CORE CONCEPT

Endangered Species Reintroduction Course: IUCN Guidelines, Captive Breeding and Release Monitoring

12 – 16 July 2027
Amsterdam - Zuidas business district hotel

Endangered Species Reintroduction Course: IUCN Guidelines, Captive Breeding and Release Monitoring

Ref: 2129_30814 **Date:** 12 – 16 July 2027 **Location:** Amsterdam - Zuidas business district hotel **Fees:** 23500 SAR

Introduction:

Endangered species reintroduction covering IUCN guidelines, captive breeding and release monitoring is a 1-week course for wildlife centre, conservation breeding, field monitoring and wildlife veterinary units, ending with a Species Reintroduction and Post-Release Monitoring Plan for a case organisation. Releases of oryx, gazelle, bustards or large carnivores often fail when feasibility work, founder genetics, health screening and survival tracking are planned separately or skipped, wasting years of captive breeding. Nominees already manage breeding herds, release sites or field data and learn through case studies on studbook, telemetry and release records. CoreConcept Training Center delivers this endangered species reintroduction course.

Course Objectives:

- Prioritise candidate species and release sites using IUCN Red List status, decline drivers and the type of conservation translocation proposed
- Assess the feasibility and risks of a proposed release against the IUCN reintroduction guidelines, covering habitat suitability, disease, ecological and social risks
- Select founder and release animals from studbook data using mean kinship and founder representation to protect genetic diversity
- Prepare release cohorts through health screening and behavioural conditioning and choose between soft and hard release methods
- Design GPS telemetry and survival monitoring that turns tracking data into survival, dispersal and home range evidence
- Set adaptive management triggers, conflict mitigation measures and exit criteria in a reintroduction and post-release monitoring plan

Target Audience:

- Wildlife centre managers responsible for breeding herds, release cohorts and delivery of reintroduction projects
- Conservation breeding units accountable for studbooks, pairing decisions and selection of animals for release
- Field ecology and monitoring units responsible for release sites, telemetry and survival data
- Wildlife veterinary units responsible for health screening, disease risk and post-release clinical cases
- Reserve liaison units responsible for resolving conflict with herders and landholders near release areas

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Course Outline:

Day 1: Reintroduction Science, Species Decline and Release Candidates

- IUCN Red List Categories for Setting Release Priorities
- Translocation Types From Reinforcement to Assisted Colonisation
- Decline Driver Analysis Before Any Animal Is Released
- Arabian Oryx Recovery and Population Collapse Lessons
- Current-State Review of Breeding Stock and Release Records

Day 2: IUCN Reintroduction Guidelines, Feasibility and Risk Assessment

- IUCN Reintroduction Guidelines Justification, Design and Implementation Stages
- Habitat Suitability Assessment Using Range Maps and Carrying Capacity
- Translocation Risk Matrix for Disease, Ecological and Social Hazards
- Release Site Security Review and Threat Removal Criteria
- Go or No-Go Feasibility Decision Record for Release Proposals

Day 3: Founder Genetics, Studbooks and Pre-Release Preparation

- Studbook Data Analysis for Founder Representation and Kinship
- Mean Kinship Ranking to Select Genetically Valuable Release Animals
- Inbreeding Depression and Genetic Drift Controls in Small Populations
- Pre-Release Health Screening and Disease Clearance Protocol
- Pre-Release Conditioning for Predator Avoidance, Foraging and Wariness

Day 4: Release Methods, Telemetry and Post-Release Problems

- Soft Release Acclimatisation Pens Versus Hard Release Decisions
- GPS Collar and Satellite Tag Selection, Fitting and Fix Schedules
- Kaplan-Meier Survival Analysis of Post-Release Mortality Records
- Dispersal, Homing and Home Range Analysis From Telemetry Fixes
- Human-Wildlife Conflict Mitigation Around Release Sites and Grazing Lands

Day 5: Case Study Build of the Reintroduction and Monitoring Plan

- Case Ungulate Release Proposal Feasibility and Risk Review
- Case Studbook Selection of Founder Animals for First Release
- Case Telemetry Dataset Survival and Movement Interpretation
- Adaptive Management Triggers, Supplementation Rules and Exit Strategy
- Species Reintroduction and Post-Release Monitoring Plan Completion and Panel Review

Skills You Will Gain:

- Translocation Feasibility Assessment
- Disease and Ecological Risk Analysis
- Founder Selection by Mean Kinship
- Behavioural Conditioning Design
- Release Method Selection
- Telemetry Study Design
- Survival Data Interpretation
- Exit Strategy Planning

Why Attend This Course:

- Deliver a Species Reintroduction and Post-Release Monitoring Plan for a case organisation to the wildlife centre director and the reintroduction steering committee
- Decide which animals, sites and release methods are ready and when a release should be paused, supplemented or closed
- Avoid failed releases, introduced disease, inbred release cohorts and unexplained mortality caused by skipped feasibility and monitoring steps
- Equip breeding, veterinary and field colleagues with the risk matrix, founder selection sheet and telemetry survival template used during the course

Conclusion:

Back at work, the participant gives the wildlife centre director, the reintroduction steering committee and the veterinary lead a Species Reintroduction and Post-Release Monitoring Plan. The committee uses it to approve or defer a release, the breeding unit to select founder and release animals, and field teams to set collar schedules, survival checks and conflict responses. After the first release season, the organisation should compare survival, dispersal, breeding in the wild and conflict incidents with the plan's triggers and decide whether to supplement, adjust or close the release.

Frequently Asked Questions FAQ:

What should participants know before the endangered species reintroduction course?

Participants should already work with breeding herds, release sites, wildlife health or field monitoring data. No genetics or statistics background is needed beyond spreadsheet use. Anonymised studbook extracts, release reports or telemetry files help them apply the case studies to their own species.

How does endangered species reintroduction differ from a zoo or protected area management course?

It follows animals from the breeding centre into the wild: feasibility, founder selection, release and survival monitoring. Zoo courses cover husbandry, welfare and visitors in human care, while protected area courses cover reserve zoning, patrols and visitor management rather than releases.

Why does endangered species reintroduction rely on the IUCN reintroduction guidelines?

The IUCN guidelines give a shared, principle-based sequence of justification, design and implementation for any conservation translocation. Following them helps teams test feasibility and risks before release and plan monitoring and exit decisions, so funders and partners can judge proposals consistently.

What do participants take back from the endangered species reintroduction course?

Participants take back a Species Reintroduction and Post-Release Monitoring Plan for a case organisation, with a feasibility record, a translocation risk matrix, a founder selection sheet, a release protocol, a telemetry survival template and adaptive management triggers.