

AFRICAN RANGER AWARDS



The
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BACKGROUND OF RANGER AWARD

Africa is the world's richest continent in terms of wildlife, yet this treasure trove of biological diversity has been suffering from rampant poaching. At present, the African elephant population is declining at a rate of 38,000 per year. Animals such as black rhinos and gorillas are also on the verge of extinction.

Every year, many rangers sacrificed their lives in battles against armed poachers and illegal loggers. A survey in 2016 showed that in Africa, 82% of the rangers have faced mortal danger on the job, and over 60% of the rangers were attacked directly by poachers. In 2015 alone, there were at least 107 rangers killed during their patrols. Between 2006 and 2016, at least 1,000 patrollers sacrificed their lives in the service of protecting wildlife.

Their endeavors should be recognized and achievements be celebrated.

On July 21st of 2017, Jack Ma, founder of Alibaba and co-chair of Paradise International Foundation, announced in Kigali that a 10-year award program would be set up to support 500 wildlife rangers in Africa.



OUR OBJECTIVES

The African Ranger Award seeks to raise awareness in the world about the need to conserve Africa's wildlife, emphasizing the critical role that front-line rangers play in conservation. By sharing those real-life stories, this award aims to help stem the current decline in populations of Africa's wildlife.



Ranger Award will be presented annually, to a maximum of **50 AFRICAN RANGERS** who have been working in any form of protected areas on protection of African wildlife.



Each recipient will receive a grant of **US\$3,000**. The recipients will not only represent themselves, but also the success and challenge of the conservation projects behind.



ELIGIBILITY

The African Ranger Award is limited to the rangers that are African citizens. To be considered for the award, a candidate ranger must be nominated by others and complete the nomination form.

- Nominee must be an active ranger and citizen from African countries;
- Nominee must work as a ranger for more than three years;
- Individuals nominating themselves will not be considered
- Team nominations will not be eligible
- Deceased rangers will not be eligible but their family members are encouraged to apply for **the Paradise Fallen Rangers Fund**

Definition of rangers:

The word *Ranger* is often used as a general term to collectively refer to all frontline staff. It is inclusive of wildlife wardens, forest guards, foresters, rangers, scouts, watchers and other frontline field staff working on wildlife, habitat and natural resource protection.





HOW TO **NOMINATE**

Nomination can be made by any person or organization who have a direct understanding of the nature of work undertaken by the recipients. The nomination must also be endorsed by the organization for which the recipient works. All nominations will be submitted to the judging panel, featured by experienced experts in African conservation.

The **Nomination Link/Nomination Form** will be available soon on <http://www.pfi.org.cn/en/>. Nominator are also encourage to submit the supporting materials that can demonstrate the nominee's work. The supporting materials can be any images, videos, and/or newspaper clippings relevant to the nominee's work.

Any enquiries, please contact: **rangers@pfi.org.cn**.



SELECTION CRITERIA

The recipients of African Ranger Awards are expected to make achievements and create positive impacts that have benefitted African conservation. The Award Committee will evaluate the candidates based on the following selection criteria:

- **Impact, commitment & dedication**

Significantly contributes to, including but not limited to, the conservation of wildlife and its habitat, reduced illegal activities, development of protective management recommendations, promotion of the conservation among local communities.

- **Threats and challenges overcome**

Consistently performs courageous acts to carry out their duties; effectively and efficiently responds to the challenges and solve the problems which threatened the biodiversity

- **Leadership & inspiration**

Substantially performs at a level above and beyond normal job requirements and expectations; demonstrates the ability to influence, motivate, and lead team members

- **Length of service**

Consistently demonstrates an ability and willingness to work dutifully as a ranger

2018 THE FIRST AFRICAN RANGER AWARDS

On April 1st, 2018, the Award Committee received a total of 146 nominations from 21 countries.

In early May 2018, 50 rangers from 17 countries were to be shortlisted for the 2018 African Ranger Awards.

On August 7, 2018, the first awards ceremony of the African Ranger Awards was held in Cape Town, South Africa. Representatives of the award-winning rangers attended the ceremony.





Because of you,
the world continues to thrive.

THE 2018 JUDGING PANEL

(by alphabetic order)

Peter Fearnhead | CEO – African Parks

Anecto Kayitare | Country Program Director, Rwanda Program – WCS

Mamadou Alpha Kane | Head of International Environmental Governance Unit – UNEP

Alphonse Mallya | Conservation Coordinator, Tanzania Office – TNC

Emmanuel de Merode | Director - Virunga National Park

Philip Muruthi | Vice President – African Wildlife Foundation

Rose Niu | Chief Conservation Officer – The Paulson Institute

Mark Rose | CEO – Fauna & Flora International

Boju Zhang | Executive Director – Friends of Nature



Plans for 2019 **African Ranger Awards**

Mid March, 2019	2019 African Ranger Awards nominations submission opens
End April, 2019	2019 African Ranger Awards nominations submission closes
May – June, 2019	The Award Committee reviews nomination packages
31 st July, 2019	2019 African Ranger Awards Winners will be announced
November, 2019	2019 African Ranger Awards Ceremony



The Ranger Support Plan

Rangers serving in African countries are on the frontline protecting our beloved species; meanwhile, they always face with the most dangerous situation. Approximately 1,000 Rangers have been killed in the past 10 years, many of them sacrificed their lives fighting against armed poachers and illegal loggers. Worse still, the families of the deceased rangers are left with nothing.

In 2019, the Paradise Foundation, together with Alibaba Foundation, initiated the Ranger Support Plan. The Plan aims to provide financial support for the families of rangers, who have given their lives in the line of duty.

ELIGIBILITY

- The ranger has died or been killed while on duty;
- The deceased ranger must be a citizen from African country;
- The immediate dependent family of the deceased ranger is qualified for applying the Ranger Support;
- Preference shall be given to the applicants who face with extreme financial hardship as a direct result of rangers' death.

THE SPONSERS



Alibaba Foundation

Alibaba Foundation is a philanthropy initiative by Alibaba Group, with a mission to promote sustainable development among people, society and nature.

The
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Paradise Foundation

Paradise International Foundation is a Chinese conservation foundation now led by co-chairmen Jack Ma and Pony Ma. The foundation honors cooperation and expands its conservation projects globally in regions of high conservation value.