildlife Crime, CCF Director Wildlife, MoECC
1445-1500 (15 min)	Current Trends in Online Trade	Oliver Wright	Research Officer, TRAFFIC
1500-1530	Coffee/Tea Break		
1530-1545 (15 min)	Reducing Demand	Peter Knights	CEO, Wild Africa Fund

	Event	Speaker	Affiliation
1545-1645 (60 min)	Panel: Discussion on Illegal Wildlife Trade Moderators –Cynthia Smoot and Guillaume Thibault	Dr. Shira Yashphe Oliver Wright Jennifer Crous Peter Knights Prof. Laurie Marker Kumara Wakjira Gemedra	Director Wildlife Crime, CCF TRAFFIC Wildlife Crime / Biodiversity Consultant CEO, Wild Africa Fund Executive Director/ CCF Director General, EWCA
1900-2100	Conference Dinner Location: Conference Room		
2000-2030 (30 min)	Guest Speaker – Scaling up our Impact for Cheetahs, Communities and Climate	Vance Martin	President Emeritus, Wilderness Foundation Global (WFG)

DAY 4 – 31 January 2024 – *What are the enablers for change? How to get started now?*

	Event	Speaker	Affiliation
0700-0815	Breakfast Location: Harrar Grill		
0825-0830	Welcome & Objectives of the Day	Cynthia Smoot Guillaume Thibault	CCF Ambassador, Master of Ceremonies Partner at Oliver Wyman, moderator
0830-1000 Session 3.1	How to develop community-based initiatives for population restoration? Creating opportunities for local communities to succeed is a crucial part of the strategy and including by finding alternative livelihoods and nature-based solutions		
0830-0900 (30 min)	Community-Based Natural Resource Management, Communities and Conservancies Addressing Alternative Livelihoods.	Fiesta Achayo Warinwa	Agile Consultants
0900-0915 (15 min)	The Human Dimensions of Conservation	Dr. James Danoff-Burg	Vice President of Conservation at The Living Desert Zoo and Gardens in Palm Desert
0915-945 (30 min)	Habitat Restoration and Biomass Opportunities	Dr. Bruce Brewer Dan Beringer Matti Nghikembwa	General Manager, CCF CCF Board Member Forest Steward, Research Assistant, PhD Candidate, CCF
945-1000 (15 min)	Livestock Guarding Dog and Farmers Training Programs	Tim Hofmann Rebecca Klein Deon Cillers	Scat Dog Program Manager, PhD Candidate, CCF Executive Director, Cheetah Conservation Botswana Conservation Manager, Cheetah OutReach Trust
1000-1215 Session 3.2	What are creative and innovative financing and conservation solutions?		
1000-1030 (30 min)	Overview - Ways to Scale Up?	Prof. Amy Dickman	Oxford Univ./WildCRU

	Event	Speaker	Affiliation
1030-1100	Coffee/Tea Break		
1100-1115 (15 min)	Certification to Support Living with Wildlife	Sheillah Munsabe	Wildlife Friendly® Enterprise Network (WFEN), Network and Certifications Coordinator
1115-1200 (45 min)	Opportunities for using Decision Theory to Prioritize Effective and Efficient Cheetah Conservation Action	Dr. Gwen Iacona	Program Lead for Conservation Investment Center for Biodiversity Outcomes, Arizona State Univ.
		Stijn Verschueren	Ecologist, PhD. Candidate,
		Prof. Laurie Marker	CCF Founder/ Executive Director, CCF
1200-1215 (15 min)	GEF work in Ethiopia and the Horn of Africa	Arega Mekonnen	Global Environmental Fund (GEF), Ethiopia
1215-1230 (15 min)	UN and possible areas for collaboration within cheetah range countries.	Christophe Hodder	Environment Officer, UN Mission to Somalia

	Event	Speaker	Affiliation
1230-1315 Session 3.3	How to translate vision into actions? What next steps?		
1230-1315 (45 min)	Discussion – Way Forward Moderators: Cynthia Smoot and Guillaume Thibault	Vance Martin Fiesta Achayo Warinwa Stijn Verschueren Prof. Amy Dickman Michael Keigwin Sheillah Munsabe Bruce Brewer Dan Beringer Christophe Hodder Arega Mekonnen Dr. James Danoff-Burg Maurice Nyaligu	President Emeritus, (WFG) Agile Consultants PhD Candidate, CCF Director, WildCRU Founding Trustee, Uganda Conservation Foundation WFEN Network and Certifications Coordinator General Manager, CCF CCF Board Member Environment Officer, UN Mission to Somalia GEF Living Desert Zoo Head of Programs, International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW)
1315-1345 (30 min)	Close of Summit	Cynthia Smoot Guillaume Thibault Prof. Laurie Marker Kumara Wakjira Gameda	CCF Ambassador, Master of Ceremonies Partner at Oliver Wyman, moderator Founder/Executive Director, CCF Director General EWCA
1345-1500	Lunch Location: Harrar Grill		
1500	Participants Depart		