

大学院教育支援機構（DoGS）海外渡航助成金 報告書

Outcome report

計画名 Plan	Presenting at the 36 th French-speaking Primatology Conference (SFDP 2024), visiting MNHN research center, IAST school, and attending Science Communication workshops.
氏名 Name	Sanjana Pratap Kadam
研究科・専攻・学年 Graduate school/Division/Year level	Graduate School of Science/ Department of Biological Science/ Primatology and Wildlife Research PhD Program/ D3-D4
渡航国 Country	France
渡航日程 Travel schedule	2024年10月03日 ~ 2024年10月21日


渡航計画の概要 Outline of the travel plan


The travel plan included attending the French-speaking Primatology (SFDP) Conference in Toulouse, France, where I presented part of my PhD research on **The Interaction of Emotion and Cognition in Non-Human Primates**, specifically focusing on **Attentional Bias Towards Visual Cues in Chimpanzees**. This conference provided a valuable platform to share my findings with a specialized audience and to receive expert feedback from leading primatologists in the field.

Additionally, I met with my collaborator, Dr. Cécile Sarabian, who is based in Toulouse and serves as a secondary advisor for my PhD project. Our collaboration includes her research on disgust stimuli, utilizing visual cues involving rats and bats to study disease avoidance. I developed the program used in testing human and chimpanzee subjects for this project, and cognitive testing of chimpanzees was conducted in our lab.

Lastly, I planned to visit a primatology and wildlife research center in Paris, France, to meet Dr. Marie Sigaud, who facilitated introductions to other researchers and accompanied me to relevant seminars and workshops. These visits allowed me to explore potential research collaborations, consider future career prospects, and gain insights into the methodologies and operational frameworks of other research laboratories.

Conference and Laboratory Visits:

- **French-speaking Primatology Conference:** The SFDP Conference took place in Toulouse, France, from October 15 to October 18, 2024.
- **Planned Laboratory Visits:**
 1. **Center for Ecology and Conservation Sciences (CESCO)**, French National Museum of Natural History (MNHN) and National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS), Paris, France: I met with Dr. Marie Sigaud, a specialist in behavioral data of primates and other species, with a current focus on elephants. This visit was scheduled from October 4 to October 10, 2024 (weekend excluded).

Jardin des Plantes: MNHN, Paris
 2. **Institute for Advanced Study in Toulouse (IAST)**, Toulouse School of Economics, Toulouse, France: I visited Dr. Cécile Sarabian's lab, where she focuses on the evolution of


IAST, Toulouse

disgust as a disease avoidance phenomenon through various cognitive and field experiments on October 13–14 and October 19, 2024.

- **Workshops on Scientific Popularization and Communication:** I participated in workshops on science popularization, raising awareness, outreach, and communication in Toulouse, France, from October 17 to October 18, 2024.

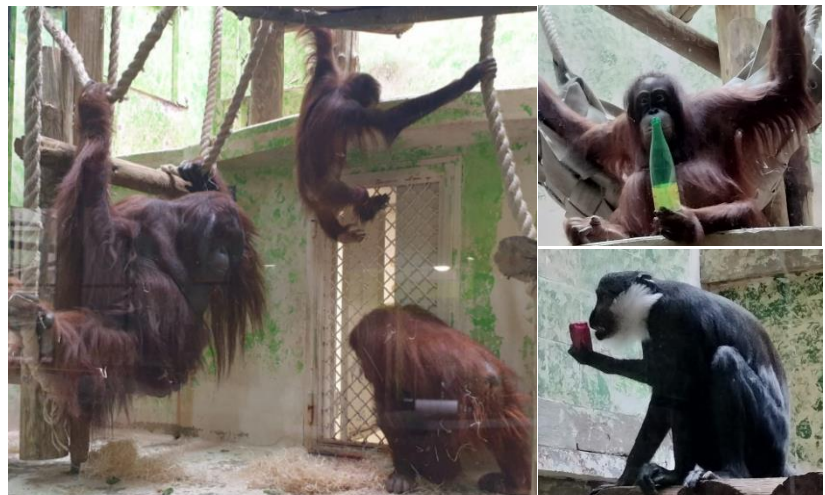
成果 Outcome

My visit with Dr. Marie Sigaud was illuminating. She took me to her lab and seminars and introduced me to her colleagues. After working on Slow lorises in Indonesia, Dr. Sigaud is currently engaged in elephant behavioral research in Gabon, using innovative techniques in behavioral observation, video and audio field monitoring and deep learning. Her lab focuses primarily on field data collection, but she also showcased the genetic research her collaborators are conducting in the field of parasitology.



Meeting Dr. Sigaud

Additionally, Dr. Sigaud introduced me to various other departments, including morphology, paleontology, and citizen science. The most relevant visit was to the menagerie, where I had the opportunity to observe primates. She explained the research being conducted there, allowing me to discuss my own work with primates and explore potential collaborative projects.



Menagerie, Jardin des Plantes, MNHN

Meeting Dr. Cécile Sarabian was an invaluable opportunity, as we engaged in in-depth discussions about both my projects and hers. We began by discussing my upcoming presentation, reviewing the results, identifying additional analyses to consider, and making minor adjustments to the presentation itself. She showed me her workspace and introduced me to her colleagues, which facilitated closer collaboration for the conference. This connection allowed me to meet core members of her team, including Dr. Julie Dubosq, whom I had not been able to speak with during my previous visit to her lab at MNHN due to her being busy with the conference organization as the president of this Primatology Society. I also met Dr. Cécile Garcia, who works in cognitive fields very similar to my own.



Meeting Dr. Sarabian

After the conference, we further discussed her projects involving bats and rats in the context

of disgust and disease avoidance, which I am currently conducting. We talked about how I should proceed with the next stage of my experiments, including incorporating eye tracking—a technique I had not previously considered. We also explored her future projects and how to integrate results from cognitive experiments into field-based studies for more relevant comparisons.

I now plan to integrate behavioral data from field studies with experimental data collected in the lab for a comparative analysis, along with incorporating newer techniques such as eye tracking and computer vision. Engaging with research teams working with free-ranging primates offered valuable insights into their unique methodologies and practices. Conversations with Dr. Sarabian refined our analytical approach and outlined future developments, enhancing the scope and depth of our joint work.

The conference provided valuable insights, as presenting my research and receiving expert feedback directly informed the next steps for my PhD research and future collaborative projects. The expert feedback I received highlighted potential refinements and new directions for our work. I had the opportunity to engage with prospective PI, presenting my findings to them and gathering their thoughts on my research.



Presenting my work to other researchers

Additionally, I interacted with other graduate students from laboratories conducting similar comparative cognitive work, fostering connections for future collaborations. Our enthusiastic discussions centered on our respective research areas, creating a sense of camaraderie among the next generation of researchers and establishing a new network.

This conference also enabled me to reach a wider audience with my research, increasing its visibility within the primatology community.



Gorilla Conservation Panel

Finally, I thoroughly enjoyed attending workshops that explored primatology from various professional perspectives and its relevance to different fields. These sessions highlighted the role of art in primatology and emphasized effective strategies for communicating our research to the general public. I gained insights into how to present my work to younger audiences, recognizing the importance of imparting knowledge to future generations.



Conservation Strategies in Madagascar

今後の展望 Prospects for the future

As I approach the completion of my PhD, I am actively pursuing career paths that will allow me to maintain close collaborations with my current lab. Our institute has established strong connections with several leading French-speaking primatologists, and this travel has significantly advanced my career by broadening my professional network and uncovering opportunities within primatology, wildlife research, and conservation.

Interacting with esteemed researchers whose work I have long admired, along with observing diverse lab environments, has provided valuable insights into best practices and innovative approaches in the field. These experiences have not only contributed to my professional growth but also opened new avenues for collaboration and career development.

Future Goals:

- **Research Integration:** I plan to apply the insights gained from expert feedback to refine my research approach, ensuring that my collaboration with Dr. Sarabian continues to enhance our joint projects.
- **Career Exploration:** I intend to actively seek out potential career opportunities within the European primatology and wildlife research communities, leveraging my expanded network to identify roles that align with my skills and interests.
- **Skills Application:** I will focus on integrating advanced knowledge in diverse research methodologies and science communication into my future work, which will be essential for my professional growth.



Visiting Comparative Cognition Labs

Key Achievements:

- **Research Presentation:** I successfully presented my PhD research findings at the French-speaking Primatology Conference, discussing how negative visual stimuli lead to faster responses in a visual search task. The feedback received will inform my future research in attentional bias.
- **Collaborative Strengthening:** My meetings with Dr. Sarabian and her team significantly enhanced our collaborative efforts, including a review of our joint bat and rat project and outlining plans for future experiments.
- **Professional Development:** Through participation in seminars and workshops, I gained valuable insights into lab practices and improved my science communication and public speaking skills, which will aid in my future presentations.



Visiting MNHN

Acknowledgements:

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