

# The 2016 SAVE THE FROGS! Ghana Expedition

September 11th – 27th, 2016

[www.savethefrogs.com/ghana2016](http://www.savethefrogs.com/ghana2016)

The 2016 SAVE THE FROGS! Ghana Expedition is a collaboration between SAVE THE FROGS! and SAVE THE FROGS! Ghana. The mission of the expedition is to protect Ghana's amphibian populations, empower the next generation of Ghanaian frog conservationists, and expand the international network of environmentalists interested in protecting West Africa's endangered amphibians and ecosystems.



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## ABOUT THE 2016 SAVE THE FROGS! GHANA EXPEDITION

*Over 80% of West Africa's rainforests have been destroyed and one-third of Ghana's amphibian species are under threat of extinction.*

In September 2016, SAVE THE FROGS! will lead an international team of 18 amphibian biologists and frog enthusiasts on the inaugural SAVE THE FROGS! Ghana Expedition:

**[www.savethefrogs.com/ghana2016](http://www.savethefrogs.com/ghana2016)**

For 17 days our expedition team will travel throughout Ghana:

- (1) Conducting educational programs;
- (2) Searching for endangered rainforest frogs;
- (3) Restoring habitat for endangered amphibians;
- (4) Exchanging knowledge with Ghanaian biologists; and
- (5) Working to improve and accelerate amphibian conservation efforts in Ghana.

The SAVE THE FROGS! Ghana Expedition Team will be comprised of 18 participants (11 environmental professionals and 7 ecotourists). The environmental professionals will be tasked with restoring degraded frog habitat and spreading their knowledge to large numbers of Ghanaians. The ecotourists are encouraged to take an active role in the educational and habitat restoration activities as well, but are also welcome to merely take photos and enjoy this once in a lifetime travel experience. Participants will gain valuable professional experience, personal fulfillment, new friends and deeper cultural understanding.

*"Of all the places I have ever traveled, Ghana is the place most in need of environmental assistance, and the place that is most supportive of our frog saving efforts."*

*-- SAVE THE FROGS! Founder Dr. Kerry Kriger*



*Night Spirit Frog (Leptopelis spiritusnoctis) in Ankasa National Park, Ghana*

## EXPEDITION GOALS

Lack of education and environmental awareness across West Africa impedes successful wildlife conservation efforts. The SAVE THE FROGS! Ghana Expedition Team will educate and inspire thousands of Africans and westerners to care for and protect amphibians; restore habitat for critically endangered frogs; facilitate and enable international partnerships and networking opportunities that would not otherwise be possible; and significantly accelerate amphibian conservation efforts in Ghana by bringing national and international attention to the plight of Ghana's frog populations.

The 2016 SAVE THE FROGS! Ghana Expedition will create a stronger SAVE THE FROGS! Ghana and will broaden Ghana's base of amphibian expertise, ultimately resulting in healthier frog populations and vibrant human communities living in harmony with their natural surroundings.

Expedition members will learn about Ghana's amphibians and environmental issues; develop skills that they can apply to conservation programs in their home country; educate and be educated by the student members of SAVE THE FROGS! Ghana university chapters; assist with Giant Squeaker Frog habitat restoration efforts; and visit local schools to educate the next generation of Africans about environmental issues, ways to protect amphibians and how to conserve Ghana's natural resources.

The SAVE THE FROGS! Ghana Expedition will serve as a model for similar expeditions to other countries.



*SAVE THE FROGS! Ghana Co-Founder Gilbert Adum with student volunteers restoring habitat for critically endangered Giant Squeaker Frogs (*Arthroleptis krokosua*) in the Sui River Forest.*

## EXPEDITION ACTIVITIES

The 2016 SAVE THE FROGS! Ghana Expedition team will:

- (1) **Give presentations** and workshops to educate undergraduates, villagers and children about amphibians;
- (2) **Lead field excursions** to learn about, find, monitor and photograph the critically endangered Togo Slippery Frog (*Conraua derooi*), whose habitat in the Atewa Hills we have been working to protect from bauxite mining and illegal timber harvesting;
- (3) **Restore habitat** for critically endangered Giant Squeaker Frogs (*Arthroleptis krokosua*) in the Sui Forest;
- (4) **Participate in the SAVE THE FROGS! World Summit** at Ghana's premier science and technology university (KNUST);
- (5) Restore habitat for the twelve amphibian species that live along the Wewe River, which runs through the KNUST campus;
- (6) **Meet, assist and exchange ideas with student members** of our SAVE THE FROGS! Ghana university chapters;
- (7) **Search for Night Spirit Frogs** (*Leptopelis spiritusnoctis*) in Ankasa National Park and explore Kakum National Park;
- (8) **Meet with village chiefs** and politicians to encourage their support of frog conservation efforts;
- (9) **Speak on Ghanaian radio programs** and **distribute printed educational materials** related to protecting Ghana's amphibian populations.



*Amietophrynus regularis*, Lake Bosomtwe, Ghana



## MEET THE EXPEDITION LEADERS

### **SAVE THE FROGS! Founder Dr. Kerry Kriger**

Dr. Kriger founded SAVE THE FROGS! in 2008 and has given over 300 presentations on amphibian conservation in thirteen countries. In September 2011 Dr. Kriger visited Ghana and co-founded SAVE THE FROGS! Ghana. Since 2011, Dr. Kriger has raised over \$58,000 for SAVE THE FROGS! Ghana activities.

*"Dear Kerry,*

*It is a great pleasure indeed to hear from you and I must acknowledge the great work you are doing to promote amphibian conservation in Ghana and globally. I have met your legacy and footprints all over Ghana and I must immediately admit they are remarkable. Kind Regards"*  
— David Kwart, Co-Founder, Herp Conservation Ghana



*SAVE THE FROGS! Ghana Co-Founders Dr. Kerry Kriger & Gilbert Adum, and the original executive committee of the SAVE THE FROGS! Ghana KNUST Chapter.*



*Dr. Kriger at the border of Ghana and Ivory Coast, 2011*

**SAVE THE FROGS! Ghana Co-Founder and Executive Director Gilbert Adum**

Gilbert's dedication over the past four years has enabled SAVE THE FROGS! Ghana to spread its programs across the country and inspire numerous Ghanaians to pursue careers in amphibian conservation.



*Gilbert Adum with a frog on the banks of the Wewe River*

**SAVE THE FROGS! Ghana Associate Executive Director Sandra Owusu-Gyamfi**

Sandra has organized Save The Frogs Day events, habitat restoration activities and land protection campaigns throughout Ghana. Sandra regularly meets with village chiefs and politicians and speaks on Ghanaian radio about amphibians.



*Sandra Owusu-Gyamfi (center) and village chiefs and elders*

*"You have my support. Congratulations for this excellent work you are doing in West Africa and in particular in Ghana! Best wishes."*

*-- Dr. N'goran Germain Kouame, Ivory Coast*

### **SAVE THE FROGS! Ecologist Michael Starkey**

Michael has led ecotours and frogging expeditions in Belize, Costa Rica, Mexico and throughout the American West. Michael visited Ghana in April 2013 to give presentations and conduct amphibian conservation trainings.



*Gilbert Adum, Michael Starkey and members of the SAVE THE FROGS! Ghana UDS Chapter*



*Hyperolius, Ankasa National Park, Ghana*



## WE KNOW THE EXPEDITION WILL BE EXTREMELY SUCCESSFUL

SAVE THE FROGS! Ghana was formed in September 2011 by the efforts of two dedicated conservationists: Dr. Kerry Kriger and Gilbert Adum. All of SAVE THE FROGS! Ghana's numerous accomplishments to date spring from that 21-day trip involving two amphibian biologists. As such, we feel extremely confident that our 18-member SAVE THE FROGS! Ghana Expedition Team, which combines decades of amphibian conservation experience into one cohesive group with a shared mission, will be able to produce tangible results for Ghana's amphibians on a scale never before encountered.

Both Dr. Kerry Kriger & Michael Starkey have led ecotours and traveled extensively throughout the world. The Expedition itinerary was developed by Dr. Kerry Kriger, Michael Starkey, Gilbert Adum and Sandra Owusu-Gyamfi to maximize the social and environmental impact of our time in Ghana and to ensure memorable cultural and nature experiences for all involved.

*"Felicitations Dr Kriger. I am an avid fan of your SAVE THE FROGS! campaigns, and have continuously been a recipient of your mails. I read of your campaign in Ghana and was impressed with your global initiative. Ghana needs much awareness on the campaigns which you and your distinguished team are carrying."*

*-- Oniso-Ononikumen Sampson, Port Harcourt, Nigeria*



*SAVE THE FROGS! Ghana volunteers preparing to restore habitat for endangered frogs.*



## **EXPEDITION ITINERARY**

*September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016:*

Meet at Accra airport and head to Cape Coast.

*September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016:*

Introduction to Ghana's amphibians and SAVE THE FROGS! Ghana activities. Hiking and frogging in Kakum National Park.

*September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016:*

Explore the Cape Coast beach, town and/or castle. Bus to Kumasi. Presentation on university involvement in Ghana. Frogging and crocodile search on the KNUST campus.

*September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016:*

SAVE THE FROGS! World Summit in Kumasi & Wewe River habitat restoration.

*September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016:*

SAVE THE FROGS! World Summit in Kumasi & Drumming For The Frogs.

*September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016:*

Visit Kumasi schools to give amphibian presentations. Hiking and frogging in Bobiri Forest.

*September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016:*

Bus to Atewa. Search for Togo Slippery Frogs.

*September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016:*

Visit Atewa churches to give amphibian presentations. Meet village chiefs and elders. Drumming and dancing for the frogs by the fireside.

*September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016:*

Presentations and discussion on protecting the Atewa Hills. Wetlands construction workshop.

*September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016:*

Visit Atewa schools to give amphibian presentations. Bus to Sui River Forest Reserve.

*September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2016:*

Habitat restoration and search for Giant Squeaker Frogs in the Sui Forest.

*September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016:*

Giant Squeaker Frog workshop. Presentations in local schools. Meet with the community.

*September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016:*

Bus to Ankasa. Visit Ankasa schools. Frogging at the Bamboo Cathedral and Ankasa National Park swamps.

*September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2016:*

Discussion and brainstorming on the future of SAVE THE FROGS!. Bus to Cape Coast. Drumming on the beach.

*September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2016:*

Visit Cape Coast churches to give amphibian presentations or opt for the Kakum National Park Canopy Walk. Visit the stingless bee center to learn about Ghana's bees. Bus to Accra.

*September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2016:*

Visit Accra school. SAVE THE FROGS! Accra Conference. Meeting with partner organizations to discuss Atewa Hills campaign. Visit Accra markets. Drinks and festivities.

*September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2016:*

Breakfast and depart from Accra airport.



*Members of SAVE THE FROGS! Ghana's UDS Chapter in Kumbugu, Ghana.*

## HOW TO JOIN THE EXPEDITION

If you are interested in joining this once in a lifetime expedition September 11<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup>, 2016 in Ghana, as either an environmental professional or as an ecotourist, please send your expression of interest via email to Dr. Kerry Kriger ([kerry@savethefrogs.com](mailto:kerry@savethefrogs.com)) or Michael Starkey ([starkey@savethefrogs.com](mailto:starkey@savethefrogs.com)).



*SAVE THE FROGS! Ghana volunteer discovers illegal farming in Giant Squeaker Frog habitat.*



*Togo Slippy Frog (Conraua derooi) in the Atewa Hills.*



## DONATE TO HELP FUND THE EXPEDITION

SAVE THE FROGS! greatly appreciates your financial support and encourages you to contribute to the Expedition by placing the most generous donation you can afford. Your donation will help us cover international airfare, lodging, transportation, park entrance fees and other in-country expenses for expedition team members, as well as printed educational materials that we will distribute in schools and universities.

**Donate securely online at:**  
**[www.savethefrogs.com/donate](http://www.savethefrogs.com/donate)**

Please make checks payable to SAVE THE FROGS! and mail to:

SAVE THE FROGS!

PO Box 78758

Los Angeles, CA 90016

*SAVE THE FROGS! is an IRS-approved 501(c)(3) public charity headquartered in California and your donations are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.*



*Members of the SAVE THE FROGS! Ghana KNUST Chapter.*



## **YOUR COMPANY CAN SPONSOR THE EXPEDITION**

Please encourage your company's executives to sponsor the 2016 SAVE THE FROGS! Ghana Expedition, a unique environmental campaign that will get significant worldwide media exposure. SAVE THE FROGS! will make use of our website and social media channels to ensure your company gets valuable positive publicity for its philanthropic efforts.

Please email Dr. Kerry Kriger ([kerry@savethefrogs.com](mailto:kerry@savethefrogs.com)) to discuss sponsorship opportunities.



## PLEASE SPREAD THE WORD

Please announce the 2016 SAVE THE FROGS! Ghana Expedition to your social media network and include a link to:

**[www.savethefrogs.com/ghana2016](http://www.savethefrogs.com/ghana2016)**

If you know anyone who may be interested in joining or funding the 2016 SAVE THE FROGS! Ghana Expedition, please send them this Expedition Summary.

*Thank you for helping spread the word about SAVE THE FROGS! and our efforts in West Africa.*



*Gilbert Adum and the Executive Committee of SAVE THE FROGS! Ghana's UCAES Chapter*

Please direct any questions to [contact@savethefrogs.com](mailto:contact@savethefrogs.com) or leave a voice message at 415-878-6525.  
Be sure to sign up for the SAVE THE FROGS! electronic newsletter at: [www.savethefrogs.com/newsletters](http://www.savethefrogs.com/newsletters)  
Thank you for your support. Together we can SAVE THE FROGS!

**[www.savethefrogs.com](http://www.savethefrogs.com)**

**[www.savethefrogs.com/ghana](http://www.savethefrogs.com/ghana)**

*The First Edition of this Expedition Summary was prepared by SAVE THE FROGS! Founder Dr. Kerry Kriger on September 18, 2015. This Second Edition was prepared April 8, 2016.*