

State of the Apes

Infrastructure Development and Ape Conservation

Infrastructure development in Africa and Asia is expanding at breakneck speed, largely in biodiversity-rich developing nations. The trend reflects governments' efforts to promote economic growth in response to increasing populations, rising consumption rates and persistent inequalities. Large-scale infrastructure development is regularly touted as a way to meet the growing demand for energy, transport and food—and as a key to poverty alleviation. In practice, however, road networks, hydropower dams and “development corridors” tend to have adverse effects on local populations, natural habitats and biodiversity. Such projects typically weaken the capacity of ecosystems to maintain ecological functions on which wildlife and human communities depend, particularly in the face of climate change.

This volume—*State of the Apes: Infrastructure Development and Ape Conservation*—presents original research and analysis, topical case studies and emerging tools and methods to inform debate, practice and policy with the aim of preventing and mitigating the harmful impacts of infrastructure projects on biodiversity. Using apes as a proxy for wildlife and ecosystems themselves, it identifies opportunities for reconciling economic and social development with environmental stewardship.

This title is available as an open access eBook via Cambridge Core and at www.stateoftheapes.com.

State of the Apes

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The world's primates are among the most endangered of all tropical species. All great ape species – gorilla, chimpanzee, bonobo and orangutan – are classified as either Endangered or Critically Endangered. Furthermore, nearly all gibbon species are threatened with extinction. Whilst linkages between ape conservation and economic development, ethics and wider environmental processes have been acknowledged, more needs to be done to integrate biodiversity conservation within broader economic, social and environmental communities if those connections are to be fully realized and addressed.

Intended for a broad range of policymakers, industry experts and decision-makers, academics, researchers and NGOs, the *State of the Apes* series will look at the threats to these animals and their habitats within the broader context of economic and community development. Each publication presents a different theme, providing an overview of how these factors interrelate and affect the current and future status of apes, with robust statistics, welfare indicators, official and various other reports providing an objective and rigorous analysis of relevant issues.

Other Titles in this Series

Arcus Foundation. 2015. *State of the Apes: Industrial Agriculture and Ape Conservation*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Arcus Foundation. 2014. *State of the Apes: Extractive Industries and Ape Conservation*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Other Language Editions

Bahasa Indonesia

Arcus Foundation. 2018. *Negara Kera: Pembangunan Infrastruktur dan Konservasi Kera*.

Arcus Foundation. 2015. *Negara Kera: Pertanian Industri dan Konservasi Kera*.

Arcus Foundation. 2014. *Negara Kera: Industri Ekstraktif dan Konservasi Kera*.

French

Arcus Foundation. 2018. *La planète des grands singes: Le développement des infrastructures et la conservation des grands singes*.

Arcus Foundation. 2015. *La planète des grands singes: L'agriculture industrielle et la conservation des grands singes*.

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