

# THE INTERNATIONAL OTTER SURVIVAL FUND WORKS TO CONSERVE ALL THE WORLD'S OTTERS

We share our planet with 13 species of otter and they are all at risk. We have little information on some, such as Congo clawless (main picture below). Hairy-nosed otters (back cover) were believed extinct in 1998 but some isolated populations have since been found.

Help us to make sure these animals don't disappear for ever.

## WHAT WE DO:

## CONSERVATION AND RESEARCH

*The problem:* Pollution, roads, human encroachment, hunting, fisheries, lack of data.

*The solution:* Habitat protection, public awareness, campaigning, training, support for vital projects to produce sound conservation strategies.

## **ILLEGAL TRADE**

The problem: Otters are a big part of illegal wildlife trade in Asia. Furs: There are at least 10 otter skins for every tiger skin found and in Tibet 778 otter skins were confiscated. Pets: Otters are popular pets, particularly in SE Asia, and the rise of otter cafés in Japan is increasing demand. The solution: Training local people to help combat trade and supporting centres caring for confiscated pets.

#### OTTER RESCUE

*The problem:* Injured otters and orphaned cubs need specialist care.

*The solution:* Our Sanctuary has cared for over 200 otters from all over the UK. We are renowned worldwide and help people in countries like Democratic Republic of Congo, Chile and Philippines.

#### **EDUCATION**

*The problem:* Many people are unaware of the importance of otters in the ecosystem and their role as an ambassador to a healthy environment.

The solution: IOSF's education programme, Team Otter, reconnects children worldwide with nature, wildlife and the environment to ignite a passion that will last their whole life.

# What YOU can do to help

- Make a donation no amount is too small, every penny works hard to help otters
- Adopt one of the otters at our sanctuary.
- Make a purchase from the Otter Shop (www.ottershop.co.uk) – you can even book a day with us on Skye otter watching!
- Help raise funds for the otters there are plenty of ideas on our website.
- Join in World Otter Day on the last Wednesday in May each year.
- Contact us immediately if you see an injured /orphaned otter at +44 (0)1471 822 487
- Tell us of any threats to otters in your area.

# FIND OUT MORE AT www.otter.org

Thank you

Qui

Dr. Paul Yoxon, Head of Operations

