



PRESS RELEASE



Wild Chimpanzee Foundation®



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## **Wild Chimpanzee Foundation**

### **Club P.A.N. - Environmental education in Côte d'Ivoire**

#### **Announced as Winner of 'Educating Africa' Award**

**The Wild Chimpanzee Foundation has been named as the organisation with the most entrepreneurial approach to education in Côte d'Ivoire in the Educating Africa Pan-African Awards for Entrepreneurship in Education.**

With over 350 entries from all over Africa, the Wild Chimpanzee Foundation has done exceptionally well to be named a country winner in the competition. It's unique and entrepreneurial approach to education meant that it caught the judges' attention even despite this being the most competitive competition to date. This is the fifth time that the Pan African Awards for Entrepreneurship in Education have been run by UK-based international development charity, Teach A Man To Fish.

As a country prize winner, the Wild Chimpanzee Foundation is entitled to prize winnings of USD \$1,000.

The Wild Chimpanzee Foundation is a non-profit tax-exempt organization funded in 2000 with the aim to enhance the survival of the remaining wild chimpanzee populations and their habitat, the tropical rainforest, throughout tropical Africa. The philosophy of the WCF is threefold: implement projects of education, conservation, and research for and by the African people. Currently, we have teams in Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea and Liberia. Club P.A.N. (People, Animals Nature) is the environmental education program of the WCF operating in primary schools around the Taï National Park in Côte d'Ivoire. Club P.A.N. takes the children outside into nature class rooms and teaches them about the flora and fauna of the region's ecosystem, so that they appreciate and take pride in the biodiversity that exists in their region. Also the children gain basic knowledge on environmental issues in order to promote care and awareness towards nature conservation and its significance. The Club P.A.N. wants to discourage the trade in illegal bushmeat by reducing the likelihood that the current generation of children will consume or trade bushmeat in the future. Each school year we reach around 1000 children.

*'Winning this award means a great deal to the Wild Chimpanzee Foundation and the Club P.A.N. program as it will help us to spread the word about the conservation work our organisation undertakes to protect wild chimpanzees and nature in West Africa. We will be investing the prize money for the Club P.A.N.'*

*program and include a new school to the upcoming school year starting in October 2013 to help us reach even more children. So that they can learn for nature and act for nature in the future.'* says Christophe Boesch, Founder and President of the Wild Chimpanzee Foundation.

The aim of the competition was to identify and celebrate the achievements of social entrepreneurs who understand the role education can play within their communities.

*'With this competition we were looking for programmes which are innovative, sustainable and create real impact – and we have found them. By awarding them we hope to encourage others to imitate winner's approach and work towards more and better education in Africa',* says Nik Kafka, Managing Director of Teach A Man To Fish.

**ENDS**

**Notes for Editors**

#### **More about the competition**

Now in its fifth year, the 2012 Pan African Awards for Entrepreneurship continue to reward organizations in Africa that use innovative and entrepreneurial techniques to fill gaps in educational services across the continent.

Entries were assessed against the criteria of entrepreneurship, sustainability, and impact. The winners were selected by a panel of international judges, with the top entry receiving a prize of \$10,000 and the two runners-up prizes of \$5,000. There is also a \$1,000 prize for the best entry for each country.

#### **More about the winners**

More detailed information about this year's winners is available here:  
<http://teachamantofish.org.uk/pan-african-awards-2012-winners>

#### **More about the competition organizers**

**TeachAManToFish** is an international non-profit organization working to improve the relevancy, quality, and availability of education in developing countries. Our pioneering approach uses profit-making school-run businesses to teach entrepreneurship and livelihood skills. This model allows schools to generate additional income, improving their financial sustainability, while at the same time enabling them to offer a more relevant and higher quality education.

For more information visit [www.teachamantofish.org.uk](http://www.teachamantofish.org.uk)

**Educating Africa** is a foundation committed to introducing cost effective and sensible education initiatives throughout Africa, and to acknowledging some of the tremendous educational projects that have been developed across the continent. It is apparent that there are superb educational ideas, generous benefactors and intellectual capital that is willing and able to be invested in worthwhile educational projects. However, often there is a mismatch in linking the various groups. Educating Africa seeks to bridge this gap and match up these groups.

For more information visit [www.EducatingAfrica.com](http://www.EducatingAfrica.com)

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