



 **TROPIMUNDO** 
ERASMUS MUNDUS JOINT MASTER DEGREE IN TROPICAL BIODIVERSITY AND ECOSYSTEMS

 *Mundustropicalis* 


Calendar 2025



Welcome word from the Programme Director

The year 2025 marks not only the start of the second decade for the Erasmus Mundus Joint Master (Degree) in Tropical Biodiversity and Ecosystems (**TROPIMUNDO**) but also the birth of Mundus tropicalis. We are happy to announce that TROPIMUNDO obtained **VLIR-UOS ICP-Connect** funding to capitalize on two Trajectories running through Kenya and The Philippines, two priority countries for development collaboration for Flanders and Belgium. Under this new educational project, nicknamed **Mundus tropicalis**, VLIR-UOS funds **12 full scholarships annually** for the next 5 years, followed by 10 full scholarships for another 5 years, making this a long-term financing scheme. *Mundus tropicalis* aims at training young S and N students to become the scientists, conservationists, restorationists, managers and policy-makers of the future decades who will make a difference for the TE functions, goods and services on which their home countries and regions depend by contributing to excellent education, research, science, professionalisation and networking opportunities, and capacity-building skills in an era marked by a triple crisis of endangered tropical biodiversity, loss of ecosystem functionality and global change.


Mundus tropicalis applicants from a list of 30 VLIR-UOS priority countries in Latin America, Africa and Asia will be selected based on social vulnerability indicators and on their potential for capacity building and their study tracks will pass through **Technical University of Mombasa (TUM)** and **University of the Philippines Diliman (UPD)**.

From February to June 2025, our first students will also attend other university partners among which the French-speaking **Université Cheikh Anta Diop de Dakar (UCAD)** in Senegal, with field schools on West-African forest, savanna, wetland and other Sahel ecosystems.

While continuing to honour Erasmus Mundus as the European Commission's only educational excellence label, as well as the associated education, research, and scientific and societal skills competences embedded in our programme, TROPIMUNDO and VLIR-UOS' *Mundus tropicalis* will jointly assure the urgently needed focus on **education, research, international networking, and capacity and resilience-building** to help mitigate the uncertainty faced by the many social-ecological communities that rely on tropical ecosystem functions, goods and services.



Farid Dahdouh-Guebas
TROPIMUNDO/Mundus tropicalis Founding
and Managing Director
Université Libre de Bruxelles
Vrije Universiteit Brussel

A close-up photograph of the plant *Periscaria capitata*. The image shows several spherical flower heads composed of numerous small, light purple to pinkish flowers. The stems are dark reddish-brown, and the leaves are dark green with prominent reddish-purple margins. The background is dark and out of focus, highlighting the texture and color of the flowers.


Damselle QUESADA: *Periscaria capitata* (Buch.-Ham. ex D.Don) H.Gross, La Réunion

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DECEMBER M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31		1 New Year	2	3	4	5
6	7 Epiphany	 8	9	10	11	12
13	 14 Esala Perahera Duruthu (Sri Lanka)	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	 22	23	24	25	26
27	28 Isra et Mi'raj (Malaysia)	29	 30 Chinese New Year	31 Chinese New Year	FEBRUARY M T W T F S S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	



Isadora Leticia GAERTNER HAHN: *Chlorocebus pyrethrus* (F. Cuvier, 1821), Haller Park, Kenya.



A photograph of three young brown owls perched on a tree branch. The owls are positioned in the center of the frame, looking towards the camera. They have brown, mottled feathers and large, dark eyes. The background is a dense thicket of green leaves and branches, creating a natural, forest-like setting. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the owls' feathers and the surrounding foliage.

Tristan PERMENTIER: *Otus ireneae* (Ripley, 1966), Kenya

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3	4 National Day in Sri Lanka	5	6	7	8	9 World Wetlands Day																																																																																				
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Giann VASQUEZ : Belvédère du Maïdo, La Réunion.





Isabela VARGAS NICOLA : *Oplurus quadrimaculatus* (Duméril & Bibron, 1851), Madagascar

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Damselle QUESADA : *Top* : Piton de la Fournaise, Saint-Benoît, la Réunion.
Eshrat Zahan ESHITA : *Bottom left* : Canopy gap in Matang Mangrove Forest Reserve, Malaysia.
Isadora Leticia GAERTNER HAHN : *Bottom right* : *Giraffa tippelskirchi* (Matschie, 1898), Kenya.





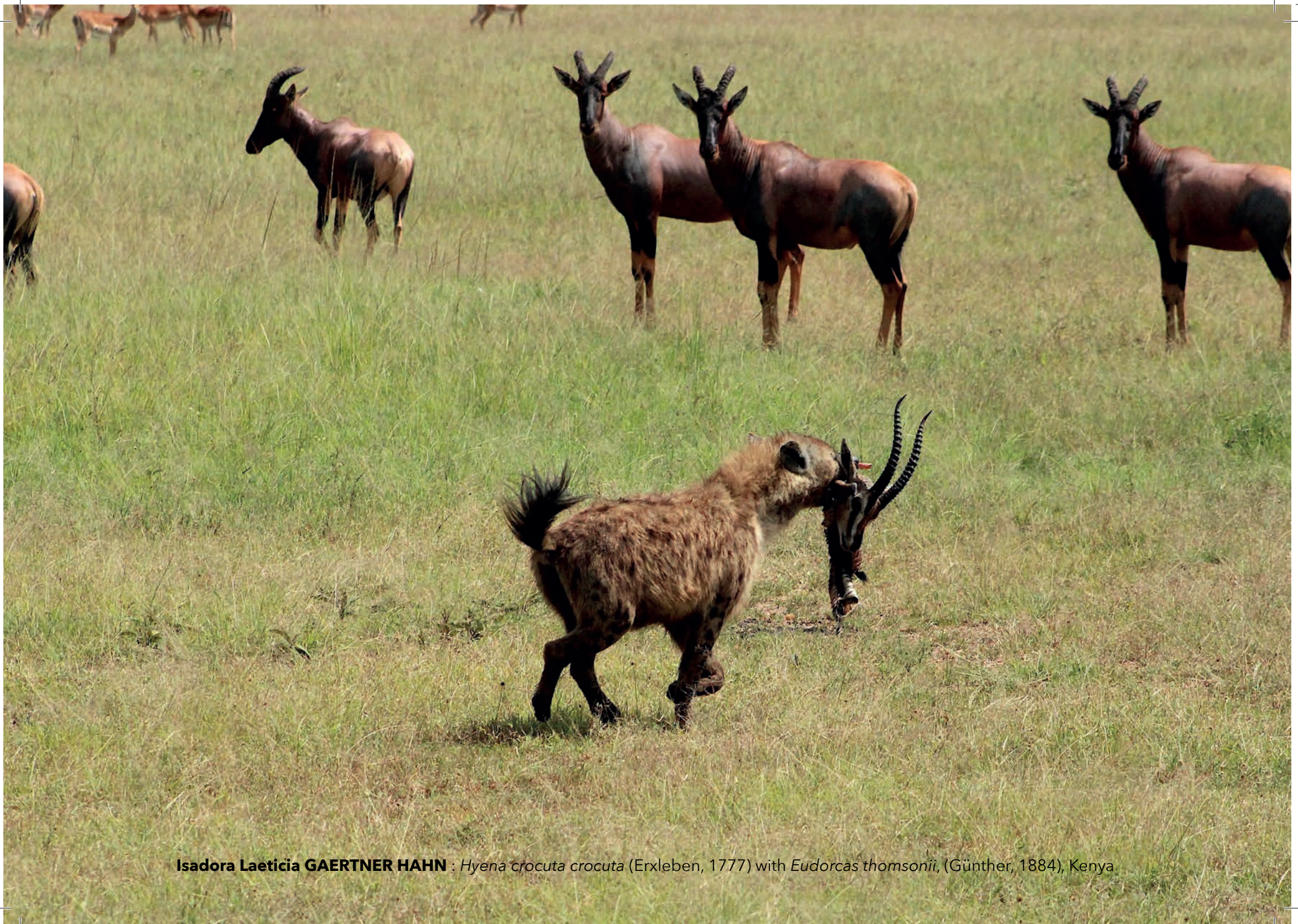
Elissa PELSMAEKERS : Then Hou Temple, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

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<p>14</p> <p>Buddhist New Year (Sri Lanka)</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Saint Thursday (Colombia)</p> <p>Lorenzo Borella Memorial Day</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Good Friday</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Saint Saturday</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Easter Sunday</p>																																																	
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Isadora Letícia GAERTNER HAHN: Top: *Trachylepis maculilabris* (Gray, 1845) Kenya.





Isadora Leticia GAERTNER HAHN : *Hyena crocuta crocuta* (Erxleben, 1777) with *Eudorcas thomsonii*, (Günther, 1884), Kenya

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Elissa PELSMAEKERS: Sunset on Lake Kenyir, Malaysia.





Tristan PERMENTIER: *Avicennia marina* ((Forsk.) Vierh., 1907), Kenya

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TUESDAY




WEDNESDAY

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Juliette PINCO: Top left: *Nephila pilipes* (Fabricius, 1793), Southern ridges, Singapore.
Maria Ruth GUERRA BLANDINO: Top right: *Spathoglottis plicata* (FBlume, 1825), La Soufrière, Guadeloupe.
Kevin Jaret MADRIGAL FERRER: Bottom: Boardwalk in Matang Mangrove Forest, Malaysia.





Aleksandra SMORYGO: Sunrise in Burwood, Australia

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7	8	9	10	11 Feast of the Flemish Community in Belgium World Population Day	12	13																																																	
14 French National Feast	15	16	17	18	19	20 Independence Day (Colombia)																																																	
21 National Day in Belgium	22	23	24	25	26 International day for the Conservation of Mangrove Ecosystems	27																																																	
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Isadora Letícia GAERTNER HANH: *Balearica regulorum ssp. gibericeps* (Bennett, 1834), Kenya.





Eshrat Zahan ESHITA : Sea from the mountains, Chagar Hutan, Malaysia

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

SUNDAY

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
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4	5	6	7 Boyacá's Battle	8	 9 International Day of the World's Indigenous People	10
11	12 Magal de Touba (Senegal)	13	14	15 Asumption	 16	17
18 Asumption (Colombia)	19	20	21 Benigno Aquino Day (Philippines)	22	 23	24
25 Heroes Commemoration Day (Philippines)	26	27	28	29	30	 31 Independence Day in Malaysia



Jonas GOEMANS: *Craspedocephalus trigonocephalus* (Latreille, 1801), Sri Lanka.





Ling Xin TIYO: *Euphorbia candelabrum* (Kotschy), 1753, Kenya

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY																																										
1 Opening call for TROPIMUNDO applications	2	3	4	5	6	7																																										
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15	16 Malaysia Day International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer	17	18	19	20	21 International Peace Day																																										
22 Autumn Equinox	23	24 New Caledonia's Day	25	26	27 Feast of the French Community in Belgium	28 World Rivers Day																																										
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Natalia BERRAZUETA GALLARDO : Top: Oostende, Belgium.





Elissa PELSMAEKERS : Lake Kenyir, Malaysia

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Juliette PINCO: Top: *Varanus salvator* (Laurenti, 1768), Pulau Redang, Malaysia.
Osei Raphaël BAAFI: Bottom: Sinharaja Rainforest, Sri Lanka.





Giovanni WALTERS : *Panthera pardus pardus*, (Linnaeus, 1758), South Africa

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<p>3</p> <p>All Saints day (Colombia)</p>	<p>4</p> 	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p>																																																																																				
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<p>17</p> <p>Cartagena Independence Day</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> 	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>World Fisheries Day</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>																																																																																				
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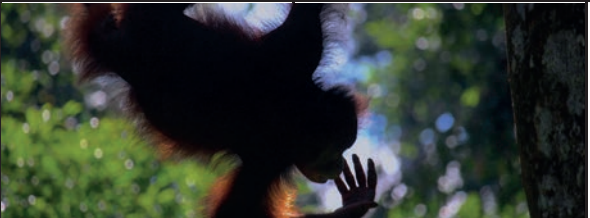


Aleksandra SMORYGO: Sunset at Gibson steps, Australia.





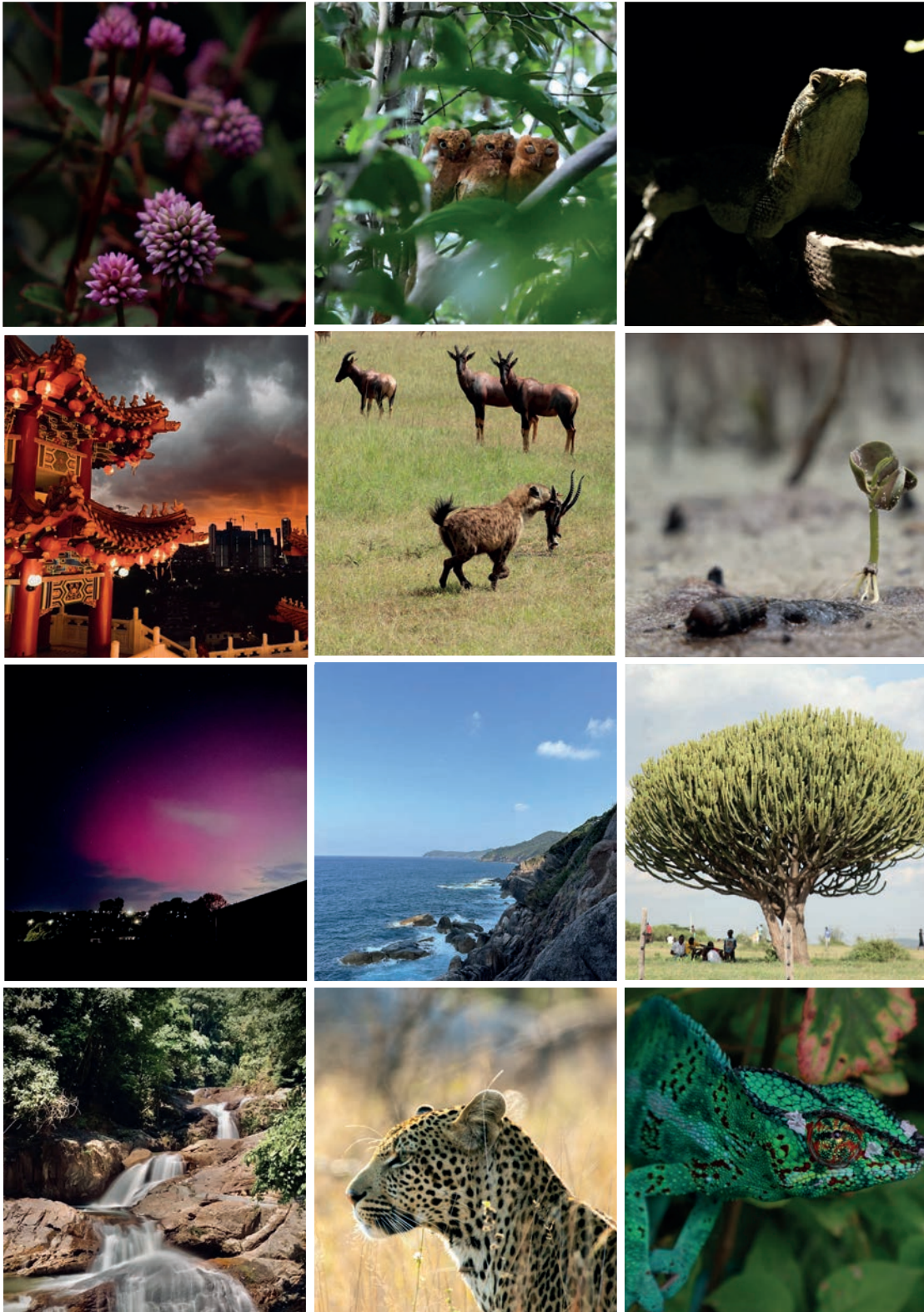
Damselle QUESADA : *Furcifer pardalis*, (Cuvier, 1829), La Réunion

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29	30 Rizal Day (Philippines)	31 New Year's Eve	<p>NOVEMBER</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td></tr> <tr><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td></tr> <tr><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td></tr> </table>	M	T	W	T	F	S	S						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30		<p>JANUARY</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td></tr> <tr><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td></tr> <tr><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td></tr> <tr><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td></tr> </table>	M	T	W	T	F	S	S					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
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Juliette PINCO: *Pongo pygmaeus* (Linnaeus, 1760), Borneo, Malaysia.





Calendar 2025


TROPIMUNDO

 ERASMUS MUNDUS JOINT MASTER DEGREE IN TROPICAL BIODIVERSITY AND ECOSYSTEMS


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