



EAZA Update on Ukrainian zoos

Amsterdam 3 June 2022: More than three months on from the beginning of the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the situation for zoos in the country continues to be mixed. While some zoos are able to receive visitors and therefore earn income to support the care of their animals, they are not yet able to be self-sufficient again. Additionally, while Russian forces have been beaten back in many areas, they still continue to bombard Ukrainian cities, and the danger of such an attack is still very real in all cities.

Ukrainian zoos expect that the war will not be over any time soon. This means that they are currently seeking the supplies to help them continue to survive and care for their animals based on continued threats until at least the end of the year. These items continue to be expensive and in short supply and must be secured well in advance of the autumn and winter, without depriving local people or disrupting the war effort. While EAZA Members and other zoos have been able to provide deliveries of food and medicine, Ukrainian zoos also need funds to help them to secure supplies locally.

The EAZA Emergency Fund for Ukrainian Zoos continues to help zoos and aquariums in the country to cover their expenses, which are primarily in animal feed and utility costs such as electricity, fuel and water. The total collected so far from over 130 institutional and 11,000 private donors now stands at €1,324,884, and funds have been provided to nearly 20 institutions. While this total is extraordinary and unprecedented for EAZA fundraising, we believe that the assessment of the zoos is correct: the war is likely to continue for some time, and there is a continued need for funds to be collected to support the zoos and the animals in their care.

On behalf of our colleagues in Ukraine, **we thank everyone who has so far donated** to the fund, and ask institutions and members of the public to consider donating to the fund. You can find details of how to contribute at www.eaza.net.