

# Annual Report, 2006

Chimp-n-Sea's (CnS) mission is to protect wildlife through applied conservation science, habitat preservation, education, music, and storytelling. The foundation to our approach is innovation: we often cross boundaries from science to the arts and back again, as a way to capture peoples' imagination and as a way to protect both people and wildlife. To meet these goals we operated and refined three projects in 2006: an ongoing wildlife and travel storytelling gathering called the Traveler's Circle (tc), the Kibale Community Fuel Wood Project (KCFWP), and Virtual Ecotourism (vEcotourism).

***Traveler's Circle.*** The eleven-year-old project serves as a forum in which people are encouraged to share wildlife and travel stories. CnS, through the Traveler's Circle, gains experience in the art of storytelling with the intent of applying the knowledge in its other projects. CnS uses the Traveler's Circle to disseminate information about its projects, to brainstorm new ideas for its projects, to experiment with storytelling methodologies, and to recruit volunteers.

***Kibale Community Fuel Wood Project.*** The project aims to protect Kibale National Park from encroachment, improve park-people relations by creating self-sustaining energy sources in surrounding villages, and provide local community members the skills and training needed to manage a grassroots organization. Exceptional progress has been made in 2006 in all aspects of the project, including the introduction and widespread application of a traveling movie and storytelling show, the creation and opening of an educational natural history and science museum (the first of its kind in Uganda), the creation and implementation of a community-based tree-planting initiative (with both private and public demonstration woodlots), and the development and use of energy-efficient stove workshops.

***Virtual Ecotourism.*** The vEcotourism project in 2006 entered a partnership with the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) in which WCS will assist CnS to create three vEcotourism pilot projects in Uganda. WCS will help with the in-country infrastructure while CnS will provide technological tools and content, as well as guidance on how this innovative sustainable economic model operates.

Chimp-n-Sea has made significant progress in 2006 regarding business and administrative aspects of the organization. We greatly improved our accounting system with the implementation of Quickbooks accounting software and the help of a volunteer CPA. Additionally, we are designing a new website, we are working to attract volunteers, and we have increased our revenue through grant writing and fundraising activity.

In 2007, Chimp-n-Sea expects to further strengthen each of the aforementioned projects and brainstorm with partner organization Jari Foundation about our upcoming International Marine Park project based in Lombok, Indonesia. We will hire a part-time administrative assistant. A revamped website is expected to come online in May 2007. We will host a North American lecture and fundraising tour for the Kibale Community Fuelwood Project. Finally, our headquarters will move to Johnson, Vermont.