



# Future of Centre ValBio Endowment Fund

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Namanabe Hall at Centre ValBio in Ranomafana, Madagascar. Photo credit: Noel Rowe

Dear Friends of Centre ValBio,

This past year, we took a critical step toward strengthening Centre ValBio's capacity as a hub of research excellence and a catalyst for positive change in Madagascar for decades to come.

With the support of several dedicated Centre ValBio champions and Stony Brook University, we developed a plan to launch an endowment campaign to secure CVB's

future. **Our goal is to create a \$17 million endowment that will permanently sustain CVB's operations and advance its research, education, and outreach mission.**

Philanthropy is a cornerstone of this plan, and we are grateful to The Herrnstein Family Foundation for providing the lead gift in support of this initiative. At the same time, increased, ongoing support from the University will provide a strong foundation for the future.

**Fundraising to date has been successful, but to fully fund an endowment and ensure its success, we need to secure \$3 million in additional commitments.** Efforts are actively underway to engage those who are passionate about strengthening Centre ValBio's work by contributing to this fund.

The plan includes the addition of a scientific director and research personnel, intended to reinforce CVB's position as a leader in the global scientific community. With a sustainable funding strategy to support CVB's leadership team, the institute will be well-positioned to strengthen its infrastructure, expand its impact, and embark on new opportunities that align with its mission.

### **A Moment to Act**

On June 1, 2023, Stony Brook University received a historic \$500 million gift from Jim and Marilyn Simons and the Simons Foundation – the largest-ever unrestricted endowment gift made to a U.S. institution of higher education. The first \$200 million of this transformational Simons Infinity Investment is structured as a matching challenge to inspire additional endowment support from other friends and alumni.

All endowment gifts over \$100,000 will unlock an equal amount from the Simons Infinity Investment for Stony Brook's unrestricted endowment. Additionally, under New York State's 1:2 matching program, the state will provide an additional dollar for every two endowment dollars raised. These matches apply to both restricted endowments and unrestricted endowments.

These two matching challenges triple the impact of every endowment gift of \$100,000 or more. This unprecedented opportunity is limited. The state has allocated \$500 million for its matching endowment program — a generous sum, but the program is open to all four SUNY university centers and the public money sunsets in April 2026 or once the full amount is matched.

We are truly grateful for your interest in Centre ValBio and for your belief in the power of science, education, and community engagement to create lasting change.

We invite you to be part of this defining moment in Centre ValBio's story. Your support will not only sustain the vital work already underway, but also empower the next generation of researchers, conservationists, and changemakers who will shape Madagascar's future—and our world. With this unprecedented triple-match opportunity, your gift will go further than ever before. Together, we can ensure that Centre ValBio remains a beacon of scientific discovery, education, and hope for decades to come.

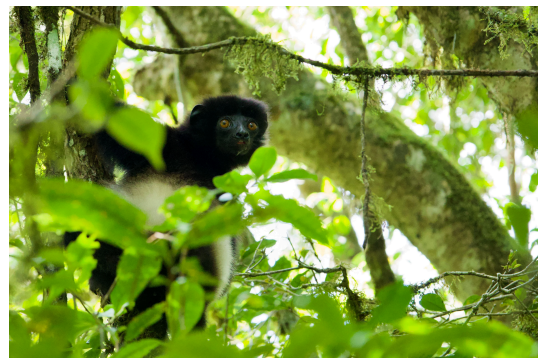
To explore ways your support can make a lasting impact, contact:



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With heartfelt gratitude,

Dr. Patricia Wright and The Centre ValBio Team



Left to right, clockwise: Golden Bamboo Lemur (*Haplemur aureus*), Oustalet's Chameleon (*Furcifer oustaleti*), Milne Edwards's Sifaka (*Propithecus edwardsi*), Starry Night Reed Frog (*Heterixalus alboguttatus*).  
Photo credit: Arek Zenel-Walasek



Left photo: CVB Education Department's nature-focused painting session.  
Photo credit: Fabrice Rasolomampionona

Right photo: CVB Health Department's mobile health unit.  
Photo credit: Laura Meulendijks



Left and right: CVB Education Department's tree-planting initiative in partnership with local schools including Mandrivany, Ampitambe, Ambodipaiso Sud, EPP Kellalina, GEG, and the Lycée in March 2025.  
Photo credit: Fabrice Rasolomampionona



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