



Building the new bridge in 2019

Rowena is the founder of [Go-Ape.nl](https://www.goape.nl), which helps great ape rescue centres with special projects onsite, communication and fundraising. Rowena “Goes Ape” and regularly volunteers in centres in Asia and Africa that have a special focus on conservation and education to address the underlying cause of biodiversity loss.



“Back in 2018, I was looking for a great ape rescue centre in Africa. I wanted to put into practice everything I learned as a volunteer chimpanzee caretaker in the Netherlands and to learn more about the threats to their existence in their home country.

Working closely with the LWC’s caretakers, especially Victor Veseke and Killi Matute, I was impressed by their knowledge, professionalism and dedication. While at the LWC, I observed and enriched rescued gorillas and chimpanzees, designed enrichments, and joined the education team on several awareness events with the local communities. Later, I kept assisting in communication for several fundraising campaigns.

LWC conducts several impressive conservation projects that not only save wildlife but also help to strengthen the capacities of local communities to achieve sustainability. I recently wrote [an article about their Green Project](#) and started a [new fundraiser](#) to help sustain this great project. Amid COVID-19, the local communities need all our help! [Donate to support this amazing project :\)](#) All funds raised go directly to the LWC.

LWC is so more than ‘just’ a rescue centre. To me? They are family.”

Rowena Facee Schaeffer