

Curriculum Vitae
Isabella Mandl, PhD

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Conservation biology: Applying scientific research to inform species conservation and habitat management.

Behavioural ecology: Movement patterns of mammals and GIS-based analyses.

EDUCATION

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| 2014 - 2018 | PhD in Biological Sciences
School of Life Sciences, University of Bristol (UK)
Dissertation title: "Nightly Encounters: The social, spatial and vocal ecology of the Sahamalaza sportive lemur (<i>Lepilemur sahamalaza</i>) in north-west Madagascar."
Supervisors: Dr. Christoph Schwitzer and Dr. Marc Holderied |
| 2011 - 2013 | MSc by Research in Animal Cognition and Welfare
School of Life Sciences, University of Lincoln (UK) |
| 2007 - 2011 | BSc in Biology
Faculty of Life Sciences, University of Vienna (Austria) |

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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| 09/2021 - present | Postdoctoral Fellow
University of Vienna (Austria) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Responsible for designing and implementing research and conservation projects on Indian Ocean islands and mainland Africa. |
| 07/2020 – 09/2021 | Conservation Consultant
NGO Dahari (Comoros) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Supporting the implementation of research projects and conservation reports |
| 08/2019 – 02/2020 | Postdoctoral Fellow
Queens University (Canada) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Responsible for developing and setting up an ongoing bat survey at the Queens Biological Research Station. |
| 10/2020 – 01/2021 | Conservation Consultant
NGO Dahari (Comoros) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Supporting the implementation of research projects and conservation reports |
| 03/2020 – 08/2020 | Bat Conservation Consultant
NGO Bat Conservation International (US) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Responsible for developing and supporting applied recovery action plans and research studies on the Critically Endangered <i>Pteropus livingstonii</i> on Comoros. |
| 05/2018 – 08/2019 | Ecology Manager
NGO Dahari, Anjouan (Comoros) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Development and implementation of community-based biodiversity conservation projects with a focus on forest ecology and spatial analysis of land-use.• Lead and managed a team of three full-time staff, overseeing field data collection and analysis.• Key responsibilities included proposal writing, reporting, and fundraising and communication with donors. |

- 01/2017 – 08/2017** **Research Assistant**
Lund University (Sweden)
- Working on conservation of European pollinators with the Biodiversity Unit and the Centre for Environmental and Climate Research.
 - Responsible for assisting data processing and analysis, and project reporting in view of European conservation strategies.
- 06/2014 – 03/2018** **PhD Researcher**
University of Bristol (UK), Lemur Conservation Association (Madagascar)
- Principal investigator for a collaborative research project focusing on conservation biology in Madagascar.
 - Responsible for fundraising, project development and implementation, team management, data collection, analysis, and publishing of results.
 - Results integrated in conservation plan for the Critically Endangered *Lepilemur sahamalaza*.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2018 - 2021** Developed and led two ongoing, in-situ research projects as Ecology Manager at Comorian NGO Dahari.
Projects focused on a) community-based biodiversity monitoring across multiple regions on the island of Anjouan and b) ecology of *Pteropus livingstonii* to inform applied conservation.
- 2013 - 2016** Principal investigator, collaborating with Bristol Zoo Gardens, Lemur Conservation Association and University of Bristol (UK).
Developed and led a research project on the social and spatial ecology of *Lepilemur sahamalaza* in north western Madagascar.
- 2011 - 2012** MSc research project, collaborating with the Lincolnshire Wildlife Park and University of Lincoln (UK).
Project focused on the social cognition of parrots.
- 2010 - 2011** BSc research project at the Konrad Lorenz Institute of Ethology (Austria).
Project investigated the behavioural ecology of cichlids in a laboratory setting.
- 2010** Project coordinator for the Waldrapp Team.
A human-led migration of the Critically Endangered bald ibis, *Geronticus eremita*, across Europe.
- 2009 - 2010** Research assistant for the Department of Cognitive Biology, University of Vienna (Austria).
Responsible for project implementation of two studies investigating the social cognition of tortoises.

GRANTS RECEIVED

- 2019** **Research Project (Co-investigator): Piloting GPS tracking to understand habitat and resource-use of Livingstone's fruit bat, *Pteropus livingstonii*, to feed into conservation management strategies**
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| The Rufford Foundation | 15,000 (Pounds Sterling) |
| Critical Ecosystems Partnership Fund | 4,700 (US Dollar) |
- 2017** **Research Project (Collaborator): Identifying the ecological needs of *Mirza zaza* for conservation management.**
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| Zoological Society of London – EDGE of Existence | 10,000 (Pounds Sterling) |
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- 2015** **Research Project (Principal Investigator): The social, spatial and vocal ecology of the Sahamalaza sportive lemur, *Lepilemur sahamalaza*, in north-west Madagascar**

Minnesota Zoo, Ulysses S. Seal Conservation Grant	1,000 (US Dollar)
Margot Marsh Biodiversity Foundation – Primate Action Fund	4,000 (US Dollar)
Pittsburgh Zoo and PPG Aquarium Sustainability Fund	1,828 (Pounds Sterling)
Fresno Chaffee Zoo and Wildlife Conservation Fund	2,000 (US Dollar)
The Explorer's Club Student Grant	2,000 (US Dollar)
Primate Conservation Inc.	3,780 (US Dollar)
Primate Society of Great Britain	1,000 (Pounds Sterling)

2013 Research Project (Principal Investigator): The social ecology of *Lepilemur sahamalaza* in north-west Madagascar

Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund	2,500 (US Dollar)
Gesellschaft für Primatologie e.V. – Christian Vogel Preis	800 (Euro)
Association Européenne pour l'Etude et la Conservation des Lémuriens (AEECL) – Small Research Grant	1,000 (Euro)
Margot Marsh Biodiversity Foundation – Primate Action Fund	3,500 (US Dollar)

PUBLICATIONS

- **Mandl, I.**, Rabemananjara, N., Holderied, M. & Schwitzer, C. (2022) Measuring the impact of forest edges on the highly arboreal Sahamalaza sportive lemur, *Lepilemur sahamalaza*, in north-western Madagascar, *International Journal of Primatology*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10764-022-00333-8>
- **Mandl, I.**, Houmadi, A., Said, I., Abdou, B., Fardane, A., Egger-Peitler, K., Oleksy, R., Doulton, H. & Chaihane S. (2021) GPS tracking provides critical insights into ecology of Livingstone's flying foxes to inform conservation strategies, *Oryx*, 1-4. doi:10.1017/S0030605320000563
- **Mandl, I.**, Rabemananjara, N., Schwitzer, C. & Wilmet, L. (2019) Updated population density estimation and distribution range of the Critically Endangered Sahamalaza sportive lemur, *Lepilemur sahamalaza*. *Lemur News*, 22: 61-65.
- Estrada, LBG., Kading, R., Kingston, T., **Mandl, I.**, Medellin, R., Parsons, S., Russo, D., Shapiro, JT., Pool, FT., Sánchez, IT., Vicente-Santos, A. & Worledge, L. (2020) IUCN SSC Bat Specialist Group (BSG) recommendations to reduce the risk of transmission of SARS-CoV-2 from humans to bats by cavers MAP: Minimize, Assess, Protect. *Online resource, living document*: <https://www.iucnbsg.org/bsg-publications.html>
- **Mandl, I.**, Holderied, M. & Schwitzer, C. (2019) Spatiotemporal distribution of individuals as an indicator for the social system of *Lepilemur sahamalaza*. *American Journal of Primatology*, 81(6): e22984.
- **Mandl, I.**, Schwitzer, C. & Holderied, M. (2019) Sahamalaza sportive lemur, *Lepilemur sahamalaza*, vocal communication: call use, context and gradation. *Folia Primatologica*, 90(5): 336-360.
- **Mandl, I.**, Schwitzer, C. & Holderied, M. (2018) Evaluating the use of vocalisation playbacks for lure counts in the rare nocturnal sportive lemur, *Lepilemur* species. *Primate Conservation*, 32:109-122.
- **Mandl, I.**, Holderied, M. & Schwitzer, C. (2018) The effects of climate seasonality on behavior and sleeping site choice in Sahamalaza sportive lemurs, *Lepilemur sahamalaza*. *International Journal of Primatology*, 39(6): 1039-1067.

- **Mandi, I.**, Rabemananjara, N., Rakotomalala, A., Sorlin, M., Holderied, M. & Schwitzer C. (2017) A case of mobbing observed in two species of nocturnal lemur, *Mirza zaza* and *Lepilemur sahamalaza* in north-west Madagascar. *Lemur News*, 20: 6-7.
- Martins, C. I. M., Schaedelin, C., Mann, M., Blum, C., **Mandi, I.**, Urban, D., Grill, J., Schößwender, J. & Wagner, R. H. (2012) Exploring novelty: a component trait of behavioural syndromes in a colonial fish. *Behaviour*, 149: 215–231.
- Wilkinson, A., Sebanz, N., **Mandi, I.** & Huber, L. (2011) No evidence for contagious yawning in the red-footed tortoise, *Gechelone carbonaria*. *Current Zoology*, 57(4): 477–484.
- Wilkinson, A., **Mandi, I.**, Bugnyar, T. & Huber, L. (2010) Gaze following in the red-footed tortoise (*Geochelone carbonaria*). *Animal Cognition*, 13(5): 765-769.

TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS

- 2022** Landscape use and identification of important resources for Livingstone’s flying foxes in Comoros.
International Bat Research Conference
Austin - TX (USA)
- 2021** Livingstone’s fruit bat: a conservation case study.
Australasian Bat Society - Online 1st Pacific Island Bat Forum
- 2020** Conservation of the Livingstone's flying fox on Comoros by the NGO Dahari.
Bat Conservation Trust - Online BatFest: The Global Conservation Showcase, Kingston (Canada)
- 2019** Using GPS Tracking Research for Applied Conservation in Livingstone’s Fruit Bats.
International Bat Research Conference
Phuket (Thailand)
- 2017** *Biodiversity Winter Meeting of the Biodiversity department at Lund University*
Lund (Sweden)
- Poster Presentation: Now You See Me – Now You Don't: Sportive lemur populations after a decade of conservation efforts.
50th Anniversary Meeting of the Primate Society of Great Britain
London (UK)
- Do edge effects negatively impact arboreal primates in Madagascar?
7th Meeting of the European Federation of Primatologists
Strasbourg (France)
- 2016** Providing a basis for conservation through research: edge effects in a population of Critically Endangered Sahamalaza sportive lemurs, *Lepilemur sahamalaza*, in north-west Madagascar.
Joint meeting of the International Primatological Society and the American Society of Primatologists
Chicago (USA)
- 2015** Poster Presentation: The social organization of the Sahamalaza sportive lemur, *Lepilemur sahamalaza*, during the dry season.
14. Tagung der Gesellschaft für Primatologie
Lepizig (Germany)
- 2014** Preliminary insights into the social system of the Sahamalaza sportive lemur, *Lepilemur sahamalaza*.
Spring Meeting of the Primate Society of Great Britain
Oxford (UK)

TRAINING AND LEADERSHIP

- 2020** “Grant Writing for Conservation and Research”
July, Online
Designed and led a workshop targeted at early career scientists and students. Eight (8) Participants from Madagascar, Mozambique, India, Australia and Kenya

AWARDS AND HONOURS

- 2017** 2nd Place – Best Student Talk
Federation of Primatologists, Strasbourg (France)
- 2011** Ig Nobel Prize Physiology
Improbable Research (USA)

STUDENT SUPERVISION

- 05/2018 – 03/2020** Mentoring and co-supervision of PhD student: Amelaid Houmadi (Université d’Antananarivo)
Project Description: Identifying conservation priorities in the biodiversity of Anjouan, Comoros, using field-based and modelling approaches.
- 08/2016 - 04/2019** Co-supervisor for Master’s Equivalent student: Naina Rabemananjara (Université d’Antananarivo)
Project Description: Research project identifying the effects of habitat degradation and seasonality on the diet and distribution of *Mirza zaza* in north-west Madagascar.

JOURNAL REVIEW ACTIVITIES

- 2021** Lemur News (1)
Current Zoology (1)
Folia Primatologica (1)
American Journal of Primatology (1)
- 2020** American Journal of Primatology (1)
Primate Conservation (1)
- 2019** Journal of Veterinary and Animal Research (JVAR) (1)
Biological Conservation (1)
Biodiversitas Journal of Biological Diversity (1)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- IUCN SSC Bat Specialist Group

LANGUAGE SKILLS

	UNDERSTANDING		SPEAKING		WRITING
	Listening	Reading	Spoken interaction	Spoken production	
English	C2	C2	C2	C2	C2
German	C2	C2	C2	C2	C2
French	B2	B2	B2	B2	B2

Levels: A1 and A2: Basic user - B1 and B2: Independent user - C1 and C2: Proficient user

SOFTWARE COMPETENCIES

- General** MS Office Package
- Statistical** R, SPSS
- Spatial Analysis** QGIS
- Acoustic Analysis** Avisoft SASLab Pro, Praat
- Graphical** Adobe Package, Affinity Designer