

flagship event of UK-based charity the Whitley Fund for Nature was hosted by wildlife presenter Kate Humble, and saw seven conservation leaders from seven different countries receive Whitley Awards worth GBP 35,000 each in project funding over 1 year in support of their work.

In addition, the prestigious Whitley Gold Award worth GBP 50,000 was presented to 2011 Whitley Award winner Hotlin Ompusunggu of Borneo, Indonesia, for her efforts to conserve orang-utans and their habitat using innovative healthcare incentives. Over 450 people attended the event, where the charity's patron, HRH The Princess Royal, presented the Awards.

The 2016 Whitley Award Winners are Gilbert Baase Adum, Ghana (Saving Ghana's frogs: a giant leap forward for biodiversity conservation); Farwiza Farhan, Indonesia (Citizen lawsuits: defending local livelihoods and Sumatra's iconic species in the Leuser Ecosystem); Makala Jasper, Tanzania (Forest stewardship: community conservation of coastal forests in the greater Selous Ecosystem); Karau Kuna, Papua New Guinea (Tree kangaroos as a flagship to protect Papua New Guinea's spectacular wildlife); Muhammad Ali Nawaz, Pakistan (Snow leopard conservation: a landscape-level approach in the mountains of northern Pakistan); Alexander Rukhaia, Georgia (Magnificent migrants: safeguarding birds of prey negotiating the Batumi Flyway); Juliette Veloso, Madagascar (Saving the Critically Endangered side-necked turtle and its freshwater habitat).

For more information on the Whitley Fund for Nature, the Whitley Awards and to view short films about each of the winning projects, see [www.whitleyaward.org](http://www.whitleyaward.org). See p. XXX for the call for applications for the 2017 Whitley Awards.

*DANNI PARKS Whitley Fund for Nature, London, UK*  
E-mail [danni@whitleyaward.org](mailto:danni@whitleyaward.org)

### **Conservation Leadership Programme 2016 Team Awards announced**

In early April the Conservation Leadership Programme announced the winners of its 2016 Team Awards, which will

provide crucial support for 18 teams of early-career conservationists undertaking high-priority projects on globally threatened species. The award winners will benefit from project funding worth a combined total of USD 262,650, participation by one team member in the Programme's renowned international training course, long-term mentoring from experts within the conservation sector and inclusion in a global network of Programme alumni. The network provides award winners with access to travel grants, learning resources, tools and collective experience—facilitated through peer-to-peer support—that is invaluable in helping winners to carry out research and implement conservation projects in demanding environments and to develop professionally.

This year's winning projects include several that focus on Critically Endangered and relatively neglected species, such as the painted batagur, Baer's pochard, vultures in India, and endemic amphibians in Mexico and China. Other threatened species and habitats that will benefit from research and practical conservation action include marine mammals in Malaysia, wetland-dependent flora in South Africa, the wildlife of Angola's national parks, avian hotspots in India, and migratory raptors in Georgia.

Generous support from the Arcadia Fund has enabled the Programme to provide two additional Future Conservationist Awards specifically allocated to teams undertaking marine conservation projects. One of these teams will conduct the first surveys of mesophotic coral ecosystems in a crucial Mexican section of the Mesoamerican Barrier Reef. The other will monitor and contribute to conservation strategies for the elusive and increasingly threatened dugong in Quirimbas National Park, a remote haven of biodiversity in northern Mozambique.

To view a full list of funded projects visit [www.conservation-leadershipprogramme.org/our-projects/latest-projects-2016/](http://www.conservation-leadershipprogramme.org/our-projects/latest-projects-2016/)

CLP was initiated in 1985 and is a partnership between BirdLife International, Fauna & Flora International and the Wildlife Conservation Society. See p. XXX for the call for applications for the 2017 awards.

*STUART PATERSON Fauna & Flora International, Cambridge, UK. E-mail [stuart.paterson@fauna-flora.org](mailto:stuart.paterson@fauna-flora.org)*