



EZE 2017 Conference themes

Arts and culture in EAZA zoos and aquariums

The Arts can play a key role in communicating complex messages about biodiversity and conservation. We welcome examples of how inspiration can be drawn from the Arts such as performative and visual arts, music, dance, literature, poetry, history, creative writing, and used within conservation education programmes. Also, projects that showcase the interface between Art and Science, and innovative ways to assess and measure impact of such programmes

Taking conservation education out of the zoo and aquarium

This theme asks, how can we reach people that don't normally visit EAZA zoos and aquariums? We are especially interested in hearing about programmes involving teenagers, young adults and other hard to reach groups. We would like to have examples of conservation education activities that are delivered outside the zoo grounds (for example in schools, public events, festivals, urban spaces and other natural environments), and what are the advantages and disadvantages of this "out of the zoo" approach?

New digital technologies for conservation education

We know that different digital technologies are extremely popular with our audiences, but how can we use them to deliver key conservation messages effectively. We welcome examples of how digital solutions can be used in zoos and aquariums conservation education programmes, and how the use of gamification can be used as a tool to engage our audiences. In addition, how can we evaluate the effects of conservation education messages delivered through social media and other technologies?

Promoting biological literacy

This theme focuses on more formal education programmes that are linked to school curricula and aim to raising awareness, knowledge and understanding of animals and the natural world, we welcome applications that discuss pedagogical approaches to teaching concepts of science for conservation, new biological literacy evaluation techniques and ways of developing teaching and professional practice within zoos and aquariums



Conservation storytelling

This theme is focused on how the principles of storytelling can be used to deliver key conservation messages to different types of zoo audiences. How do you adapt educational actions with the targeted public and the discussed topic? We welcome examples of different ways of effective storytelling in different situations, for different audiences and also ways to evaluate the intended learning outcomes

Special education needs and disabilities (SEND)

There are many people (both children and adults) who visit our zoos that have special education needs and disabilities. We welcome examples of programmes that focus on innovative multiple sensory programmes, those that focus on improving mental health and well-being, and ways of making EAZA zoos and aquariums more inclusive places to visit and take part in conservation education programmes.

Long term conservation education projects

Many EAZA zoos work on longer term education projects – for example working with a school all year long, adult training courses or annual zoo members and family programmes. We are keen to hear about what approaches are used for these long term programmes and how can we start to measure the effects of this kind of conservation education.

Local Biodiversity

Linked to the EAZA campaign – “Let it Grow”, this theme focuses on conservation education programmes that involve local biodiversity. We welcome examples of activities, resources, trails and errors, partnerships and evaluation methods that zoos have been used around local biodiversity and / or the Let It Grow campaign.

Other conservation education approaches

We welcome all other interesting examples of conservation education projects and programmes that do not fit into any of the above categories!