

WZACS published in India by ZOO for SAZARC, CZA, IZDA, BZA, PZA and other conservation and wildlife agencies.

The World Zoo and Aquarium Conservation Strategy WZACS was launched on a beautiful sunny day in the elephant interpretation centre at the Melbourne Zoo, thus also inaugurating the 2nd joint conference of the South East Asian Zoo Association and the Australian Zoo Association in a grand manner. The President of WAZA, Ed McAlister, also a former President of ARAZPA and Director of Adelaide Zoo gave an enthusiastic speech followed by a stirring one by the Minister of Environment of Victoria (state). Participants of the joint conference participated in 8 working groups each corresponding to a Chapter in WZACS.

In November 2004, the World Zoo and Aquarium Conservation Strategy was approved by the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums Council at their 31st Annual Conference which was held in Taipei, Taiwan. In the latter meeting South Asian representatives working on the WAZA recommendations / action plan were Dr. Brij Raj Sharma, Member Secretary, Central Zoo Authority, Mr. Qadeer Mehal, the President of SAZARC, H.A.N.T. Perera, Past President of SAZARC and Sally Walker, Director, SAZARC.

In December of 2004, participants of the 5th Annual Conference of SAZARC, the South Asian Zoo Association for Regional Cooperation held in Lahore Zoo, Pakistan also held an action planning meeting for two sessions and came out with a draft Action Plan. At that time the Strategy had been approved but not printed. SAZARC distributed a copy of the Strategy in SAZARC briefing material for use by participants at the meeting. Thus SAZARC was the first regional association to draft their Action Plan on the basis of the WZACS, even before it was published and just two weeks after approval and the Annual WAZA meeting.

Now, Zoo Outreach Organisation, Administrative Office of SAZARC has raised sufficient funds to publish 5000 copies of the full Strategy and 10,000 copies of the summary (this is yet to be completed), 5000 posters and 10,000 stickers of the attractive cover of WZACS. The full Strategies are already printed as are posters and stickers. The summary covers are ready and waiting for the text. We have also arranged for people in the various countries in the South Asian Zoo Association for Regional Cooperation SAZARC to translate the summary into their own country language. Each region will be given the chance to make 12 pages of the summary more suitable for their own needs in their region. SAZARC will summarise some of the first Strategy which was excellent for people who need to learn about zoos from the very bottom and also the SAZARC Action Plan.

One thousand copies will be handed over to Central Zoo Authority to distribute and hopefully launch in New Delhi and throughout India. Copies will be sent to other South Asian countries for distributing to their zoos and hand carried from time to time as well. The Strategies are excellent documents to use for training, briefing people concerned with zoos, etc. but the primary audience for the Strategy is the zoos themselves. The 24 page summary documents will be useful for educating the public about the modern role of the modern zoo. It is a blueprint for conservation of wildlife by zoos, using education, research, captive propagation, marketing, fund-raising, and many other ways as well.

Many people from South Asia were involved in writing and reviewing the Strategy. We look forward to their being able to see and use the fruits of their labor to save threatened species and educate the public about the importance of wildlife conservation.

Zoos, wildlife agencies and conservation NGO's will be able to order multiple copies of the strategy by sending a proposal describing how they intend to distribute and use it and agreeing to pay postage and packing. More on this in another issue of ZOOS' PRINT.



Poster : A3 size

Strategy document : A4 size

Sticker : half A4 size



IZDA

BZA

PZA

