

# URGENT APPEAL

Dear *Pachyderm* readers,

Since 1983 *Pachyderm* has served as an excellent platform for disseminating information and sharing lessons learned from conservation of African elephants and African and Asian rhinos. However, it is perhaps a sign of the times that we are now finding it increasingly hard to raise the approximately USD 50,000 per year needed to produce and disseminate this journal in hard copy and free of charge to our readership. In fact, it is only because of a last-minute donation from the Messerli Foundation and a private donation from an anonymous benefactor that we have been able to complete the present issue.

Despite our greatest efforts, we have not yet managed to secure any funds for producing *Pachyderm* in 2006 or beyond. This means that we must now seriously start considering all options to make production and dissemination of this journal more sustainable in the long term, including shifting to a purely electronic format or approaching a commercial publisher. However, neither of these is clearly a completely satisfactory solution, the former especially because many of our African readers still do not have reliable Internet access. In this light, we are turning to you, the readership, for suggestions on any possible funding sources that we might be able to approach to ensure the continued production of this journal in its present form. Any ideas, suggestions or other relevant information should be sent to Leo Niskanen, Senior Programme Officer, IUCN SSC African Elephant Specialist Group, at [leo.niskanen@iucn.org](mailto:leo.niskanen@iucn.org); tel: +254 20 387 6461; fax: +254 20 387 0385.

Yours sincerely,

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