

(B. van Balen, in litt.). The last observation of the species on Pulau Kangean was of a single bird heard during several months of surveys in 2007–2008 (Irham 2016, *Zoo Indonesia*, 25, 122–141). Satellite data and ground-truthing during our 2023 visit revealed that suitable habitat remains extensive on the island; capture for the songbird trade (easy with shamas, as they respond to playback of songs and fly straight into nets/traps) is the only plausible explanation for the bird's disappearance. Two Kangean trappers independently told me that the Kangean shama has not been observed or caught in the main archipelago for > 10 years; one said it was common until the early 2000s. Two households in Arjasa, Pulau Kangean, had pet shamas, but neither was a native *nigricauda*, or the rare (and also distinctive) form *omissus* from neighbouring Java; both were probably imported from Kalimantan. Among hobbyist Javan songbird keepers, the phrase *Murai Kangean* (Kangean shama) is apparently unfamiliar (J. Menner, in litt.), suggesting birds from Kangean have not been in trade for some time.

A few shamas that appeared identical to *C. malabaricus nigricauda* were found in trade in 2021, apparently collected on a very remote island (anonymity preserved) that year. These birds were purchased and are the founders of a captive breeding programme on Java (numbering 25 birds in June 2023; J. Menner, in litt.). Both Kangean trappers named the island in question unprompted, and one of them had personally visited it to trap shamas in 2018, 2019 and, ominously without success, 2022. The island is only small, has a jetty and settlements and given the speed at which insular shama populations elsewhere in Indonesia have been extirpated, is likely to become extinct in the wild without immediate conservation action. If a wild population of Kangean shamas does still persist, we may have only months to save it. A visit to the island is planned for as soon as is logistically and financially possible; if shamas do remain, in situ conservation should be implemented urgently.

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## Reintroduction of adult Orinoco crocodiles: a crucial step towards the species recovery

On 2 April 2023, the Roberto Franco Tropical Biology Research Station of the National University of Colombia and the Colombian National Natural Parks Agency led the reintroduction of 14 Critically Endangered Orinoco crocodiles *Crocodylus intermedius* (12 females and two males)

into their natural habitat in the Tomo River in El Tuparro National Park, in the Colombian Orinoco region. This is the first reintroduction of a large group of adults of one of the largest Neotropical freshwater predators. The midterm goal is to restore this species by increasing its abundance in areas where it was historically present, following the objective of the Orinoco Crocodile Action Plan to establish three wild populations in protected areas in the species' historical distribution, with at least five breeding females each, within 15 years.

The 14 individuals, each > 3 m long and > 100 kg, were selected based on appropriate genetic and phenotypic profiles, preconditioned for 2 years in semi-captive conditions away from permanent human presence and fed with live prey. Satellite transmitters were installed on 12 of the crocodiles (10 females and 2 males), to gather information such as survivorship, nesting times and sites, home ranges and movement patterns. Reintroducing adult crocodiles saves time, as they are reproductively active, and helps restore populations by reducing the risk of predation, which limits recruitment rates.

Previous social research along the Tomo River has shown that local people recognize the Orinoco crocodile as important in the ecosystem and value it highly, believing that where there is a crocodile, deep water bodies remain and there is plenty of fish. The local communities do not consider the crocodile a threat, which is a significant advantage for the conservation of the species. As it is critical to understand the social implications of the crocodile's presence in areas where it has been absent for decades, we continue to work with local communities along the Tomo River where the reintroduction took place, promoting coexistence with the species.

This project had the technical and financial support of the Wildlife Conservation Society Colombia, University of Florida, CrocFest, Colombian Air Force, Colombian National Police, Colombian Civil Defense, Merecure Park, and Cormacarena Environmental Agency. This newly formed institutional alliance is also a relevant outcome of this project and facilitates restoration of the Orinoco crocodile. Conditions are now favourable for the reintroduction of additional crocodiles in the Tomo River, increasing the possibility of forming the first known natural population originating from captive individuals.

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## Developing a national conservation action plan for threatened trees of Guinea

As part of a Fondation Franklinia project to conserve threatened trees in Guinea, a 2-day participatory workshop was held in Conakry on 21–22 March 2023 to develop a national conservation action plan for the country's threatened trees. The workshop, organized by a partnership between the National Herbarium of Guinea, Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, Guinée Ecologie, and Association Guineene d'Eveil au Développement Durable, with assistance from the Centre for Environmental Education and Research and CITES, brought together c. 50 participants both in person and online. Participants from across government, academia, NGOs and the private sector who work on plant conservation and the environment discussed the status of and threats to trees in Guinea, to obtain a consensus on the actions needed for their conservation. The workshop was supported by the co-chairs of the West African Plants Red List Authority, Fatimata Niang Diop and Martin Cheek online, and Charlotte Couch in Conakry.

The workshop used the principles and steps from the IUCN Conservation Planning Specialist Group to facilitate the workshop and enable maximum participation to generate a consensus view. The participants were highly motivated and by the end of the first day we had an outline of the vision for the action plan. By the end of the second day we had the major threats outlined and ranked, and some objectives/goals from all seven working groups. The agreed vision for the action plan is that 'By 2050, Guinea's forests and threatened and endemic tree species are better known, resilient to climate change and sustainably protected by local communities, government departments and all stakeholders, including NGOs and the private sector.'

A report of the workshop is available in French, along with the workshop presentations ([herbiiergee.org/franklinia-documents.html](https://herbiiergee.org/franklinia-documents.html)). The 2-day workshop was successful, engaging and participatory, and a follow-up workshop to develop the actions and indicators to measure success will be held later in 2023.

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## A new record of the Critically Endangered tree *Dipterocarpus littoralis* discovered from social media

Social media have become useful tools for providing new biodiversity data, with, for example, species discovered on Flickr (*Semachrysa jade*, Neuroptera, Chrysopidae; Winter-ton et al., 2015, *Zookeys*, 214, 1–11), Facebook (*Hoya amabilis*, Apocynaceae, Asclepiadoideae; Rahayu & Rodda, 2019, *Nordic Journal of Botany*, 37, e02563), Twitter (*Ameronothrus retweet*, Acari, Oribatida; Pfingstl et al., 2021, *International Journal of Acarology*, 48, 348–358), Instagram (*Oligodon churahensis*, Reptilia, Serpentes; Mirza et al. 2021, *Evolutionary Systematics*, 5, 335–345) and Youtube (*Leichhardtia weari*, Apocynaceae, Asclepiadoideae; Gateble et al. 2023, *Phytotaxa*, 591, 91–100).

Here we report a new record discovered on Facebook and Instagram of *Dipterocarpus littoralis* (Dipterocarpaceae), a tree endemic to the 6.6 km<sup>2</sup> West Nusakambangan Nature Reserve in the westernmost part of Nusakambangan Island in Central Java Province, Indonesia. This tree is categorized as Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List because of its restricted distribution, small population size, and continuing population decline caused by habitat conversion and invasive species.

Posts on Facebook ([bit.ly/3MfEnc3](https://bit.ly/3MfEnc3)) and Instagram ([bit.ly/3LLAa67](https://bit.ly/3LLAa67)) on 29 April 2023 showed photographs of a group of fruits and leaves of a tree species of the Family Dipterocarpaceae. The images were tagged as *Dipterocarpus* sp., and were from Tasikmalaya, a regency in West Java Province c. 70 km from West Nusakambangan Nature Reserve, in a hilly forest at 100 m altitude. Based on the obturbinate shape of the fruit calyx tube and the high number of secondary nerves (> 19 pairs), the images can be firmly assigned to *Dipterocarpus littoralis*. The species is reported to be a lowland segregate of the widespread submontane *Dipterocarpus retusus*, which differs from the former by subglobose fruit calyx and 16–19 pairs of secondary nerves.

A survey in the new locality is required to assess the population size and any threats. As this finding will significantly increase the extent of occurrence, area of occupancy and number of locations of the species, its conservation status under criterion B of the IUCN Red List will need to be reassessed. In addition, living collections of the species from the new locality need to be added to the current ex situ collections at the Bogor Botanic Gardens, to represent the genetic diversity of the species fully.