

# Press Conference Invitation

Wednesday, September 11, 2019; 10 AM (CEST); Cremona, Italy

## BioRescue consortium provides update and outlook on the northern white rhino recovery programme

*There are only two northern white rhinos left in the world, both are females. The only hope for these magnificent animals now rests on pioneering assisted reproduction techniques. After successfully harvesting oocytes during a procedure in Kenya on August 22, 2019, experts from the BioRescue consortium will announce results of its current work and give an outlook on future steps during a press conference held in Cremona (Italy) on September 11, 2019. Journalists are invited and will be provided with all relevant information first hand from specialists.*

### The project

BioRescue is an international research and conservation consortium with the goal to significantly advance assisted reproduction techniques (ART) and stem cell associated techniques (SCAT) complemented with a comprehensive ethical assessment for the benefit of the northern white rhinoceros. The consortium is partially funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF). BioRescue aims to stop the extinction of the northern white rhino. The collection of eggs from the rhinos in Kenya was conducted in close cooperation with the local project partners Kenya Wildlife Service and Ol Pejeta Conservancy, where the last two living northern white rhino females reside.

[www.biorescue.org](http://www.biorescue.org)

### Where and When

- ❖ Camera Di Commercio Di Cremona (Cremona Chamber of Commerce)  
Piazza Antonio Stradivari, 5, 26100 Cremona CR, Italia
- ❖ **Wednesday, September 11, 2019**  
**10 AM (CEST)**

### Participants

- ❖ **Prof. Thomas Hildebrandt**  
Head of Department of Reproduction Management, Leibniz Institute for Zoo and Wildlife Research (Leibniz-IZW)  
BioRescue project head
- ❖ **Prof. Cesare Galli**  
Director of Avantea



- ❖ **Prof. Barbara de Mori**  
Director of the Ethics Laboratory, University of Padua
- ❖ **Jan Stejskal**  
Director of Communication and International Projects, Zoo Dvůr Králové

## Press Contacts

- ❖ **Cesare Galli**  
Director, Avantea  
phone: +39 0372 437242  
Mob: +39 335 6240261  
mail: [cesaregalli@avantea.it](mailto:cesaregalli@avantea.it)
- ❖ **Jan Stejskal**  
Director of Communication and International Projects, Zoo Dvůr Králové  
phone: +420/608 009 072  
mail: [jan.stejskal@zoodk.cz](mailto:jan.stejskal@zoodk.cz)
- ❖ **Elodie Sampéré**  
Head of PR & Communications, Ol Pejeta Conservancy  
phone: +254 / 727 341 612  
mail: [elodie.sampere@olpejetaconservancy.org](mailto:elodie.sampere@olpejetaconservancy.org)
- ❖ **Paul Udoto**  
Head of Corporate Communications, Kenya Wildlife Service  
phone: +254 / 721 453 9  
mail: [pudoto@kws.go.ke](mailto:pudoto@kws.go.ke)
- ❖ **Marco Milan**  
Press Office, University of Padua  
phone: +39 049 827 3041-3066  
mail: [stampa@unipd.it](mailto:stampa@unipd.it)
- ❖ **Steven Seet**  
Head of Science Communication, Leibniz Institute for Zoo and Wildlife Research (Leibniz-IZW)  
phone: +49(0)30 5168125  
mail: [seet@izw-berlin.de](mailto:seet@izw-berlin.de)

## Consortium Partners

**Avantea** is a laboratory of advanced technologies for biotechnology research and animal reproduction based in Cremona, Italy. Avantea has over twenty years of experience and the know-how in assisted reproduction of livestock developed through years of research conducted in the biomedical and animal reproduction fields. [www.avantea.it/en/](http://www.avantea.it/en/)



Leibniz Institute for Zoo  
& Wildlife Research Berlin

**BioRescue**



**AVANTEA**



UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI  
DI PADOVA



**OL PEJETA  
CONSERVANCY**



**KENYA  
WILDLIFE  
SERVICE**

GEFÖRDERT VOM



Bundesministerium  
für Bildung  
und Forschung



*Fondazione*  
**AVANTEA**  
IL PUNTO D'INCONTRO TRA  
RICERCA ZOOTECNICA E BIOMEDICA

**Dvůr Králové Zoo** is a safari park in the Czech Republic. It's one of the best rhino breeders outside of Africa and the only place where the northern white rhino bred in human care. Dvůr Králové Zoo coordinates efforts to save the northern white rhinos. [safari-park.cz/en/](http://safari-park.cz/en/)

**Ol Pejeta Conservancy** is the largest black rhino sanctuary in east Africa, and is the only place in Kenya to see chimpanzees. It is also home to the last two northern white rhinos on the planet. Ol Pejeta's cutting edge wildlife security includes a specialised K-9 unit, motion sensor cameras along its solar-powered electric fence, and a dedicated Rhino Protection Unit. [www.olpejetaconservancy.org](http://www.olpejetaconservancy.org)

**Kenya Wildlife Service** is the government institution that conserves and manages wildlife for Kenyans and the world. It also enforces related laws and regulations. [www.kws.go.ke](http://www.kws.go.ke)

**The University of Padua** in Italy is one of the oldest in the world. Its Department of Comparative Biomedicine and Food Science is developing leading research and education in the field of wildlife conservation and welfare, with a special focus on ethical assessment and evaluation of research projects and educational programs. [www.unipd.it/en/university/scientific-and-academic-structures/departments/departament-comparative-biomedicine-and](http://www.unipd.it/en/university/scientific-and-academic-structures/departments/departament-comparative-biomedicine-and)

**The Leibniz Institute for Zoo & Wildlife Research (IZW)** is an internationally renowned German research institute of the Leibniz Association. Its mission is to examine evolutionary adaptations of wildlife to global change and develop new concepts and measures for conservation. To achieve this, the Leibniz-IZW uses its broad interdisciplinary expertise in conducting research for conservation in close dialogue with the public and stakeholders. [www.leibniz-izw.de](http://www.leibniz-izw.de)

- > Kyushu University, Japan
- > Max Delbrück Center for Molecular Medicine, Germany
- > Helmholtz Center Munich, Germany
- > University of Treviso
- > Northwestern University, USA
- > Fondazione Avantea Onlus, Italia

