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INTERNATIONAL RANGER FEDERATION

NEWSLETTER JUNE 2022



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

What a privilege it was to present and represent the International Ranger Federation at the 2nd Asian Parks Congress in Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia towards the end of May. Thanks' must be given to GIZ for making it possible for the IRF Executive Officer, Carlien Roodt and I, to meet in person with a number of people whom we have been working with online for the past 2 years.

It was also such an opportunity to meet with Asian Rangers – both indigenous rangers as well as state employed rangers. For me personally, it provided greater insight into the Asian landscape through the experiences of rangers from different parts of the region. It was also to some degree disappointing to hear so many discussions and plans that did not include rangers, but the presence of IRF with its partners certainly did make a the ranger voice heard.

We have one month until World Ranger Day and as always, we see the number of rangers that have died in the line of duty as being unacceptably high. With those rangers that gave their life, we hope that you all join us, to give them their due recognition on 31st July, World Rangers Day. Please also keep an eye out for the World Ranger Day Pack that we will be sending out to members to help drive awareness of the plight of rangers. I would like to extend a word of thanks to a dedicated group for all the work that has gone in to compiling the line of duty ranger deaths and other material for World Ranger Day.

There are a number of other ranger events taking place over the next quarter (see upcoming events), which will allow for a number of in-person connections once more. As the strict constraints of the pandemic are reduced, we now have a new appreciation for such opportunities so let's maximise them to see how we can participate in growing and creating a better ranger sector.

Take care and stay safe.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



GLOBAL RANGERS COMPETENCIES WORKSHOP



Dear Ranger

You are invited to contribute to developing a **Global Ranger Competencies** list. This is a list that will outline the skills, knowledge and attitudes that should be mastered by professional rangers working in any part of the world.

Please mark in your agendas the date and time for the **online workshop planned for the 29th of June**. There will be two sessions, both with the same agenda. **Please chose the session that fits best your time zone:**

Session A from 10.00 to 12.30 BST [ES1] (British Summer Time, GMT+1)

Registration Link:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Y3_rONY0S2OQlqq1DFvBaA

OR

Session B from 14.00 to 16.30 BST (British Summer Time, GMT+1)

Registration Link:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ZcLSyNjFQEGLcB40cwRjcw

The workshop will be run in English and will have simultaneous translations in Spanish and French.

The Universal Ranger Support Alliance (URSA)^[1] plans to produce a description that helps others, for example, government officials and employers, as well as the general public, to understand the range and complexity of a ranger's job.

This work is part of the efforts made to gain support and recognition for ranger work and make it a globally recognised profession. The last review of ranger competencies at a global level was more than 20 years ago, and ranger work has changed a lot since then.

You might have already seen a very first draft of the proposed list of Global Ranger Competencies used to ask rangers all over the world to indicate what they think about competencies needed by any ranger, senior rangers and specialized rangers. We will discuss the results of this world-wide consultation in this workshop, where we aim to develop together with you an improved list of global ranger competencies.

You will receive, before the webinar, the draft questionnaire and a presentation of the online questionnaire results.

The online workshop is organized by the International Ranger Federation (IRF) and Propark Foundation for Protected Areas^[2], commissioned to provide the Global Ranger Competencies list.

Draft Programme / Agenda

Agenda item	Facilitator / Pesenter	Duration	Notes
Introductions Objectives of the meeting	Erika Stanciu	10 (15) mins	
URSA vision: Why are we doing this? What do we want? What purpose do we want this document to serve?	Mike Appleton	20 (25) mins	
Discussions about the target groups and possible uses			
Status of the work and online survey results – presentation	Erika Stanciu	15 mins	
Questions / discussions			
The draft Ranger Competency List – brief presentation and introduction of the working session	Erika Stanciu	15 mins	White Board will be set up with the competencies, giving participants the possibility to write notes / questions before the seminar (? Tbd) if there is time.
Break		10 mins	
What are your thoughts / suggestions for improving the draft list and how it should be used?	Erika Stanciu	45 (65) mins	Competencies to be discussed by categories
Next steps	Erika Stanciu	5 mins	

Total duration between 120 and 150 min, depending on the discussions

[ES3]

[1] The Universal Ranger Support Alliance was launched in July 2020 as a collaborative initiative of eight conservation organisations, including the International Ranger Federation, who have come together to support rangers globally. Visit www.ursa4rangers.org.

[2] Propark Foundation for Protected Areas is a Romanian NGO which works for the professionalization of protected area management teams in Romania and promotes competence-based capacity building for nature conservation through projects implemented mainly in Romania and Europe.

CODE OF CONDUCT WORKSHOP: NORTH AMERICA

AWARENESS-RAISING WORKSHOP

Global Code of Conduct for Rangers

You are invited to the first global workshop to create awareness about the Code of Conduct for Rangers (CoC).

Workshop description

Learn about the CoC's guiding principles and explore how you can adapt and implement them in your local context. The workshop will feature active discussion and breakout room activities.

Target audience

Conservation organizations, ranger associations and ranger employers.

Language

While this workshop will be conducted in English, future workshops in this series will be adapted to various regional and linguistic contexts. Stay tuned for more information via the International Ranger Federation (IRF)'s Website.

More about the Code of Conduct

IRF, with support from Universal Ranger Support Alliance (URSA), launched the CoC in July 2020. It was developed following a global, iterative consultation process with rangers, ranger associations, Ranger employers, national and regional governments, human rights organisations and other relevant stakeholders. It is available in several languages – including English, Español, Français, Portugese, Bahasa Malay and Nepali.



Invitation

SAVE THE DATE

WORKSHOP TITLE

Global Code Of Conduct For
Rangers: Awareness-Raising
Workshop

DATE

Tuesday, June 28, 2022

REGISTRATION WILL CLOSE ON JUNE 25

TIME

12 PM - 1:45 PM

EASTERN STANDARD TIME

[*Click here to find your local time](#)

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

Or visit: <https://tinyurl.com/RangerCoCWorkshop>

CONTACT

executiveofficer@internationalrangers.org

A project implemented with the support of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) through the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH.

Hosted by



You are invited:

The International Ranger Federation is delighted to invite you to the first Global Code of Conduct for Rangers awareness-raising workshop:

This workshop will be hosted only in English, as further workshops in various different regions will be hosted in the very near future catering for all rangers in the majority of major languages across the world.

The workshop will take place:

Date: Tuesday, June 28, 2022

Time: 12pm – 13:45pm Eastern Standard Time

Workshop registration link: [Webinar Registration - Zoom](#)

NB: Please note that registrations close on the 25th of June 2022.

THE THIN GREEN LINE FOUNDATION



Image credit: Sumatran Ranger Project team member removing snares in the Leuser Ecosystem, Sumatra, Indonesia.
(Courtesy of Sumatran Ranger Project).

Thin Green Line is working hard to raise funds for the next 12 months, to support more of the world's rangers. Our current project partners exemplify the diverse needs of ranger teams.

We're proud to be supporting Conservation South Luangwa (CSL) in Zambia with SMART technology and training. CSL employs 65 rangers and has built strong partnerships with Zambia's Department of National Parks and Wildlife in protected area management and counter-poaching initiatives.

Sumatran Ranger Project employs eight rangers to patrol the forest edge of the Leuser Ecosystem in North Sumatra. Financial support enables the team to continue its critical work removing snares, providing community outreach and education, monitoring wildlife and illegal activities, and helping mitigate human-wildlife conflict.

Rangers working in wild places are witnessing many more extreme weather events. Old Providence McBean Lagoon National Natural Park in the Caribbean protects one of the largest coral reefs in the world. Following the devastation of Hurricane Iota, 95 per cent of the homes of the local population were impacted, including those of the park rangers, as well as the administrative headquarters and ecotourism infrastructure. All the ecosystems within the protected area were devastated.

Working with the Colombian Rangers Association, Thin Green Line provided funds for basic construction materials and household appliances too; real and effective support for the well-being of the national park's 19 park rangers.

Thin Green Line is very grateful for the effective network of IRF members and other contacts to address challenges such as language and funds transfers to ensure support reaches teams wherever they are.

STATE OF THE RANGER REPORT



Image credit: Chris Galliers

We are happy to inform you that after 25 working sessions and a very collaborative process, the IRF now has the framework and indicators for the first ever State of the Ranger Report. Special thanks to Advisory Committee, experts and the regional ranger associations who participated.

The report will be the first global baseline of where the ranger profession currently stands, including the assimilation of the **best available, internationally comparable data on the ranger workforce**. The framework of the report is based on the IRF declarations from the previous World Ranger Congresses and will include the following sections: demographics, welfare, community relations, inclusivity, capacity, ranger associations and recognition.

Next Step:

In the upcoming months, the IRF will distribute the ranger surveys through our member associations database. Questionnaires will be available in multiple languages. Stay tuned and be part of this project, and make sure to participate. Every ranger voice counts!

FIRST MEXICAN RANGER ASSOCIATION TO JOIN THE IRF



Image credit: CEPANAF

The International Ranger Federation (IRF) is now in Mexico for the first time with around 155 rangers from the State of Mexico!

At the welcoming event last Friday in Hermenegildo Galeana State Park in the State of Mexico, the rangers were provided with a ranger guide along with an IRF badge. State authorities, WWF Mexico and the IRF staff joined the event to recognize rangers and their role in protecting nature.

Rangers from the State of Mexico are looking forward to adopting the Code of Conduct and working on strengthening their capacities with the support of IRF.

RANGERS OF COFAN BERMEJO ECOLOGICAL RESERVE IN THE AMAZON NOW HAVE A BOAT!



Image credit: Cofan Bermejo Ecological Reserve

With the support of the IRF and TGLF, the rangers of the Cofan Bermejo Ecological Reserve in the Ecuadorian Amazon have recently purchased a boat which will increase their patrolling activities in the Bermejo River and Río Boca Chico. Future surveillance activities will help to prevent illegal logging, hunting, and mining in and around the protected area.

The boat also has been beneficial to strengthen the relationship between the rangers and the Cofan native community who work together in protecting the biodiversity and identifying wildlife (they recently spotted the first *puma concolor*); it will also be used for the transportation of goods along the remote territory.

2ND AFRICAN RANGER CONGRESS



The [Game Rangers Association of Africa](#) is very happy to announce that the 2nd African Ranger Congress will take place from 14 to 18 September 2022 in Kasane, Botswana. This event will be held at Kwalape Safari Lodge, Kasane. For more information, please contact the GRAA at info@gameranger.org

We look forward to having rangers from across the continent of Africa attend this important event. Findings from the African Ranger Congress will be taken to the World Ranger Congress in 2023.

UNIVERSAL RANGER SUPPORT ALLIANCE (URSA)



URSA is happy to share with you their [first annual report](#) listing the most important achievements in realising its Action Plan and supporting the implementation of the Chitwan Declaration. Last year was formative for the Alliance as URSA was only establishing itself, among other initiatives. Nonetheless, the URSA programme remains the only comprehensive pathway aiming to professionalise the ranger workforce.

If you want to learn more about URSA activities, you will find the report on the website, along with other important publications, including the newest report exploring the notion of trust between rangers and communities. The two-volume publication ([vol. 1](#), [vol. 2](#)) is an easily digestible read and full of case studies. The report aims to support all those working with communities and rangers as they strive to improve existing relationships and foster new ones.

URSA regional representatives have also been active in promoting support for rangers during the recent [Asia Parks Congress](#) in Sabah, Malaysia (May, 2022). They delivered

events providing an overview of the URSA activities, promoting the Ranger Code of Conduct and reporting on challenges of female rangers in the region.

FORCE FOR NATURE (FFN)



Are you on the Ranger App yet? Optimize your ranger network with our group chat features. Communicate in real-time with like-minded rangers who are working on similar tasks all around the world.

Our current group chats include: Force For Women, Force For Indigenous Peoples, Force For Canines, Force For Forests, Force For Marine, Force For Africa.

Most recently conversations have been had about the pros and cons of drone usage, community-based social marketing, and how you can use your own dog to inform visitors on keeping dogs on leads! You can join these groups or create your own.

So you don't miss anything important, we have also launched a Ranger Calendar to share the details of all the best ranger specific online and in-person events. This includes World Ranger Day, World Rainforest Day, and the Asia Parks Congress.

Do you have any events that you would like to promote? Be sure to get in touch: team@forcefornature.org

You can download the Force For Nature Ranger App here:

iOS users: <https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/force-for-nature-ranger-app/id1500872174>

Android users: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.imgzine.ffn&hl=en>

Also available as a webapp: <https://rangerapp.forcefornature.org>

There are loads more exciting features on their way, including live events and e-learning developments...so get involved and become an active member of our growing community today!

WORLD RANGER DAY 2022



It is with great anticipation that we are approaching World Ranger Day on the 31st of July.

On World Ranger Day, we celebrate the critical work that rangers do on a daily basis around the globe. Their tireless work to protect our planet's habitats, species and natural resources whilst nurturing local communities is vital to all our futures. On this day we also commemorate those rangers killed or injured whilst protecting our natural and cultural heritage. Globally, we are facing a biodiversity and climate crises of epic proportions. Imagine how much worse these crises would be if rangers did not put their lives on the line to protect this planet we call home?

The World Ranger Day Theme this year is: DIVERSITY.

Rangers are no strangers to diversity. Diversity creates complexities, but we should look to embrace diversity, as we do in the natural world. It is for this reason that 'diversity' has been selected as the theme for World Ranger Day 2022. It is all encompassing, as it includes:

- diversity in the geographies – celebrating the places on the planet where rangers work and interact with landscapes and communities;
- topographies and altitudes in which rangers work – the diversity of terrains and climates;
- the diversity of life and ecosystems on land and ocean that rangers conserve;
- the conservation and management of a diversity of cultural, historic heritage and living resources;

- the diversity of people that make up the ranger sector - such as gender, culture, looks and age of rangers;
- the diversity of skills needed or developed by rangers to carry out their tasks;
- the diversity of equipment used and support provided to rangers;
- diversity of ranger roles and titles;
- diversity of the organisations rangers work in (e.g. federal or local government, NGO, volunteer, IPLCs).

The IRF, in collaboration with The Thin Green Line Foundation (TGLF) and the Universal Ranger Support Alliance (URSA) will be supporting our member ranger associations again this year with a World Ranger Day Pack that will include promotional material to assist all associations to celebrate their rangers and to spread the message as widely as possible. Please keep an eye out for this World Ranger Day Pack in early July.

WORLD RANGER DAY LIVE INTERVIEWS WITH KATHLEEN RETOURNE ON WHAT DOES THE GIRAFFE SAY MEDIA:



As a warm-up to World Ranger Day we will be hosting numerous activities and events to spotlight the work rangers do on the frontline. Please join us for live interviews on Facebook with Kathleen Retourne from What Does The Giraffe Say Media on the following dates to get insight on the work rangers do across the globe:

Sunday 3 July: 6pm SAST: Monica Alvarez, the IRF Development Officer, will give us an overview of the first ever State of the Ranger Report: Link: <https://fb.me/e/2CEzOINCI>



Sunday 10 July: 6pm SAST: Join members of the International Ranger Federation representing the different regions across the world to give an overview of the ranger work on the frontline. Link: <https://fb.me/e/1VxVVmo4e>

FEMALE WORLD RANGER WEEK



Article by Holly Budge

Holly Budge launches World Female Ranger Week (June 23-30th, 2022) to amplify the impact of female wildlife rangers on a global stage.

This ground-breaking global awareness week, spearheaded by international NGO, How Many Elephants, celebrates and supports female wildlife rangers - they're bold, changing the

game and paving the way for women to stand alongside men at the forefront of conservation, but they need allies.

Building on their success of World Female Ranger Day last year, which reached over 366 million viewers worldwide, Holly says, *"one day wasn't enough for us to cover the many inspirational stories of female rangers."* The pioneering World Female Ranger Week includes online and live events, plus a fundraising platform - www.worldfemalerangerweek.org - to raise vital funds for the ranger teams and share the rangers' stories.

As champions of wildlife conservation, role models, educators and as beacons of hope, female rangers are not only transforming attitudes towards the role of women around the world, they are showing the capabilities and success of females in traditionally male roles. However, less than 11% of the global wildlife ranger workforce is female. With women being natural communicators and protectors and investing their earned income in their families, bringing gender equality into the workforce enhances community conservation efforts and relationships.

The founder of How Many Elephants and World Female Ranger Week, Holly Budge, says, *"having patrolled with multiple ranger teams in Africa, I've seen first-hand how these bold women are impacting lives, protecting wildlife, uplifting communities and empowering other women. World Female Ranger Week highlights the significant gender imbalance in environmental conservation. My team and I will continue collating gender-specific data about female rangers globally, enabling us to identify their needs, find tangible solutions and help build effective policies to contribute towards positive outcomes; for female rangers and conservation as a whole."*

Over the last two years, the pandemic has crippled tourism and funding for conservation projects globally. The lack of tourists visiting national parks has led to many rangers losing their jobs or having significant salary cuts. The knock-on effect of this is huge. For example, one ranger in Africa may support up to 16 family members. Additionally, reduced vigilance in tourist hotspots has left wildlife even more vulnerable to poaching.

So, the often-challenging work of rangers is paramount right now. Day and night, female rangers patrol wilderness areas, monitoring wildlife, seizing snares, working with communities and, in some cases, arresting poachers, all to save iconic species from extinction. They are away from their families for long periods, sometimes facing workplace security issues and battling social stigma. Many of these inspirational women have overcome adversity, poverty and marginalisation. Becoming a ranger has empowered them, turned them into breadwinners and property owners, and has allowed them access to higher education and much-needed healthcare.

Holly and her team have identified over 4500 female rangers in 18 African countries so far and many more around the world, including in China, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, India, Australia (Tasmania), Venezuela, and Scotland.

Meet some women who give their all to protect wildlife from extinction.

· **Indonesia: Sumini**

Mother of five, Sumini gets up at dawn to do her household chores before leading a team of women into the jungles of Sumatra island on a mission to battle rampant deforestation and wildlife poaching. They navigate the steep, mountainous terrain searching for signs of poaching and logging, remove animal traps, document endemic wildlife and plant species and post signs warning against illegal activity, which they report to government authorities.

· **China: Qiu Shi**

A ranger for the Dongning Forestry Bureau, Heilongjiang Province, Qiu Shi's team is unique in that they are China's only all-women patrol team. With snow underfoot, they sometimes patrol in temperatures below -20°C to record data, remove snares and set up camera traps. She says, *"many people born in the mountains yearn for urban life, but we love nature, and we have inherited the spirit of our fathers. Now we are the protectors of wildlife for the younger generations."*

· **South Africa: Tsakane**

Tsakane is a ranger in the all-female Black Mambas Anti-Poaching Unit in South Africa and a role model in her community. In the course of duty, the rangers face danger from poachers and wild animals. But, she says, *"at first, people were sceptical that we, women, could do this traditionally male job and be good at it. Now we have their full support."*

To shine a light on the impact The Black Mambas in South Africa are making; since 2013, more than 1500 deadly snares have been dismantled and seized, and record numbers of poachers' camps destroyed. As a result, the number of snaring and poaching incidents in Balule Nature Reserve, where the Black Mambas operate, has fallen by 76%.

How Many Elephants supports the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Specifically, no.5 - Gender Equality, no.15 - Life on Land and no.17 - Partnerships. In keeping with these goals, How Many Elephants hopes World Female Ranger Week is the start of a long-

standing campaign to support female-led conservation efforts across the globe and increase gender diversity in ranger teams.

How Many Elephants is seeking long-term strategic partnerships with companies, associations, and global citizens to expand the campaign's reach to strengthen the support of female rangers.

There are many ways you can get involved with World Female Ranger Week, from fundraising to donating. More details are available at www.worldfemalerangerweek.org and www.howmanyelephants.org. For updates, you can follow @worldfemalerangerweek on Instagram and Facebook, @femalerangerwk on Twitter, or hashtag #worldfemalerangerweek.

Contact:

Holly Budge| holly@howmanyelephants.org | +44 (0) 7770 507686

About How Many Elephants

UK registered charity, How Many Elephants (1186238), is a powerful design-led awareness campaign and innovative in its 100% non-gory approach. It showcases the annual poaching rate of 35,000 elephants in Africa in a visual exhibition to inspire and educate a global audience about the devastating impacts of the ivory trade. How Many Elephants collaborates with and supports female rangers on the front line in Africa. Read more at www.howmanyelephants.org

About Holly Budge

Holly Budge is a world-class adventurer and conservationist, who has been supporting female rangers in Africa for almost a decade. She has earned the rare privilege of patrolling on the front line with multiple all-female and mixed ranger teams in South Africa, Zimbabwe and Kenya. Described as "one of the most accomplished female adventurers" of her time, Holly is the first woman to skydive Everest and has summited Everest. Through her adventures, she has fundraised over £400K. She founded How Many Elephants in 2013 while studying for a Masters in Sustainable Design. Read more at www.hollybudge.com

Links:

www.worldfemalerangerweek.org
www.howmanyelephants.org
www.hollybudge.com

RUN FOR RANGERS



Run for Rangers – The Journey Begins

Thanda Safari, a private game reserve in KZN, is proud to announce that it is hosting – appropriately in the month of July, to correspond with World RangerDay (in partnership with the *Sport for Lives* movement and *Project Rhino*, and with the support of the Game Rangers Association of Africa and the International Ranger Federation), a **Run for Rangers** weekend event from Friday 8 to Sunday 10 July 2022.

The motivation for the **Run for Rangers** event comes from Harry Bailey, a young Grade 12 Hilton College student, from South Africa, with a passion for wildlife and a desire to champion the often forgotten, but true heroes – the rangers, the hidden warriors and protectors of the national treasure, our wildlife.

Bailey is a young man on a mission! Conservation is central to the lifeblood of many communities across South Africa, and if there is no wildlife, there will be no tourism... the adverse knock-on effects will be significant. The aim of **Run for Rangers** is to create awareness for the rangers – to raise funds to support them and their families across the board including training, assisting the K9 unit, providing aerial support, as well as community education and engagement, and to bring an awareness to the predicament that rangers face with regards to the effects of poaching. Finally, to create awareness for the significant work that *Project Rhino* is doing.

Bailey is doing a 100km run through Thanda Private Game Reserve's vast open spaces – Big 5 territory – in the northern reaches of Zululand, where the Great Rift Valley meets the Lebombo Mountains. It will run over two days, **Saturday 9 and Sunday 10 July**, with some armed Thanda Anti-Poaching Rangers escorting him and his team.

Bailey will be accompanied by former Sharks Captain and Springbok rugby player, **Keegan Daniel** and Chris Kingsley, co-founder of *Sport for Lives* (www.sportforlives.org). The former bodyguard of Nelson Mandela, **Rory Steyn** will be joining them on Sunday only. The Thanda Safari ranger participants, Vusi Gumede and Siyabonga Zulu are both in the Thanda Safari Reaction Team. An invitation has been extended to marathon runners Ntombi Ntuli, a

Thanda housekeeper and Peace Nyawo Thanda, a field guide. Thanda Safari is providing accommodation, meals and passage through the reserve for the team.

Bailey confesses that he is not a natural runner, but that he “*was inspired by my school to go the extra mile for others, and I want to challenge myself, and in the same breath the two rangers running with me, to run 100km in two days. And most importantly I want to challenge the public to sponsor R1 000 (collectively) per completed kilometre that I run.*”

While on the run, Bailey’s intention is to get to know the two rangers escorting him for the two days – hear their life stories, how and why they became rangers and to learn more about their communities.

*Bailey is aiming to raise R100 000 (R1 000 per kilometre).The public can get involved by pledging an amount per km or making a once off donation by using the unique campaign link on the Sport for Lives website. (<https://sportforlives.org/campaigns/run-for-lives-run-for-rangers/>)

It is hoped that **Run for Rangers** will become a staple in running calendars, said Thanda Group Head of Business Development, Nadine Delvaux, “*It really would be amazing if this run became a ‘legacy’ event here at Thanda Safari*”.

VALUABLE RECOGNITION FOR THE NATIONAL PARK RANGERS IN ARGENTINA



Image credit: Administracion de Parques Nacionales (APN)

A Collective Labor Agreement was signed this June 21st to benefit more than 500 national rangers who work in the country's protected areas. This agreement provides concrete answers to historical demands, values the career, and prioritizes the role of rangers.

The Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development, Juan Cabandié, accompanied by the Minister of Labour, Claudio Moroni, led in the province of Córdoba the act of signing the Collective Labor Agreement for the body of park rangers who work for the Administration of National Parks (Administración de Parques Nacionales - APN).

Minister Cabandié celebrated and said: "Today is a historic day for us, we are paying off a debt with a definitive solution to a decades-long claim by the park rangers."

Collectively, the 552 national rangers dedicated to protecting and conserving protected areas throughout the territory in Argentina will see an improvement in their working conditions. With the signing of the agreement, their salaries will be increased, their careers will be valued, and their functions will be prioritized. The agreement also shows progress in the area of female ranger employment opportunities. More info [here](#).

MEMBERSHIP DUES



The Board of the International Ranger Federation (IRF) has voted to commence the collection of its annual membership subscription (dues) as per the IRF's Constitution.

The Full Member dues of USD200 were approved by the members in the new Constitution adopted at the 2019 World Ranger Congress (WRC) held in Nepal. It was again discussed during the IRF's first Annual General Meeting (held online) in August 2021. Also, as written in the Constitution, the Board adopted fees for Associate members in the Regulations at their last meeting (USD50).

The Board feels that it is the right time to start this dues collection process, as there is an enormous amount of work ahead of the Federation, including the establishment of the IRF Strategy, the delivery of its many objectives as well as strengthening the support of its membership base. These goals can only be achieved by increasing the organization's financial security to ensure it remains a strong voice for members into the future.

The payment of annual membership subscriptions and fees can be waived upon request. It will be possible for member associations, who are willing and financially able, to support

fellow members to pay their fees. We will provide options in the membership payment form for this to occur. The dues membership payment order form and payment information can be found on the IRF website at: <https://www.internationalrangers.org/membership-dues/>

As this is the first time the IRF has undertaken dues collection, there will be some organizational matters to work through as we establish a smooth transition into this new process. We ask for your patience and understanding as we all navigate through it. Thank you for your ongoing support and we look forward to bringing future projects to you that will help further enhance and consolidate the worldwide ranger network. For any questions, please contact Executive Officer Carlien Roodt at: executiveofficer@internationalrangers.org.

VIEW THIS NEWSLETTER IN SPANISH OR FRENCH

To view this Newsletter in Spanish, follow this link:

<https://mailchi.mp/522877104248/boletin-junio-2022>

To view this Newsletter in French, follow this link:

<https://mailchi.mp/50830362b580/newsletter-de-juin-de-lirf>



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