

THE SNOW LEOPARD NETWORK



ANNUAL REPORT

2024



The Snow Leopard Network (SLN) is a global organization dedicated to facilitating the exchange of information and ideas between individuals around the world for the purpose of snow leopard conservation. Our membership includes leading snow leopard experts in the public, private and non-profit sectors.

www.snowleopardnetwork.org --- Drawing by student Zharashbekov Alizhan, young artist from the Village of (Chui) Shamshy, Kyrgyzstan.



KEY HIGHLIGHTS 2024

SNOW LEOPARD JOURNAL:

The snow leopard community's very own registered peer-reviewed journal, 'Snow Leopard Reports' – Three issues published with 17 Articles.

SUPPORT TO GRASSROOT CONSERVATION:

SLN's Training Grant Program – in partnership with the Pangje Foundation – supported two capacity building projects funded in India and Russia in 2024.

SLN CONSERVATION LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME (SUMMER 2024):

In collaboration with *The Three Mountain Group*, held over six weeks and consisting of two-hour sessions, weekly.

CONTINUED CAPACITY EXCHANGE:

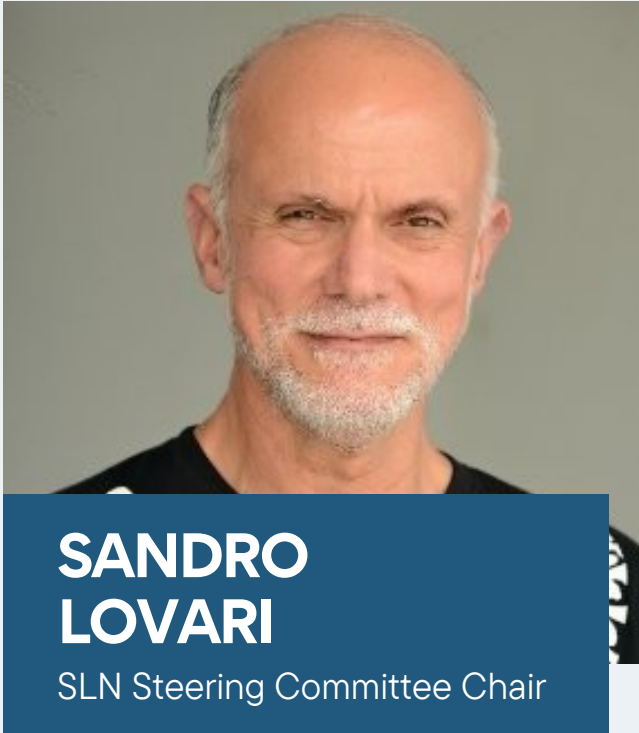
SLN hosted 9 webinars, which engaged over 250 participants to stimulate the exchange of knowledge/skills and identify issues of shared concern.

SUPPORT TO WOMEN:

Featured 12 women conservationists from 6 range countries in the month of March 2024 for International Women's Day.



A MESSAGE FROM SLN SC CHAIR:



**SANDRO
LOVARI**

SLN Steering Committee Chair

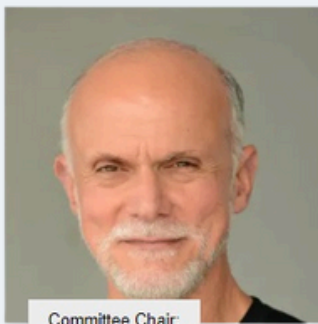
Dear members of the Snow Leopard Network,

Let me spend a few words to introduce our report of year 2024, skillfully prepared by Ms Rakhee Karumbaya, our Programme Coordinator. Just take the time to go through it and you will be surprised with the variety of achievements which – with the members' help and cooperation – the SLN has reached. However, there are no limits for better. In fact, you place limits on yourself only if you don't believe in yourself, which we do, and I am sure that even greater achievements will be obtained in 2025.

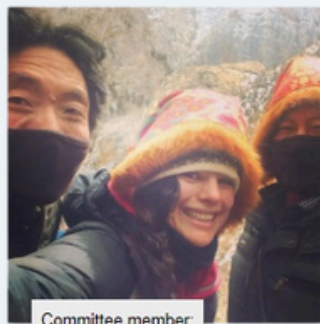
Personally, I am especially happy with the quick growth of our newsletter Snow Leopard Reports into a fully-fledged journal. In the last twenty years, publications on the biology of snow leopards have shown a 20-fold increase, which has been an explosive growth only matched by that of papers on the Asiatic lion although with much smaller absolute numbers, among the large cats of Asia. Good conservation requires adequate habitat protection first, but a fair knowledge of the ecology and behaviour of the threatened species comes next. I find it just exciting to help the conservation of this magnificent cat through a journal devoted to it.

Webinars have also been a great idea to spread information on the snow leopard and also... well, maybe I had better stop here and let you judge yourself, after a good look at our report!

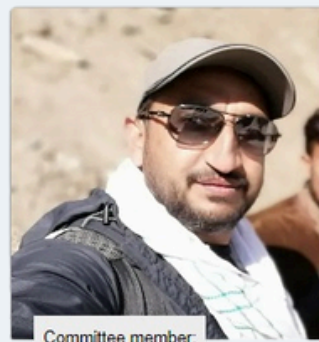
SANDRO LOVARI



Committee Chair:
Sandro Lovari (Italy)



Committee member:
Justine Shanti
Alexander
(Mongolia)



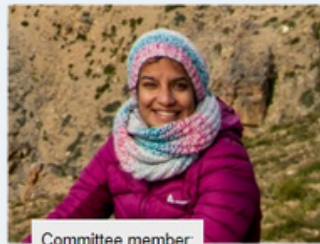
Committee member:
Shoaib Hameed
(Pakistan)



Committee
member: Yanlin
Liu (China)



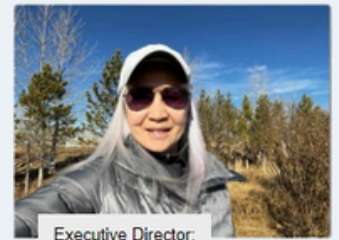
Committee member:
Dechen Lham
(Bhutan/Switzerland)



Committee member:
Ranjini Murali
(Germany)



Committee member:
Orjan Johansson
(Sweden)



Executive Director:
Bayarjargal
Agvaantseren
(Mongolia)

1. SLN STEERING COMMITTEE

The SLN Steering Committee continues their tenure for 2024-2026. Our sincere thanks and appreciation to our Steering Committee members for their guidance, interaction and support in 2024.

- Dr (Mr) Sandro Lovari (Italy) - Chairperson
- Dr (Ms) Justine Shanti Alexander (Mongolia) - Member
- Dr (Mr) Shoaib Hameed (Pakistan) - Member
- Dr (Mr) Orjan Johansson (Sweden/Mongolia) - Member
- Dr (Mr) Yanlin Liu (China) - Member
- Dr (Ms) Dechen Lham (Bhutan/Switzerland) - Member
- Dr (Ms) Ranjini Murali (Germany) – Member



2. MEMBERSHIP

The Snow Leopard Network has a currently listed membership of **704 members** (561 full individual members, 110 affiliate members, 33 organizational members), and **11 Partners**. A complete list of our 33 organizational members and 11 partner organizations are available on our [website](#).

Please do visit the [Membership page](#) on our website, which lists all our current individual and organizational members and we kindly request our members to update your information on this page. If, as a member, you know of any Organizations which are not currently SLN organizational members, please do encourage them to [sign up](#).

We thank the Membership Working Group (led by Dan Prain) for verifying all membership requests.



**55
COUNTRIES
REPRESENTED**

All continents!

**Except Antarctica*



3. SNOW LEOPARD REPORTS

We are pleased with the enthusiastic response and high-quality submissions to Snow Leopard Reports, our registered, peer-reviewed journal.

The first three volumes are available online:

* [Vol. 1 \(2023\)](#) / [Vol. 2 \(2024\)](#) / [Vol. 3 \(2024\)](#)

You can also explore the journal on the Snow Leopard Reports [website](https://publicera.kb.se/slr): <https://publicera.kb.se/slr>.



We encourage you to submit your work to Snow Leopard Reports, which is now indexed in multiple databases and discoverable through major search engines.

‘Snow Leopard Reports’ has an ISSN number (2004-5255), hosted by the Swedish National Library. All articles receive DOIs and are indexed accordingly. More details can be found [here](#).

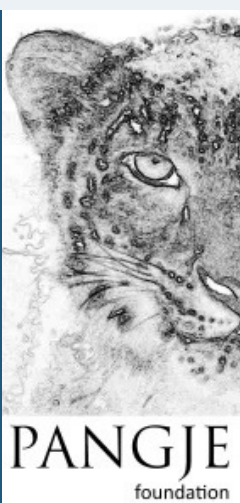
We extend our gratitude to the Journal Editors, composed of SLN’s Steering Committee, as well as the Editorial Board and dedicated reviewers, many of whom are SLN members.

Volume 4 is now accepting submissions, and we encourage you to contribute to the upcoming issue. Please review the [author guidelines](#) for submission details.



4. SLN'S GRANTS PROGRAM

We continued with SLN's Snow Leopard Training Grant Program in 2024. SLN's Grant Program has supported **78 projects since 2003**. This year 14 proposals were received from six snow leopard range countries (Pakistan, Nepal, Bhutan, Russia, India and Mongolia), covering a range of training topics. Two projects in India and Russia were supported through the Pangje Foundation, an SLN Organizational member.



* **“Guardians of the Ghost: Training and Capacity Building of Frontline Staff and Stakeholders in Snow Leopard Landscapes of Jammu and Kashmir, India”** - led by Tahir Gazanfar and team from India.

* **“Integrating Citizen Science in Biomonitoring to Document Population Distribution, Assess Habitat Use and Provide Data for Patrol Surveillance of Snow Leopard (*Panthera uncia*)”** - led by Lionel Ebong and his team from Russia.



2nd Batch of Trainees from Ganderbal Forest Division and Central Wildlife Division held at Dachigam National Park ©WRCF (Report by Tahir Gazanfar)

These final reports are available on our [website](#).

We sincerely thank the [Pangje Foundation](#) for its generous support and ongoing commitment in 2025. We hope this contribution will inspire funding from other organizational members in the future. Our gratitude also goes to the dedicated reviewers for their invaluable efforts in this process.

5. SLN/GSLEP INTERACTION



SLN continues to support [GSLEP \(the Global Snow Leopard & Ecosystem Protection Program\)](#), and vice versa. GSLEP has partnered with SLN to develop several online training toolkits. Aligned with the thematic priorities of the 2017 Bishkek Declaration, these toolkits cover prey surveys, occupancy-based distribution surveys, camera trapping, sustainable tourism, and communication. These toolkits can be found on our [website](#).

6. WEBINARS

Our [Webinar Series](#) remains one of SLN's flagship activities. This year, we covered a diverse range of topics, including One Health, Community Conservation, AI and Technology, and Research & Conservation.



2024 Topics Included:

- What's Behind a Snow Leopard's Spots? A One Health Approach to Investigating Emerging Diseases in the Iconic Snow Leopard (*Panthera uncia*).
- Empowering Communities for Snow Leopard Conservation with CRAs.
- Tech for Wildlife: The Role of AI and Technology in Nature Conservation.
- One Health–One Welfare: A Holistic and Interdisciplinary Approach to Snow Leopard Conservation.
- Storytelling as a Tool for Conservation.
- Seasonal Patterns of Dietary Overlap Between Mongolian Saiga and Livestock.
- Ethical Nature Conservation – A Way to Move Forward.
- Comparing Snow Track Surveys and Camera Traps to Estimate Densities of Unmarked Wildlife Populations in the Russian Far East.
- How Snow Leopards Changed My Life and Why They Must Be Conserved.

(See [Appendix 1](#) for full details).

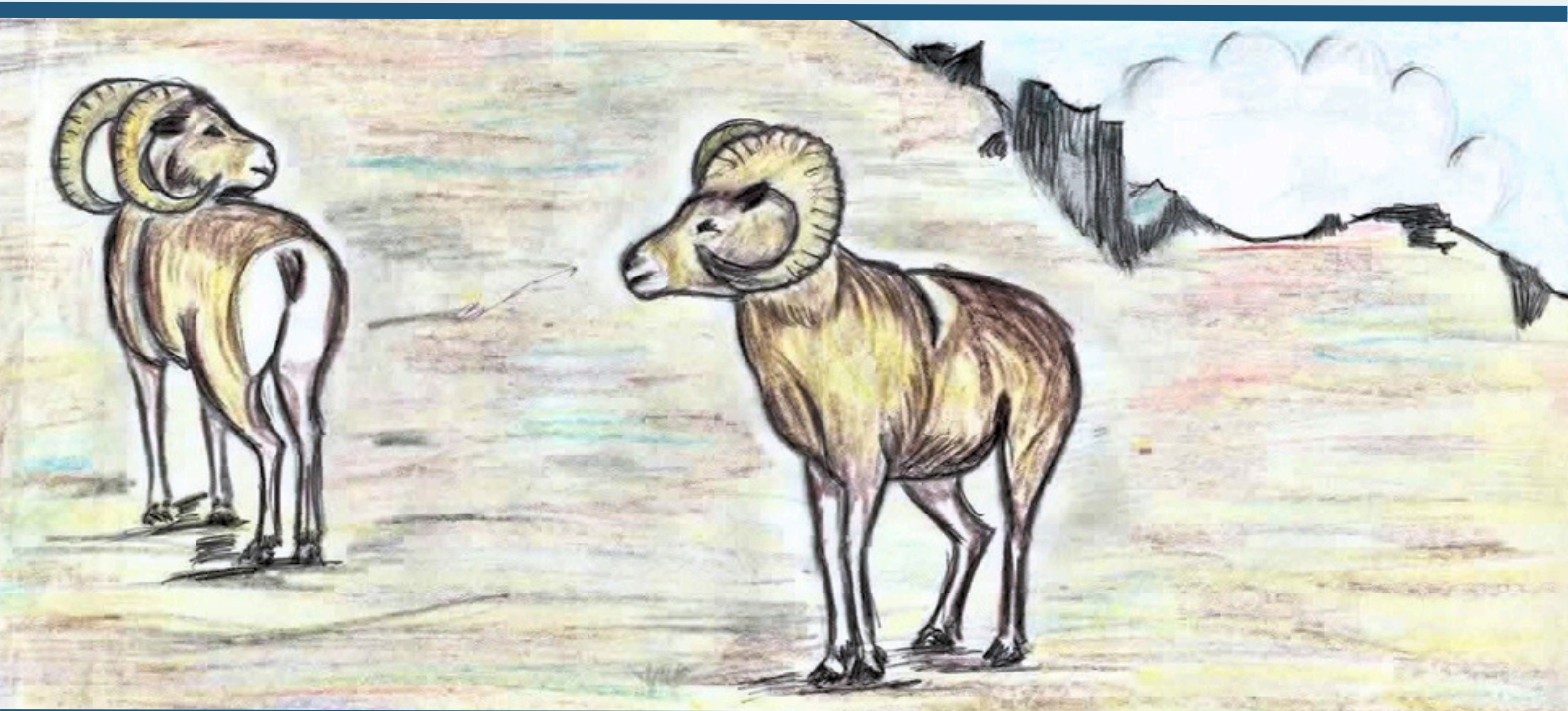
We are grateful to our speakers for sharing their wealth and depth of knowledge and experiences. A collection of [47 past webinars is now available on our website](#).

Summarizing the 2024 webinars:

- * 9 Webinars
- * 19 Guest Speakers, Facilitators & Discussants
- * 288 Participants across the 2024 Webinars

2024 EXCHANGE PROGRAM SUMMARY

- * 6 conservation leadership training modules.
- * 4 resource persons – John Griffin, Steve Johnson, Lisa Griffin and Sarah Greer.
- * Approx. 12 hours of online discussions and learning.
- * 232 participants took part in the training events, from 23 countries, with an average attendance of 39 participants per module.
- * Award of a total of 21 certificates to participants (certificates were issued based on full attendance of all live exchange sessions).



8. SNOW LEOPARD NETWORK MENTORSHIP PROGRAMME

SLN is introducing its first ever Mentorship Programme in early 2025. The goal of the programme is to facilitate knowledge exchange and provide guidance and support to early career individuals in our Network.

This Mentorship Programme will pair early career passionate individuals (Mentees) with more experienced professionals (Mentors) in tandem. We envision that both Mentors and Mentees will benefit from the programme. Mentors help Mentees in different ways such as offering insights, sharing experiences, providing feedback and offering networking opportunities. In return, Mentors gain leadership experience, personal growth and a chance to influence the next generation of leaders in snow leopard conservation.



HOW DOES THE PROGRAM WORK?

The Mentorship Programme is for a tenure of one year. Our team at SLN will pair Mentees and Mentors, once Mentees have been selected. There will be an initial kick-off event online, where all the Mentors and Mentees are introduced to each other and the goals of the program discussed. After the event, the respective tandems of Mentees/Mentors set up further one-on-one meetings. They can meet as frequently as they desire, but we recommend a minimum of at least twice in three months. In addition, a check-in meeting after 6 months and a final meeting after one year will be organized with all the Mentors and Mentees.

9. SLN COMMUNICATION

[Our website](#) continues to play an important role across all SLN activities. It continues to feature our webinars, training modules, blog and hosting the Bibliography. Our continuing aim is to make this the “go-to” place for updates on snow leopard research and conservation. A special thanks to Jeff Brown, Snow Leopard Trust’s Senior Technology Architect, for supporting our website platform.

SLN continues to focus its communication across five platforms: [X](#) (formerly Twitter), [Instagram](#), [YouTube](#), [LinkedIn](#), and, more recently, [Bluesky](#).

SLN now has 2,838 followers on X (formerly Twitter) [@SnowLeopardNet](#).

The [SLN YouTube](#) Account now consists of:

- 730 subscribers.
- 212 public videos - 14 publicly available training playlists and 47 webinars. Additionally, one webinar and 3 trainings that are available upon request for our participants.
- 9,944 ‘views’ in 2024.

The top videos viewed in 2024 were:

- Module 6 - Session 3.3: Occupancy Analysis Part 2
- PAWS: Spatial Capture Recapture Data Analysis Part 1
- Seasonal patterns of dietary overlap between Mongolian saiga and livestock
- Module 9 - Session 1.1: Overview of SMART conservation Tools
- Module 6 - Session 1.1: Introduction to Occupancy

The top webinars viewed in 2024 were:

- Seasonal patterns of dietary overlap between Mongolian saiga and livestock
- Tech for wildlife: The role AI and technology can play in nature conservation
- Snow Leopards and Tibetan Herders: Coexistence from a Cultural Perspective



SLN now has a very new Bluesky account with 281 followers [@snowleopardnet.bsky.social](#).

Our Instagram account currently has 1411 followers and 172 posts [@snowleopardnet](#).

SLN’s LinkedIn profile currently has 1673 followers - www.linkedin.com/company/snow-leopard-network.

We thank Flavia Franchini Silveira for her creativity, timeliness, perseverance and dedication in supporting SLN’s communication effort.

*Please note that the mentioned numbers are reflective “as of now” and change almost daily.

10. BIBLIOGRAPHY

The [SLN Bibliography](#) currently contains **over 1700 articles and reports** (26 peer-reviewed articles were added in 2024). This continues to represent the largest freely accessible snow leopard literature repository in the world! Thank you to members for continuing to update and share their latest research.

11. MISCELLANEOUS

SLN facilitated the promotion of:

1. A survey for **WWF - India** for the **Snow Leopard Connectivity Mapping Project**.
2. A survey on the influences of different social media post designs for a **PhD/University of Otago** study on how social media could help promote wildlife (specifically, snow leopards) conservation and how cultural background affects people's preferences.
3. A global survey by PICA (**Pallas's Cat International Conservation Alliance**) to assess the status, research, and conservation needs of the Pallas's cat or Manul (*Otocolobus manul*), leveraging expert insights to guide future actions.
4. The **Sabin Snow Leopard Grants Program**, offered by **Zoo New England**.
5. The first annual '**Khulan Conservation Day**' social media campaign by WCS-Mongolia. The *Ministry of Environment and Climate Change of Mongolia* has officially designated *Khulan Conservation Day* as an environment observance day, following an initiative by the Wildlife Conservation Society in Mongolia. The day will be celebrated every year on **October 25**, aiming to spotlight the Khulan as a keystone species in the Gobi-Steppe ecosystem, its critical role in maintaining ecological integrity and biodiversity.

6. The prestigious **NABU Snow Leopard Award 2024** which has been awarded to Davlatkhon Mulloyorov, an exceptional conservationist from the village of Zighar in Tajikistan. Davlatkhon, a former traditional hunter turned dedicated conservationist, founded the **M-Sayod Conservancy**, which now safeguards 20,000 hectares of critical habitat for markhor, ibex, and snow leopards. His conservation journey began in the early 1990s, amid the challenges of the Soviet Union's collapse, civil war, and widespread poverty.



12. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

All illustrations in this report were created by local schoolchildren from the snow leopard landscape.

Credits

- **Page 2:**

By Galmandakh. G, student from the snow leopard landscape in Mongolia.

- **Page 4:**

By Baasankhuu. L, student 7a grade, from the snow leopard landscape in Mongolia.

- **Page 5 (deer outline) & Page 7 (snow leopard outline):**

By Abazbekova Asema, student from the Kurulush village in Kyrgyzstan.

- **Page 8:**

By Enkhbayar. G, student 4a grade, from Bayantooroi, Gobi-Altai Province in Mongolia.

- **Page 10:**

By Baasankhuu. L, student 7a grade, from the snow leopard landscape in Mongolia.

- **Page 11:**

By Dalaitseren. E, student 4b grade from the snow leopard landscape in Mongolia.

- **Page 12:**

By Ragchaa, student 7a grade, from Bayantooroi, Gobi-Altai Province in Mongolia.

- **Page 13:**

By Baasankhuu. L, student 7a grade, from the snow leopard landscape in Mongolia.

A HEARTFELT THANK YOU TO THE TALENTED CHILDREN WHO SHARED THEIR BEAUTIFUL DRAWINGS TO ILLUSTRATE OUR 2024 ANNUAL REPORT!



Drawing by Enkh-Erdene, M., student from Bayantooroi, Gobi-Altai, Mongolia.

SLN 33 ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERS & 11 PARTNERS (2024)

Member Organizations



Partners



A special **thanks** to the 2024 Snow Leopard Network donors: Snow Leopard Trust, Global Snow Leopard Ecosystem Program, Milkywire, and the Pangje Foundation.



Thanking all Individual and Organizational members, Partners, SLN Steering Committee, the SLN Chair, SLN Executive Director and the Program Coordinator for all your support.

Become a member [here](https://snowleopardnetwork.org/contact-us).

CONTACT

snowleopardnetwork.org/contact-us

[@SnowleopardNet](https://www.instagram.com/SnowleopardNet)

APPENDIX 1: PARTNERS IN THE TRAINING INITIATIVE AND WEBINARS

We would especially like to thank the following organizations and individuals for their support:

Table 1: 2024 SLN Module partners and resource persons' affiliations.

TRAINING MODULES	MODULE PARTNERS & RESOURCE PERSONS' AFFILIATIONS
SUMMER EXCHANGE 2024	JUNE/JULY
CONSERVATION LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME (6 WEEKS)	THE THREE MOUNTAIN GROUP

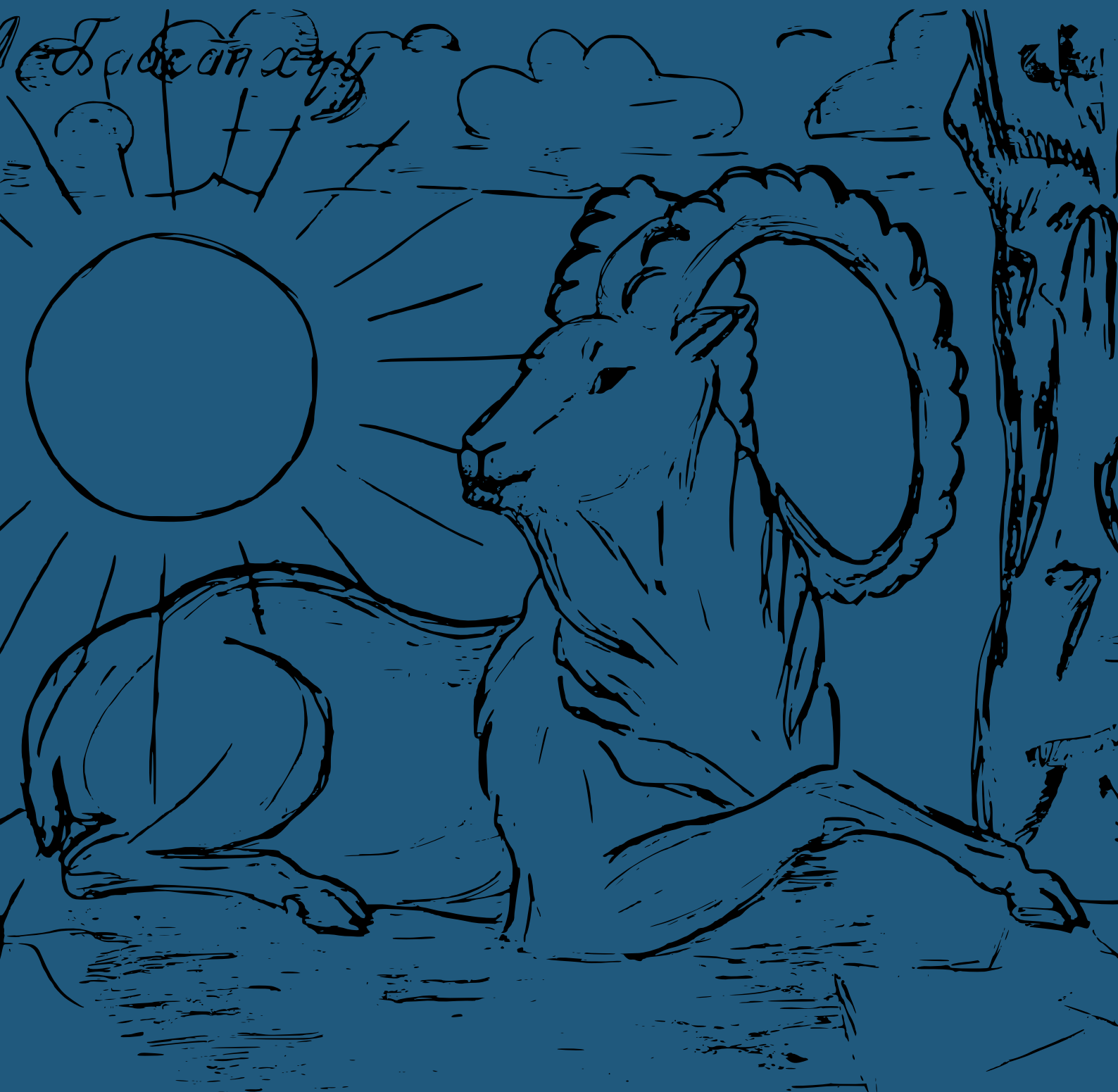
Table 2: 2024 SLN Webinar resource persons & facilitators' affiliations.

WEBINAR TITLES	RESOURCE PERSONS & FACILITATORS' AFFILIATIONS
WHAT'S BEHIND A SNOW LEOPARDS SPOTS? A ONE HEALTH APPROACH TO INVESTIGATE EMERGING DISEASE IN THE ICONIC SNOW LEOPARD - PANTHERA UNCIA	CAROL ESSON, SIBYLLE NORAS & MUHAMMAD ALI NAWAZ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KURANDA AND BEYOND • INDEPENDENT FACILITATOR • SNOW LEOPARD FOUNDATION, SNOW LEOPARD TRUST, QAID-I-AZAM UNIVERSITY
EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES FOR SNOW LEOPARD CONSERVATION WITH CRAS	TSERENNADMID NADIA MIJIDDORJ, JUSTINE S. ALEXANDER, BAYARJARGAL AGVAANSTEREN <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SNOW LEOPARD TRUST, SNOW LEOPARD CONSERVATION FOUNDATION • WCS - MONGOLIA • SNOW LEOPARD TRUST, SNOW LEOPARD NETWORK
TECH FOR WILDLIFE: THE ROLE AI AND TECHNOLOGY CAN PLAY IN NATURE CONSERVATION	PETER VAN LUNTEREN <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ADDAX DATA SCIENCE

Cont...

Table 2: 2024 SLN Webinar resource persons & facilitators' affiliations (cont.).

WEBINAR TITLES	RESOURCE PERSONS & FACILITATORS' AFFILIATIONS
ONE-HEALTH-ONE-WELFARE: A HOLISTIC AND INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACH FOR SNOW LEOPARD CONSERVATION	ASHLEIGH LUTZ-NELSON, KOUSTUBH SHARMA <ul style="list-style-type: none">• SNOW LEOPARD CONSERVANCY• GLOBAL SNOW LEOPARD AND ECOSYSTEM PROTECTION PROGRAM, SNOW LEOPARD TRUST
STORYTELLING AS A TOOL FOR CONSERVATION	DAN O'NEILL, BAYARJARGAL AGVAANSTEREN <ul style="list-style-type: none">• WILDLIFE FILMMAKER, BIOLOGIST, AND SNOW LEOPARD TRUST 'EXPLORER IN RESIDENCE"• SNOW LEOPARD TRUST, SNOW LEOPARD CONSERVATION FOUNDATION, SNOW LEOPARD NETWORK
SEASONAL PATTERNS OF DIETARY OVERLAP BETWEEN MONGOLIAN SAIGA AND LIVESTOCK	BAYARMAA CHULUUNBAT & BUUVEIBAATAR BAYARBAATAR (BUUVEI) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• WCS - MONGOLIA
ETHICAL CONSERVATION ALLIANCE	BAYARJARGAL AGVAANSTEREN AND KOUSTUBH SHARMA <ul style="list-style-type: none">• SNOW LEOPARD TRUST, SNOW LEOPARD CONSERVATION FOUNDATION, SNOW LEOPARD NETWORK• GLOBAL SNOW LEOPARD AND ECOSYSTEM PROTECTION PROGRAM, SNOW LEOPARD TRUST
COMPARING SNOW TRACK SURVEYS AND CAMERA TRAPS TO ESTIMATE DENSITIES OF UNMARKED WILDLIFE POPULATIONS IN THE RUSSIAN FAR EAST	SCOTT WALLER AND EUGENIA BRAGINA <ul style="list-style-type: none">• WILDLIFE CONSERVATION SOCIETY• WCS - RUSSIA
"HOW SNOW LEOPARDS CHANGED MY LIFE AND WHY THEY MUST BE CONSERVED"	TSHIRING LHAMU LAMA AND KAYLEY BATEMAN <ul style="list-style-type: none">• SNOW LEOPARD JOURNEY AND SNOW LEOPARD SISTERS• SNOW LEOPARD CONSERVANCY



DRAWING BY BAASANKHUU. L, STUDENT 7A GRADE, FROM THE SNOW LEOPARD LANDSCAPE IN MONGOLIA.