Earth Day 2020 Live Speaker Profiles

Panel 2 – Impact of illegal wildlife markets

Live Broadcast on 22 April 2020 at 11:00AM EDT, 04:00PM BST

Host

Bella Lack (UK) Conservation Youth Activist, Ivory Alliance, Born Free Foundation, STAE, RSPCA and Jane Goodall Institute

Bella is a 17-year-old conservationist and ambassador for the Born Free Foundation, STAE, RSPCA and Jane Goodall Institute. She uses social media, video-making, and blogging to try to educate and inspire a wide group of people to protect the natural world. In addition, Bella delivers speeches, including speaking at the People's Walk for Wildlife, the Illegal Wildlife Trade Conference in 2018 and TEDx Brighton 2019. Bella has begun to make her own short films, and since August 2019 has also been working on a feature-length documentary; 'ANIMAL', with director Cyril Dion and Jane Goodall.

Bella's YouTube channel https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCW7GvJmeG2jrL9u7tr8ENfA

Panellists

Farwiza "Wiza" Farhan (Indonesia) Environmental activist and Founder of Yayasan HAkA

Farwiza "Wiza" Farhan is a passionate forest conservationist working with local communities to protect, conserve and restore the Leuser Ecosystem in Sumatra, Indonesia. She cofounded and currently serves as the chairperson of Forest, Nature, and Environment Aceh Foundation (Yayasan HAkA), a grassroots organization working to push for better protection of the Leuser Ecosystem through policy and advocacy, community empowerment, as well as habitat protection. She is concurrently writing her PhD dissertation at the Center for International Development Issues Nijmegen (CIDIN) in the Netherlands on the political economy of natural resources management in Aceh, Indonesia. Frequently invited to speak, from the UN General Assembly in New York to The Elders in South Africa and Women Deliver in Vancouver, her keynote presentations reflect her experience, commitment, and passion while connecting the challenges of Sumatra and Aceh to wider global issues and resources.

"Farwiza Farhan is spearheading efforts to protect the Leuser Ecosystem. Her aim is to shift the balance of power to local level, and support people to defend this incredible ecosystem."

Sir David Attenborough

Farwiza Farhan's Whitley Award winner citation https://whitleyaward.org/winners/sumatras-iconic-species-in-the-leuser-ecosystem/

Iris Ho (USA) Senior Wildlife Programs and Policy Specialist, Humane Society International

Born and raised in Taipei, Taiwan, Iris Ho is the Senior Wildlife Programs and Policy Specialist, at Humane Society International (HSI), a global affiliate of The Humane Society of the United States, the largest animal protection organization in the United States. She develops and leads initiatives that strengthen international protection for wildlife. During her frequent international travels, especially to Asia and Africa, she collaborates closely with HSI's local partners, international organizations and national governments throughout the regions. She was involved in investigations of elephant poaching and illicit wildlife trade in Central and Western Africa and assisted the local government agencies and conservation groups to bring wildlife traffickers to justice. She has testified at state legislatures across the country to garner legislative and political support for stronger wildlife protection laws. Additionally, she has testified in front of the U.S. Congress on big game trophy hunting. She is an advisor for a new documentary on polar bears. Her media interviews appear on BBC, the Washington Post, Al Jazeera, and other outlets.

Molly Kemball (USA) Project Coordinator, Sabeti Lab, Broad Institute

Molly is a Project Coordinator in the Sabeti Lab within the Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard. Molly graduated from Middlebury College with an honors degree in Masters of Public Health in September of 2018 with a focus in Primary Care and Health Disparities. Molly is very committed to issues related to global health and relieving disproportionate health burdens.

Sabeti Lab website https://www.sabetilab.org/

Sean Wilmore (Australia) Managing Director of the Thin Green Line Foundation & former President of the International Rangers Federation (IRF)

Founder and Managing Director of the Thin Green Line Foundation, Sean Willmore was formerly an Australian Park Ranger for 11 years and the President of the International Rangers Federation (IRF) for many years. While undertaking his work Sean has travelled to and worked with rangers in over 50 countries on 6 continents where he has been ambushed, held at gunpoint, charged by elephants and avoided militias. His efforts to bring attention to the dangerous work undertaken by these warriors have won him international acclaim. Using profits from the documentary The Thin Green Line, Sean started The Thin Green Line Foundation (TTGLF). His continual inspiration is from the men and women, the park rangers worldwide, that he represents and who do this front-line work on a daily basis.

The Thin Green Line Foundation website https://thingreenline.org.au/