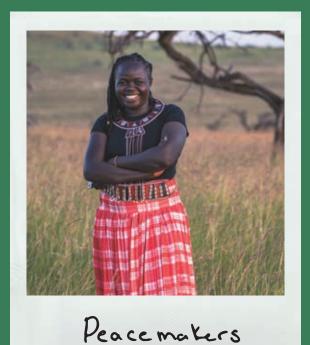
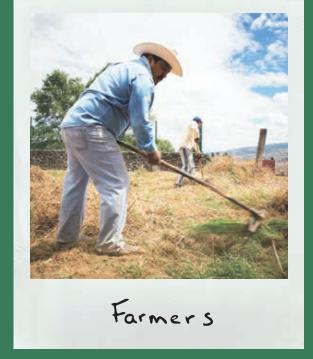
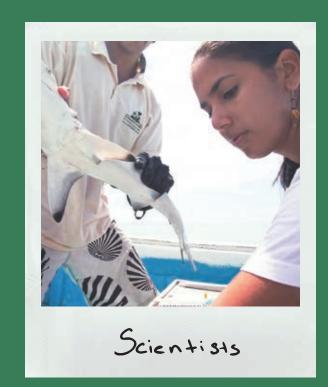
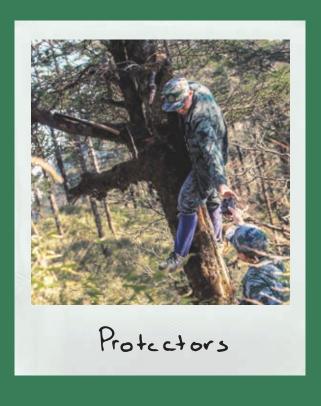


# We are...



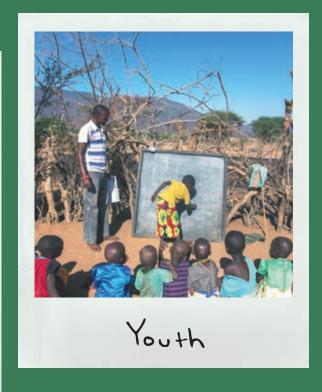


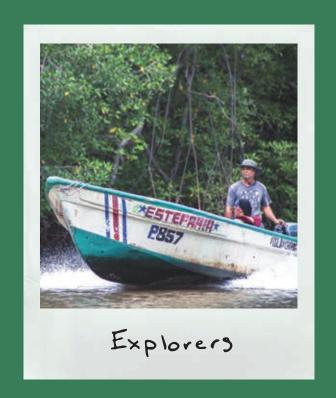


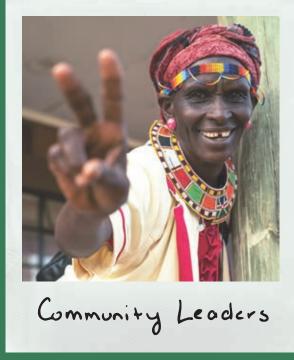




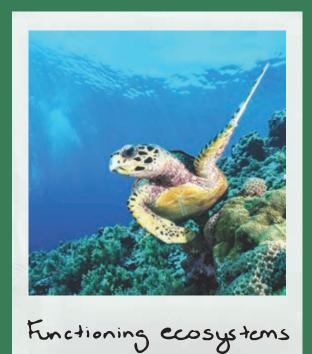


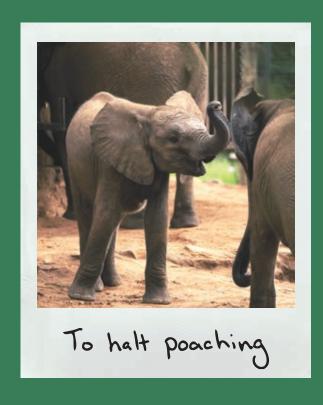


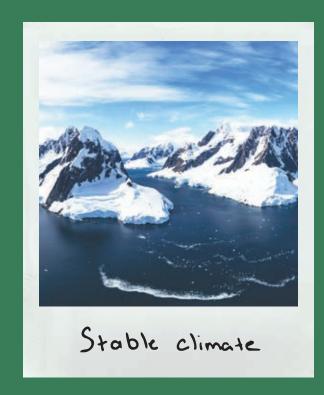




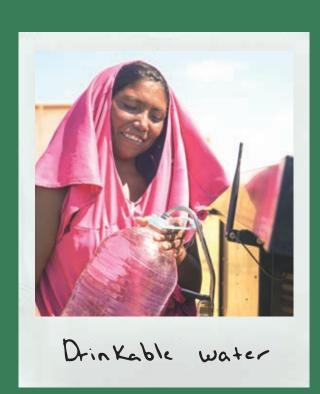
# We need...

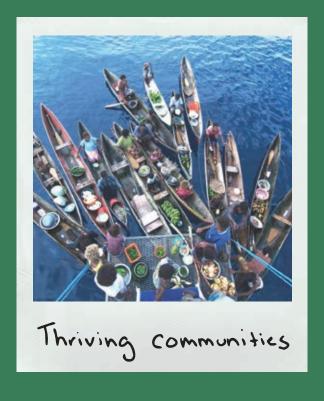


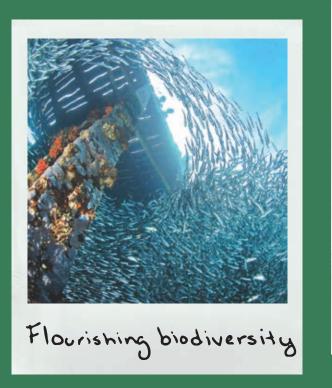














# We must...

- Il Restore forests for climate
- I Bolster marine protections
- □ Improve human well-being
- \*\*D Create sustainable livelihoods

# 220000000

- I Partner with communities
- □ Publish cutting-edge science
- I Develop conservation tools
- 1) Promote innovative financing





Contents

Building upon a strong foundation of science, partnership and field demonstration, Conservation International empowers societies to responsibly and sustainably care for nature, our global biodiversity, for the well-being of humanity.

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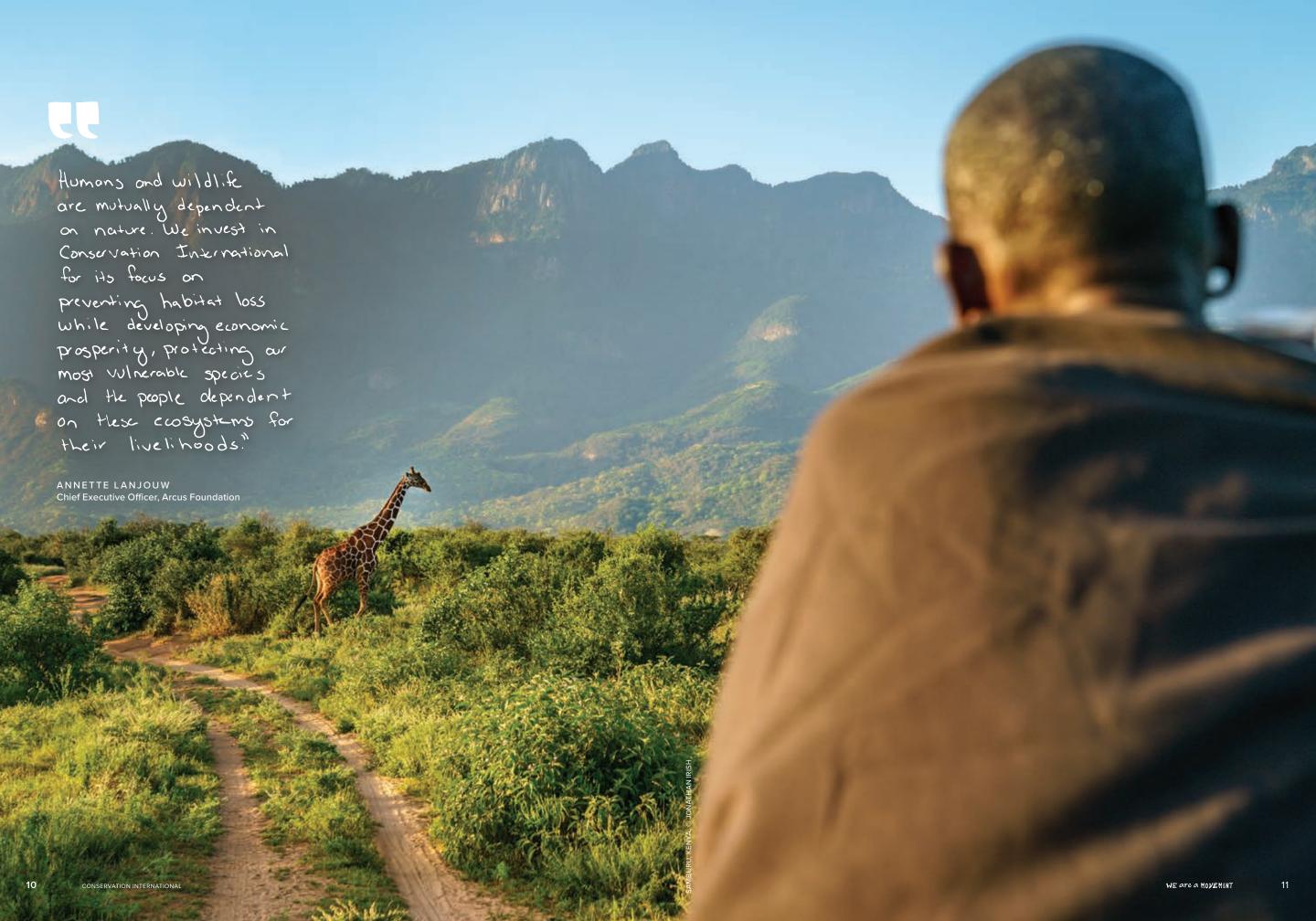
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# Board of Directors

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Conservation International Seattle, Washington

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# David S. Winter

Co-Chief Executive Officer Standard Industries New York, New York

As of November 2020

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# Leadership Council

Members of Conservation International's Leadership Council are dedicated to furthering the organization's mission through community connections, professional expertise and skills, and financial support.

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VICE CHAIRPERSON Daniel A. Shaw

Woody Creek, Colorado

MEMBERS Catherine Allchin Seattle, Washington

**Lisa Anderson** Seattle, Washington

Patrice Auld Seattle, Washington

**Steven Bell** Estes Park, Colorado

Kristina Brittenham Los Angeles, California

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**Alan Dynner**Boston, Massachusetts

**Lisa Dynner**Boston, Massachusetts

Jane Gale Las Vegas, Nevada

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**Aileen Lee** Palo Alto, California

**Finn T. Longinotto** Miami Beach, Florida

**Thomas E. Lovejoy** Fairfax, Virginia

**Ashok Mahbubani** Huntsville, Alabama

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**Kris Moore** Los Altos Hills, California

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**Lee Rhodes**Seattle, Washington

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**Jeff Rosenthal** Austin, Texas

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**Kevin Vilkin** Eden, Utah

**Lindsay Feldman Weissert** Santa Monica, California

**Christopher White** Seattle, Washington

**Shannon Wong** Austin, Texas

**Shailene Woodley**Los Angeles, California

**Gillian Wynn** Santa Monica, California

July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020

# Dear Friends,

2020 was a different kind of year, one that ripped apart our preconceptions and laid bare some devastating truths.



It revealed our vulnerability to illness and disease. It reinforced the consequences of neglecting our climate. And it exposed the damage that systemic racism continues to inflict on oppressed communities around the world.

It was also, in my mind, one of the most consequential years in Conservation International's history. Our leadership team, and our entire staff, responded to these challenges with integrity and honesty while never losing sight of our collective commitment to secure the health of the Earth for all of humanity. As you will read in this report, we made extraordinary alliances with communities, collaborating to protect their places from harm. We forged strong partnerships with corporations, based upon their commitment to reduce the impact of their operations while committing resources to protect forests and oceans at an accelerating pace. And we worked with governments so they could further their commitments to protecting the health of their nations and their people.

We have a strong and healthy organization, one with the agility, wisdom and ambition to achieve our goals over the next few years. These efforts will require us to maintain this disposition and combine it with an insistent and reinvigorated intensity. Because here is another hard truth: The task of keeping global temperatures from rising above 1.5 degrees is enormous. We are

not on that pathway yet, and we will only get there by making dramatic and immediate changes.

This is a daunting task, but the good news is that we are facing it with more potential allies than ever before. What is now crystal clear to so many is that every person on Earth has the right to a healthy planet. Caring for the Earth is a unifying platform that has the power to activate young people, transform the behavior of companies and activate the commitments of governments.

Our task now is to forge new partnerships and develop innovative new solutions. We will need to be agile. We will need to be creative. We will need your support.

Sincerely,

PETER SELIGMANN CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

# Dear Friends.

More than a year has passed since a global pandemic transformed our lives. As individuals, we became more isolated than ever before. But as an organization, we came together with compassion and a renewed sense of purpose to achieve great outcomes in the face of an unprecedented crisis.



The world has not yet returned to normal. It may never. 5. And finally, a long-overdue reckoning with the But we can see light at the end of the long tunnel, and it illuminates the lessons of the past few months that we must always carry with us. When I think about the future of our organization, here is what stands out for me:

- 1. If we ever needed a reminder of the role that nature plays in our lives, the past year delivered in spades. From catastrophic wildfires and storms to an economy -shattering pandemic, the consequences of Thinking about life after the pandemic, it's clear that consequential and inescapable.
- 2. Many leading companies doubled down on their Now, we must translate that realization into decisive commitments to carbon neutrality and sustainability, action. showing a remarkable willingness to lead. Just when you might expect CEOs to hit the pause button, the We at Conservation International have a critical role to most ambitious teams were going further, faster protecting their supply chains and anticipating what we are seeing with companies eager to pull away from the pack.
- with 60 countries joining the High Ambition Coalition Conservation International, for Nature, the UK and EU putting nature firmly on the agenda and even China committing to carbon neutrality by 2060. Through sweeping executive orders, the United States laid out an ambitious climate agenda just in the nick of time.
- 4. Individual lifestyles changed, too. Many of us realized that productivity does not have to mean unremitting DR. M. SANJAYAN travel. Others discovered or rekindled a love for the outdoors. Trails, parks and wild areas were crowded with visitors. Bicycles and canoes were sold out. People are becoming more engaged with the natural world overall. Perhaps they will become more willing to prioritize nature as well.

impact of systemic racism and colonialism on conservation has been thrust into full view. With it comes a tremendous opportunity to build a more inclusive organization and a more meritocratic movement, where diversity, equity and inclusion are foundational to good, lasting conservation outcomes.

neglecting our relationship with nature were humanity has reached an inflection point. Nearly every sector of society recognizes the urgent need to equitably address our most pressing environmental challenges.

play. By seizing on the opportunities created by these lessons, we won't just achieve our goals. We will help societal seismic shifts. I find that the greatest leaps to lead the movement that creates a more equitable are often made in headwinds, and that's exactly and sustainable world — one where we fully realize our potential to save nature and nature's potential to save us

3. Though inherently slow, governments acted as well, With gratitude for your steadfast support and belief in

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



1

# Impacts

that Conservation International helped deliver in 2020

Samoa committed to protecting

30%

of its ocean area a massive increase from the 1 percent currently protected.

A partnership with the French government will conserve approximately 10% of Amazonia and benefit more than

68,000

people in seven countries.

The Priceless Planet Coalition will employ a forest restoration model dedicated to planting

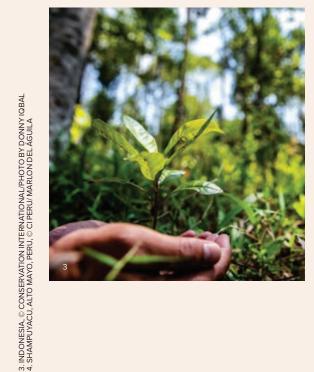
100 million

trees and regrowing forests where they are most needed.



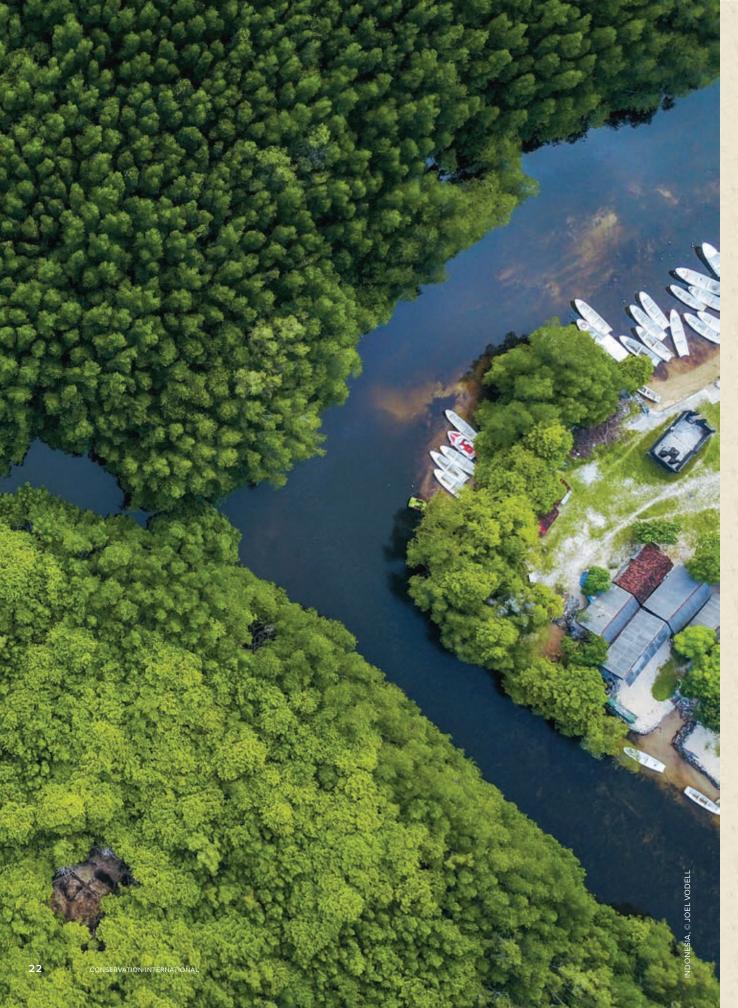








20 CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL



# Protecting Nature to Prevent Climate Catastrophe

By 2025, Conservation International and its partners will avoid and remove 3 gigatons of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere by securing or restoring nearly 400,000 square kilometers (154,000 square miles) of forests and lands around the world.

A global pandemic slowed the pace of life. It did not, however, slow climate breakdown. With only a decade left to avoid the worst impacts of climate change, Stalled action in 2020 provided a setback just when progress was needed most.

Yet Conservation International forged ahead. Our scientists and technical experts widened the world's understanding of nature's role in the climate, defining areas of nature we must protect, and how.

These insights are now guiding global efforts in conservation policy and finance.

# Here are some highlights:





# THE CARBON WE CAN'T AFFORD TO LOSE

To prevent a climate catastrophe, there are certain places on Earth that must be protected above all else, according to research by Conservation International scientists. Why? Because of the climatewarming carbon that these ecosystems store.

A team of researchers determined how much carbon is stored in nature around the world and measured how long it would take to get it back if it is lost — and what that loss would mean for humanity. With these criteria, the researchers were able to pinpoint which ecosystems are most crucial to prioritize for climate action — and where humans can actually have an impact.

All told, the amount of "irrecoverable carbon" stored in these ecosystems is equivalent to decades of fossil fuel emissions, at current rates.

Conservation International is now using this research to undertake an ambitious initiative to protect tens of thousands of square miles of natural areas, working with the private sector, communities and governments to make conservation of these areas a priority.

We have growing evidence
that the final battleground
whatter we fail or succeed
in delivering the Paris Climate
Agreement of holding the 1.5
degrees Celsius global warming
line, is not only whether we
are able to get off fossil fuels,
it is also whether we are able
to safeguard the carbon sinks
in nature. Here, we provide the
first global assessment of the
ecosystems that hold our
future in their hands."

JOHAN ROCKSTRÖM
CHIEF SCIENTIST, CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL

Perspective

Protecting irrecoverable carbon in Earth's ecosystems



SCIENTISTS MEASURE THE CIRCUMFERENCE OF A MANGROVE TREE FOR BLUE CARBON RESEARCH IN KAIMANA, WEST PAPUA, INDONESIA.

# EE

As a new CI Board member and Indigenous woman and climate activist, my work is focused on the value of integrating science, technology and Indigenous peoples' Knowledge so that communities like mine can develop and share their nature-based approaches to withstoned the effects of climate change and protect biodiversity. In this very difficult year for all of us, the support of Conservation International is more important than ever to protect ourselves and the planet.

HINDOU OUMAROU IBRAHIM Conservation Activist Lui-Walton Senior Indigenous Fellow Conservation International Board Member

# A TREE GROWS — IF WE LET IT

Humanity has cleared nearly half of the world's forests. But what would happen if we let many of these lands return back to forests? And how much climate-warming carbon would they absorb?

how much — and how quickly — estimated. forests could absorb and store carbon from the atmosphere if These findings represent a quanhumans simply left them alone.

tum leap in our understanding of

A team of researchers, including The results, published in the jour-the potential of forest restoration, Conservation International cli- nal Nature, found that tropical underscoring the need for more mate expert Bronson Griscom, forests can regrow up to 32 per- restoration projects while idencreated a global map to help cent faster — and capture signifi- tifying the specific places where answer these questions, using cantly more carbon from the at- Conservation International and artificial intelligence to determine mosphere — than was previously its partners in reforestation can be most effective over the next 30 years.



HARNESSING 'BLUE CARBON'

Hugging coastlines throughout the tropics, "blue carbon" ecosystems — mangroves, seagrasses and salt marshes — are climate superstars: In a single square mile, mangroves hold as much carbon as the annual emissions of 90,000 cars.

But these areas have been shut measure the amount of carbon

out of carbon markets, preclud- stored in soils, where the majority ing incentives to protect them of blue carbon lies. This approval while depriving coastal commu- is critical for harnessing the pownities of economic opportunities. er of "blue carbon" ecosystems as a natural climate solution, en-Conservation International achieved suring that blue carbon credits a breakthrough this year when are in compliance with some of its methodology for blue carbon the most rigorous and widely reccrediting was approved. It is the ognized standards on the marfirst system of its kind to actually ket. It also creates a vital financial incentive to protect some of the most valuable carbon sinks on the planet.

> Conservation International is now using the methodology to generate verified carbon credits in our project in Cispatá, Colombia, credits that will soon be available for sale on the voluntary market.



faster — and capture significantly more carbon from the atmosphere — than was previously estimated.





# BOOSTING CLIMATE POLICY

Conservation International scored two significant wins in the national and international policy arenas.

Under the Paris Agreement, every country must enumerate its responsibility to help curb climate change through nationally determined contributions (NDCs). Conservation International has worked closely with the Liberian government to incorporate nature into its NDCs. In addition to clean energy commitments, Liberia's most recent update includes tremendous gains in the agriculture, forestry, fisheries and coastal sectors.

And the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) — an agency of the UN that sets global aviation standards — approved a plan to help airlines neutralize their carbon footprint by protecting nature. Aviation remains one of the world's top carbon-emitting sectors, and this announcement can help to compensate for the emissions generated by international flights. Conservation International helped to make this happen, engaging policymakers on the creation of a market for airlines to purchase forest-based carbon credits from approved programs. If given final approval, this market has the potential to generate \$5 billion in revenue over 15 years.



If given final approval, the airline carbon market has the potential to generate

\$5 billion

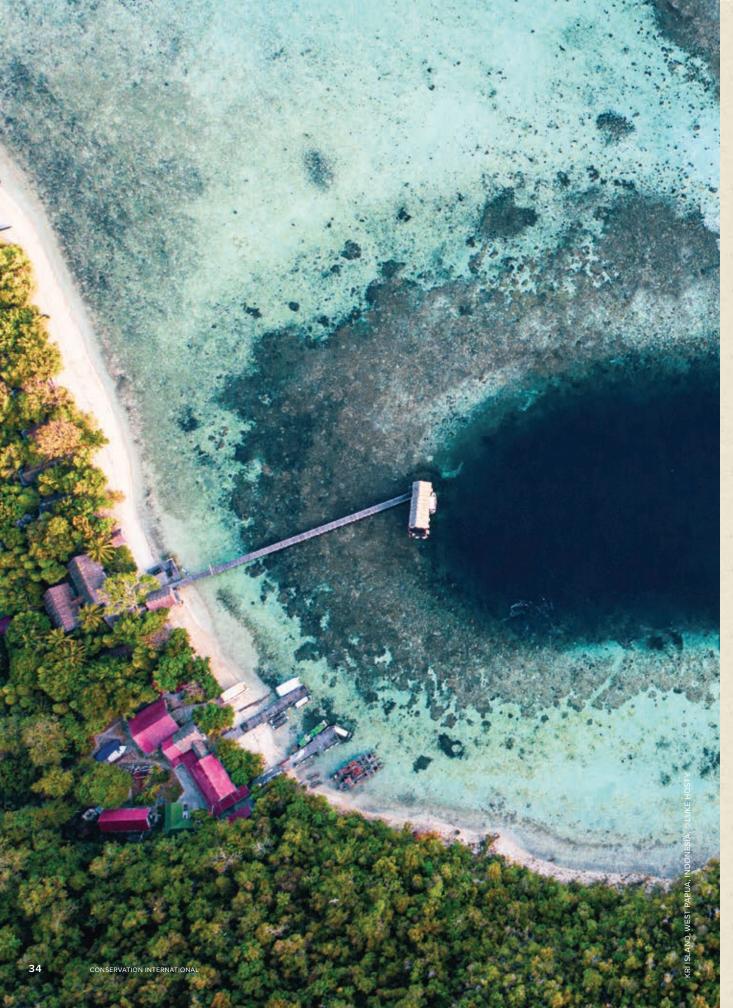
in revenue over 15 years.

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32 CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL

WE are a MOYEMINT



# Protecting the Ocean to protect Humanity

Conservation International aims to achieve the conservation of 18 million square kilometers (7 million square miles) of ocean supporting the global target of protecting 30 percent by 2030, while improving at least 20 fisheries and aquaculture areas supporting the target of producing 75 percent of seafood produced using socially responsible and environmentally sustainable methods by 2030.

The ocean is the origin and the engine of all life on this planet. Yet, as climate change accelerates, large swaths of the ocean are increasingly hot, lifeless and acidic. Surviving the worst climate impacts means protecting the ocean—and the people who depend on it—on a massive scale.

From exploring mysterious deep-water coral reefs to launching an ambitious new global partnership for large-scale ocean protection, Conservation International made significant strides in understanding the largest and least-explored biome on Earth.

# Here are some highlights:





# **RESCUING CORAL REEFS**

In 2020, we made new discoveries about coral reefs — epicenters of marine biodiversity, and linchpins of economies and food security around the world — which are under grave threat from pollution, overfishing and climate change.

# SMALL STEPS FOR BIG **CONSERVATION GAINS**

Around 20 percent of the world's robots and our partners at the coral is already gone; much of NOAA Office of Ocean Explorawhat remains could be wiped tion and Research, scientists, inout by the end of this century. A cluding Conservation Internation-Conservation International study al's Daniel Wagner, discovered showed that this future can be three new species of black coral prevented with relatively small in the north Pacific, hundreds of steps such as creating marine meters below the surface. With protected areas or stronger lifespans ranging from centuries fishing regulations. Researchers to millennia, black corals are found that when applied to coral some of the longest-living anireefs with low-to-medium human mals on the planet. They produce impacts, these two strategies bioactive compounds that could create a "coral reef first aid kit" be used to fight cancer and other that can have massive benefits diseases. giving reefs a fighting chance before it's too late.

### **DEEP-SEA DISCOVERIES**

With the help of underwater

More time is needed to study the deep sea. That's why Conservation International has called for a minimum 10-year moratorium on deep-sea mining — the biggest impending threat to deep-sea corals and many other vulnerable species — to better understand its risks and ensure we avoid endangering ecosystems that are still largely unknown.



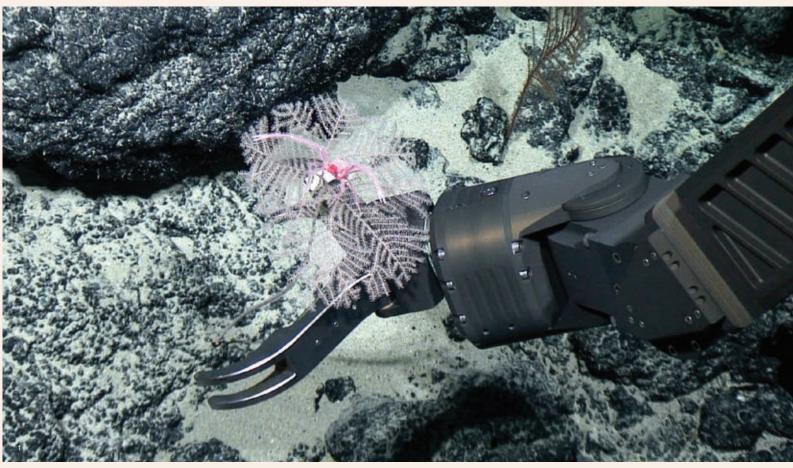
Conservation International scientists identified more than

previously unknown reefs on the high seas.

A lifeline in the high seas Beneath the waves, vast expanses of

the seafloor have yet to be explored. Combing through historical data and half a million records on coral distribution worldwide, Conservation International scientists identified more than 116 previously unknown rects on the high seas. Lorgely isolated from human impacts, these remoke deep-sea corals offer a ray of hope for the world's reefs: They could provide critical refuge for marine life while helping to "resced" degraded rear-shore coral populations.





WITH THE HELP OF UNDERWATER ROBOTS, CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL SCIENTISTS DISCOVERED THREE NEW SPECIES OF BLACK CORAL IN THE NORTH PACIFIC.

WE are a MOVEMENT CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL

# 11

As a surfer, I want the ocean healthy. I want the waves protected. Conservation International's Surf Conservation Partnership is brilliant. It's mobilizing the global surfing community to come together around what matters most to Us. protecting world-class waves and vital marine ecosystems."

Nico

# 11

When I was first presented with the Suf Conservation Partnership, it was a defining moment. Why hosn't anyone thought of this before, I asked myself. Pairing conservation and surfing? Brilliant! I was on board. Since then, the train has done a remarkable job by blending what I believe are key components to successful conservation. Driven by the possion of surfers, they have designated marine and terrestrial protected areas, engaged local communities, gethered the science and presented to government to implement change. All in less than two years!"—Sarah

NICO AND SARAH ARGYROPOULOS Surf Conservation Partnership, Advisory Board Member and Founding Donors

# **CREATING REFUGES FOR HEALTHIER OCEANS**

To effectively conserve marine ecosystems and provide benefits to the people who depend areas. on them — Conservation International has led the creation of more than 100 marine protected areas around the world.

From villages to national gov- And in Atauro Island, a diver's parernments, we build partnerships adise off the coast of Timor-Leste among local decision-makers to sustainably manage large ocean

crease from the 1 percent currently under protection. Conservation International is providing technical tation of Samoa's 10-year ocean strategy designed to sustainably manage the country's ocean and marine resources.

in Southeast Asia, Conservation International worked with local communities to unify 12 marine protected areas into a single net-In 2020, Samoa committed to work, with the goal of strengthprotecting 30 percent of its ocean ening conservation efforts. Dive area, which will be a massive in- tourism businesses have agreed to pay for access to the network's pristine dive sites — marking the first time a group of communities expertise to guide the implemen- will generate income from their commitments to conservation.

Samoa committed to protecting

massive increase from the 1 percent that is currently protected.







# **SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE SEAFOOD**

Modern slavery, human trafficking, child labor — these human rights violations have only recently become part of the global dialogue around sustainably sourced seafood.

vation International led the development of the Monterey Framefrom major seafood businesses.

and areas that need improve- must meet. ment - including treatment of

To address these issues, Conser- fishers, safety practices and other key rights and needs.

work for Socially Responsible We are taking these strategies Seafood, a protocol that now has to scale by applying them in enover two dozen commitments tire national and regional jurisdictions. In the Cook Islands, for example, Conservation Interna-Moving from principles to tional is collaborating with the practice, we worked with gov- government, the tuna seafood inernments, companies and re- dustry and traditional leadership searchers to help identify risks groups to develop and apply rigin seafood supply chains. Built orous standards of environmenon the Monterey Framework, our tal sustainability, social responsisocial responsibility assessment bility and economic performance, tool offers practical indicators to which all tuna vessels operating uncover critical information gaps within the Cook Island jurisdiction

WE are a MOVEMENT CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL



# AN AMBITIOUS ALLIANCE TO PROTECT OUR OCEANS

In 2020, Conservation International and the Pew Charitable Trusts launched a global partnership to catalyze ocean conservation at an unprecedented scale.

world's oceans, with several wins dangered sea turtles' habitat. in its inaugural year:



The Rob and Melani Walton Foun-leadership of local communities dation, the Minderoo Foundation to protect their coastal waters and the Global Environment Fa- and the species they support cility all joined as founding part- including the village of Mavana, ners. With additional support which recently collaborated with from the Tiffany & Co. Foundation Conservation International to creand the Gordon and Betty Moore ate a new marine protected area Foundation, the alliance made a that prevents fishing and diving big splash for the health of the activities that could disturb en-

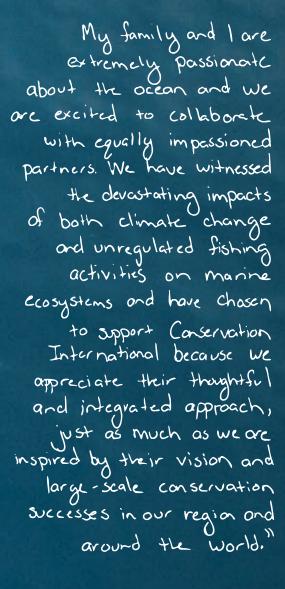
Tiny island makes big move: Fiji invests in turtles: The wa- In the South Atlantic, Tristan da ters surrounding the Lau Islands Cunha — the world's most remote of Fiji were the first Blue Nature inhabited archipelago — commit-Alliance engagement, helping ted to protecting 90 percent of establish new protections cov- its territory's waters, creating the ering 335,000 square kilometers largest marine protected area in ed critical funding and technical expertise that enabled this area to be protected at the (129,000 square miles) of ocean. the Atlantic. Through the alliance, This engagement builds upon the Conservation International providto be protected at twice the size it would have been otherwise.



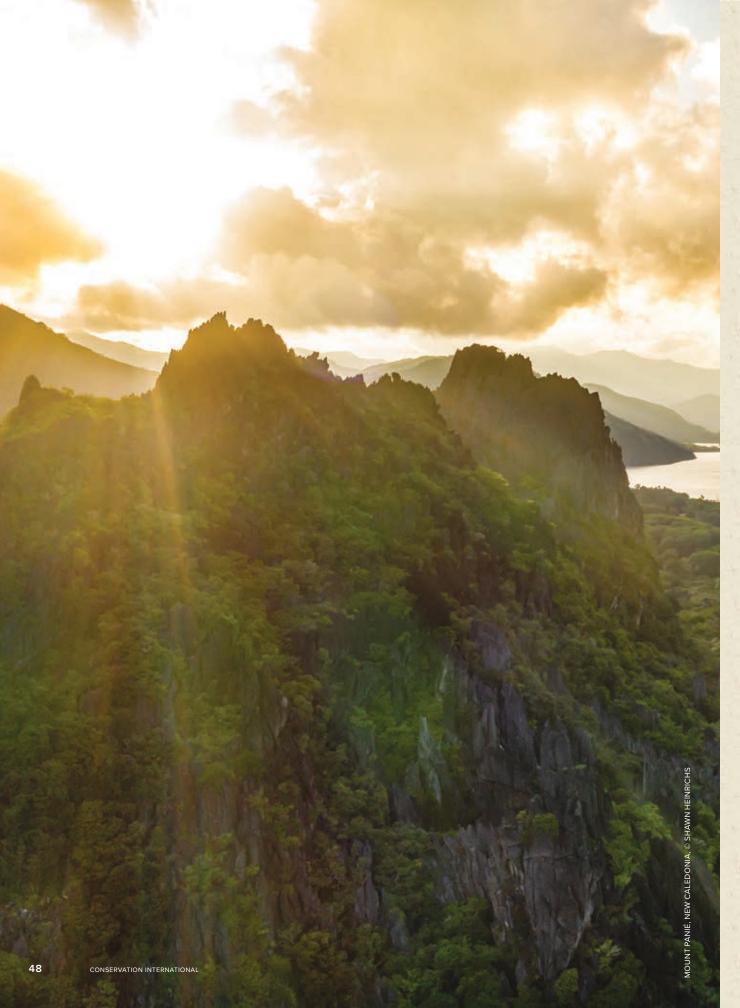




TRISTAN DA CUNHA — THE WORLD'S MOST REMOTE INHABITED ARCHIPELAGO.



KATHLYN TAN Director, Rumah Group and Rumah Foundation **Conservation International Singapore Board Member** 



# Sustainable Lands+ Waters

Together with partners, Conservation International will develop sustainable production and innovative financing models to improve human well-being through nature-based development in 16 critical ecosystems around the world by 2025.

Nature and people thriving in the some place, together: It's the ultimate goal of Conservation International's work.

But in 2020, a global pandemic brought home what can happen to people when nature doesn't thrive. The novel coronavirus — believed to have jumped from bats to humans, in a grim testament to what happens when nature is disturbed — left its mark on landscapes and seascapes everywhere.

As infections rippled around the world, slowing or halting much of our fieldwork, Conservation International pivoted quickly, using our science and our global reach to help policymakers understand the effects of the pandemic on nature and people, and what can be done to prevent another one.

# Here are some highlights:





# PANDEMIC AND NATURE

In the early days of lockdowns, the idea that nature was "getting a break" was quickly disproven, as Conservation International researchers uncovered.

# POACHING ON THE RISE

After the pandemic hit, Conservation International field offices tional identified legal rollbacks to the pandemic hit, Conservation went on alert, carefully following the situation in our project sites key threat during the pandemic, thored a landmark study in the around the world. What they launching a website to track such journal Science showing that found: Poaching and deforestation increased after COVID-19 restrictions went into effect, with al in Scientific American. bushmeat and ivory poaching incidents becoming more frequent FISHERIES DEVASTATED in Africa, while Amazonian defor- A Conservation International insights in this paper were widely estation in Brazil reached a nine- study analyzed the extent of cited and have since became a year high. Evidence suggests that damage to small-scale fish- foundational component of panthat the majority of these activi- eries — the coastal and non-in- demic prevention and recovery ties were enabled by weakened dustrial fishing enterprises that initiatives for the U.S. Congress, enforcement efforts that people make up more than 90 percent the Biden administration and Euperation, others by profit.

# PROTECTED AREAS IN PERIL

Similarly, Conservation Interna- Then in July, mere months after environmental protections as a International scientists co-aurollbacks and putting the issue on society could prevent future policymakers' radars in an editori- pandemics through nature con-

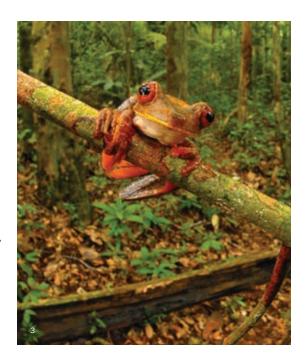
exploited — some driven by des- of the global fishing industry — ropean policymakers. and what must be done to bring them back.

# AN OUNCE OF PREVENTION

servation for a small fraction of the many trillions of dollars that COVID-19 will cost humanity. The

# Good news from the world's greenest country

In March, Suriname passed on environmental protection law, the first such law in its history. Such a law is crucial not just for the Country but for humanity - some 91 percent of the South American country is covered in tropical forest. Conservation International was actively engaged in this process for five years. The law establishes institutional and policy frameworks for environmental protection, while introducing vital concepts such as mandatory environmental impact assessments for all industrial and extractive activities.









# STUDYING — AND STREAMLINING - WALMART'S 'FOOTPRINT'

Walmart, long a corporate leader in sustainability, has taken significant steps forward in reducing its environmental footprint in just the past few years, going beyond climate warming carbon to reduce its supply chain impacts on nature.

Last year, with the help of Conservation International, the company went even further, committing to place nature at the core of its business. To do this, Walmart will support more sustainable agriculture, improve fisheries management, and encourage forest protection and restoration. Conservation International helped Walmart set these goals by implementing a first-of-its-kind analysis that

helped Walmart focus its work, whereafter the company committed to protect, restore and improve the management of 20 million hectares (50 million acres) of land and 2.6 million square kilometers (1 million square miles)



Walmart committed to protect and steward

50 million

1 million

square miles of ocean.







# **BALANCING PROTECTION,** PRODUCTION IN MEXICO

One of Conservation International's main goals: Help people and nature thrive in the same place, together, by building self-sustaining, scalable development models built on conservation.

Oaxaca that will result in more future. than 25,000 hectares (64,000 acres) of land being placed under conservation. Meanwhile, we worked to ensure access to markets for sustainably produced agricultural goods with local retailers. Green Corner (an organic specialty grocery store based in Mexico City) has committed to purchase fish fillets, organic

In southern Mexico, we have cashews, organic cheese and done just that. Working with na- meat products from local smalltional and local governments, scale producers. In a region long Conservation International helped known for its culture and cuisine, develop plans for the use and we're helping people see that protection of land in Chiapas and sustainability is critical to their

64,000

acres of land placed under conservation in Chiapas and Oaxaca.

11

Pacific Islands host a spectacular combination of natural beauty and deep cultural connectivity. About six years ago we started investing in Conservation Internationals work in the region after learning more about its important role on the frontlines of climate change. In partnership with island leaders, Conservation International is developing innovative conservation programs, resource management policies and funding apportunities to address climate change, and we have been happy to help.

LISA ANDERSON
President, Moccasin Lake Foundatio
Leadership Council Member

CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL



# Innovations in Science and Finance

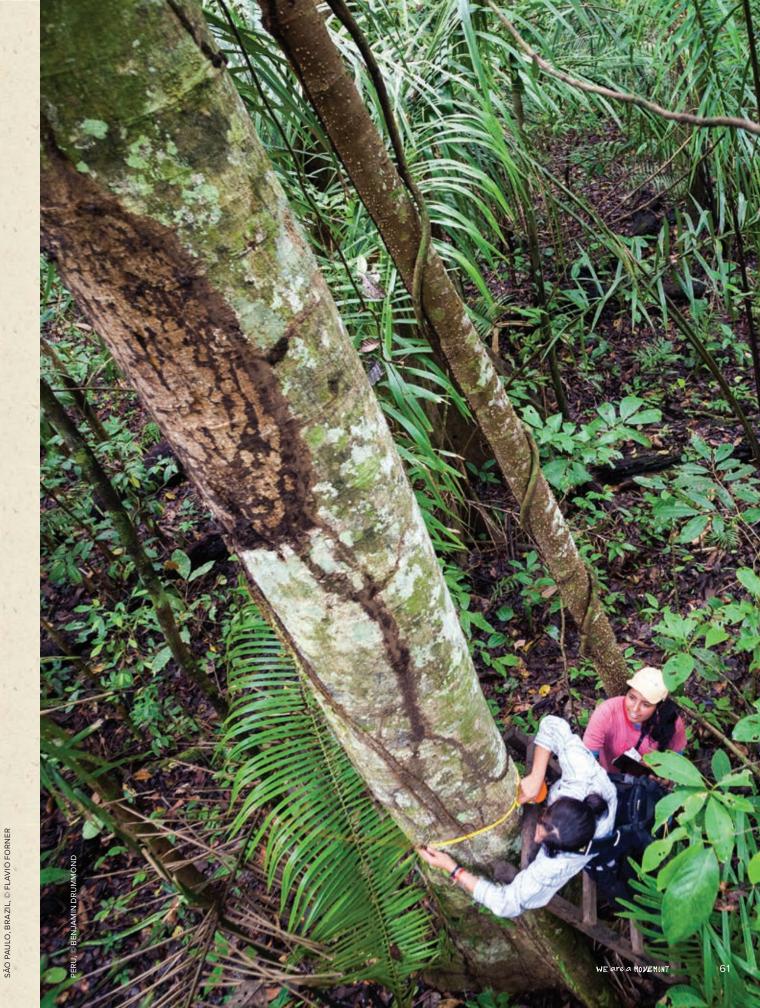
Conservation International and our partners are undertaking transformative research to accelerate our conservation efforts worldwide, from identifying priority areas to building innovative tools to protect them, all while unlocking private financing that proves nature is a superlative investment.

Protecting nature for climate.
Conserving occors on an unprecedented scale. Ensuring that people and nature thrive, together. Conservation
International's goals rest upon a foundation of policy-relevant science and innovative finance.

In the past year, we made huge leaps in both, unlocking ways that nature can contribute to the fight against climate change, while identifying financing that can help generate returns on investments in nature.

# Here are some highlights:





# **NEW SCIENCE**

In 2020, we published groundbreaking, policy-relevant research. Here are some of the highlights.

# THE FARMING FRONTIER

Fields of corn in Siberia? Soy After a landmark UN report re- Our current food system fuels plantations in the Yukon? It's not vealed that nearly 1 million spe- deforestation as countries strugas far-fetched as it may seem: cies are facing extinction, a gle to keep farming sustainable A study led by Conservation In- groundbreaking study led by amid growing demand for food. ternational found that climate Conservation International offers A study published in March found change will make it possible in a solution to save more than half that the secret to meeting this the near future to grow certain of these doomed species, while demand lies in the soil — or more crops in places that were once slowing climate breakdown: Con-specifically, in the carbon stored inhospitable to them. The envi-serve just 30 percent of tropical in the soil. Protecting or restoring ronmental consequences, re- lands. The study is the first to of- the carbon in soils, the scientists searchers wrote, "could be cata- fer a comprehensive map of the found, not only can boost agriculstrophic," calling for policymakers most important natural areas to tural productivity but can provide to heed warnings against devel- protect to reduce extinction risk. 3 billion tons of cost-effective clioping these areas.

### WILDLIFE EXTINCTIONS

# DIGGING IN THE DIRT

mate mitigation per year.

# Soil Map In South Africa, Conservation SOC (kg C m<sup>-2</sup>) International helped SOC (kg C m<sup>-2</sup>) to develop a highresolution map of the country's Soil Corbon. This map will be used to design and implement O Thicket projects aimed at restoring South Africa's grasslands and O Nama Kama Savannas, and make these projects eligible for conservation related financing.



# **CI VENTURES**

Conservation requires livelihoods to be sustainable. To that end, our investment fund, CI Ventures, provides loans to small businesses operating in places where Conservation International works — including Africa.

In the past year, we invested in Komaza, a smallholder agroforestry producer in Kenya that pays farmers to raise trees on their land for sustainable wood. After our investment, Komaza increased full-time staff by more than 10 percent and increased the number of farmers growing trees by over 13 percent, to 16,000 farmers.

We also invested in Victory Farms, Africa's fastest-growing sustainable aquaculture operation, located on Lake Victoria, Kenya. The company employs 350 full-time staff members most from the communities surrounding the fish farms where job opportunities are scarce. These two landmark deals offered powerful evidence that investing in sustainable development can pay off for investors, for communities and for nature.



Komaza increased the number of farmers growing trees to

16,000.





# PARTNERING FOR IMPACT

One of Conservation International's historic strengths is our culture of partnerships, through which we can make an impact for nature far above what any single organization can achieve. Last year, we world's most prominent companies to act with urgency to protect nature. Here are two highlights from 2020.

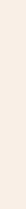
# PROTECTING NATURE? PRICELESS

launched in January 2020, was company's greenhouse gas designed to leverage the full emissions across its operations, scale of Mastercard's business, its in close collaboration with Contechnology, its brand, and partner servation International and other ecosystem all the way to the card- partners, becoming climate-neuholders, to act on climate change tral for the decade by supporting at an unprecedented scale. Mas- natural climate solutions. The tercard chose Conservation Inter- company aims to fund projects national and the World Resources that protect, improve and restore worked with some of the Institute as restoration partners to critical ecosystems where irrehelp the Priceless Planet Coalition coverable carbon is stored, while achieve its initial goal of regrow- supporting local communities ing 100 million trees.

> The Priceless Planet Coalition is not just about planting trees. The partners are dedicated to regrowing forests in the geographies that represent the greatest potential for positive impacts toward our global goals for climate, communities and biodiversity. The coalition will employ science-based best practices for the selection, implementation, and long-term monitoring of its restoration efforts.

# **P&G PROMISE**

Consumer goods giant P&G an-The Priceless Planet Coalition, nounced it would reduce the and economic recovery.



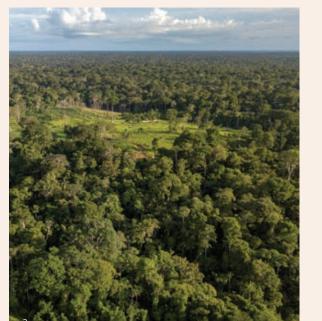


# **FINANCE FOR AMAZONIA**

Conservation International used the power of finance to launch two major efforts to conserve the largest tropical forest on the planet.

A \$25 million partnership with the French government will conserve approximately 10 percent of Amazonia — nearly 73 million hectares (180 million acres) by 2025 — by supporting Indigenous peoples and local communities to access information, tools and funding to carry out their own initiatives to conserve forests and support livelihoods. The project stands to benefit more than 68,000 people in seven countries.

In partnership with the U.S. Agency for International Development, Conservation International launched a new private-sector investment platform for sustainable, pro-conservation business in the Amazon that will advance green businesses and investments that promote the sustainable use of nature in Peru.

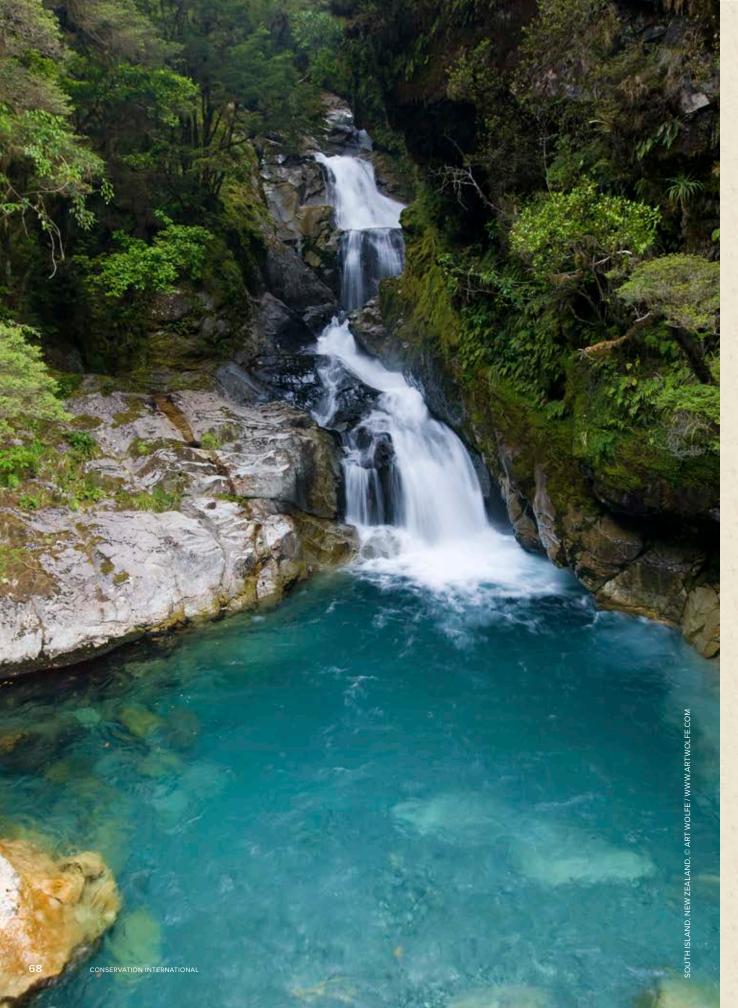


A \$25 million partnership with the French government will conserve nearly

73 million

hectares of Amazonia by 2025.

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# What's Next?









# A LIFELINE FOR A CASUALTY OF COVID

For a few months each year, millions of wildebeest, zebra and other wildlife travel from Tanzania to Kenya's Maasai Mara region — a phenomenon known as "The Great Migration."

The animals are not the only conservancies for tourism operatacle.

this land.

Now, these conservancies are receiving a lifeline.

who typically lease their land to people at the same time.

ones flooding the region during tions. The Cl African Conservanthis time: Typically, thousands of cies Fund aims to replace some tourists flock to the Maasai Mara of this lost income, which obto catch a glimpse of this spec- servers fear could impel Maasai landowners to sell their lands or convert them to farming, putting But the global pandemic kept local wildlife conservation — the tourists away in 2020 — along very source of their livelihoods with the life-sustaining revenue at risk. So far, two loans totaling they provide to wildlife conser- \$226,000 have been disbursed, vancies and Indigenous land- with more coming soon. With the owners dedicated to protecting market showing interest in this concept, we aim to replicate the program across southern Africa.

With recent reports indicating a surge in poaching throughout Conservation International, in Kenya since the beginning of the partnership with the Maasai Mara pandemic, wildlife conservation Conservancies Association, es- in the region is more important tablished a loan program that than ever. By supporting the conwill help cover lease payments servancies, Conservation Interowed to Indigenous landowners national is helping animals and



## PROTECTING THE HIGH SEAS

More than half the world's oceans lie beyond the jurisdiction of any nation. This vast expanse, known as the "high seas," is home to species unknown to science, many of them in deepwater coral reefs. These reefs are largely unstudied and vulnerable to unsustainable fishing, deep-sea mining and marine pollution.

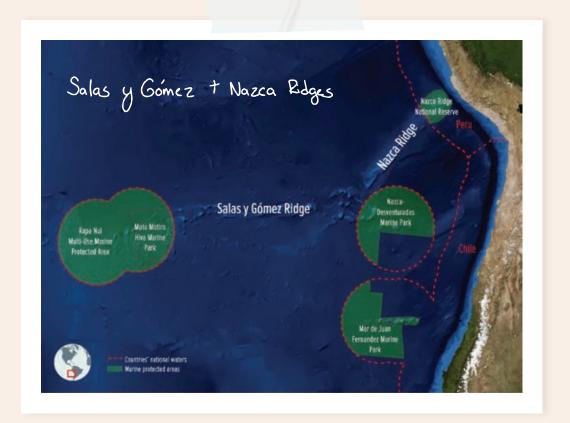
ward in ocean conservation.

The coalition is focusing its ef- merous species new to science we are working to achieve the forts on the high seas surround- — yet this area remains unpro- global target of protecting at ing the Salas y Gómez and Nazca tected. ridges, two seamount chains that stretch across 2,900 square ki- Fishing and other commercial aclometers (1,200 square miles) in tivities are still at low levels in this

As a founding member of the ecosystems in this region have tional and partners are seizing a Coral Reefs of the High Seas Co-some of the highest levels of entime-sensitive opportunity to proalition, Conservation Internation- demism on Earth — meaning that tect its unique natural and cultural is using its research to lead a species found here are found no- al resources before they are lost push for protections for reefs in where else. Recent explorations forever. the high seas, a major step for- in this region have documented the deepest light-dependent cor- And by building the scientific

the southeastern Pacific. Marine region, so Conservation Interna-

al reefs on Earth, as well as nu- case for high seas protections, least 30 percent of the oceans.



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# **VALUING FORESTS TO** PROTECT THE CLIMATE

Tropical forests are our greatest natural ally in the fight against climate change, yet in many places they are more valuable dead than alive.

Conservation International is working to flip the script by valuing the carbon that trees remove from the atmosphere and store. Through carbon projects, we can help to protect the climate by protecting forests — and the people who depend on them. As one part of the solution to climate breakdown, forest-carbon projects are helping humanity bend the climate curve.

In the past year, Conservation International had success behind the scenes, working with the civil aviation industry to pave the way for airlines to help neutralize their climate footprint through carbon offsets.

Now, we're heading from the skies back down to Earth: Building on the successes of forest-carbon projects in Peru and Kenya — which have generated millions of tons of carbon-emissions reductions along with countless environmental and community benefits — we are looking to develop a carbon project in Cambodia aimed at attracting investors for long-term financing. Through these projects, we are demonstrating that these "natural climate solutions" are immediate and effective tools to bend the climate curve.





# FIGHTING WILDLIFE TRAFFICKING WITH DATA

Wildlife trafficking is often hidden in plain sight, with illegally traded species falsely listed as — or hidden among — legal ones being shipped around the world. Most customs authorities, meanwhile. are overmatched in the face of this massive and relentless trade, with millions of animals and animal parts moving through ports around the world every day.

A new tool being developed by Conservation International and partners could change that.

Nature Intelligence System is an artificial intelligence system that any organization involved in the movement of wildlife - government agencies, customs authorities, the pet trade, the shipping sector and more — can use to help differentiate between legal and illegal shipments. The platform synthesizes data and documents about exporters, species, market values and more to flag suspicious shipments for inspectors.

Conservation International is working with a few select coun-

tries to pilot the system and expand it to some of the world's busiest ports.



## CONSERVATION IS IN FASHION

When it comes to conservation, the fashion industry is well-placed to make an impact.

The multibillion-dollar sector is change, restore biodiversity and completely dependent on goods protect oceans. that nature provides. With a business model built on change, Conservation International is it has an opportunity to be a the key technical partner for the trend-setter in conservation.

Fashion Pact's work on biodiversity. With initial support from Now, the industry is putting its the Global Environment Facility commitment to work. The Fash- (GEF), Conservation International ion Pact — a global, CEO-led co- will help develop and implement alition of 60+ signatories repre- effective science-based tools to senting over 200 brands and one enable the Fashion Pact signatothird of the global fashion indus- ries deliver on their commitments try by volume — has pledged to to protect key species and rework together to address climate store critical natural ecosystems.

The Fashion Pact represents

brands in the fashion and textile industry.

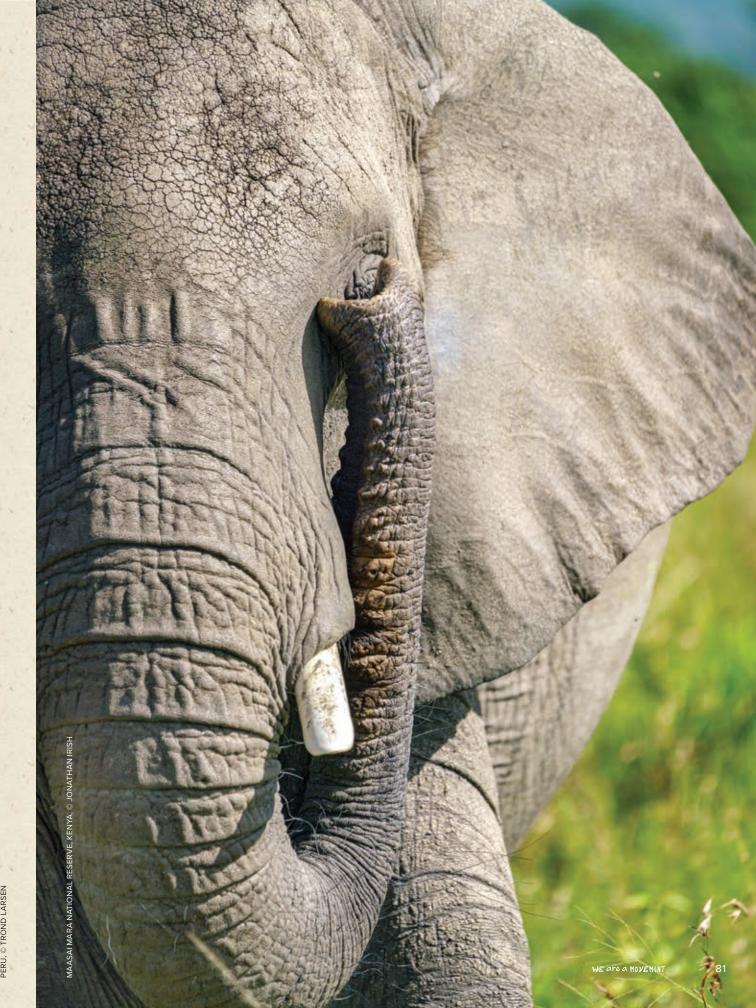
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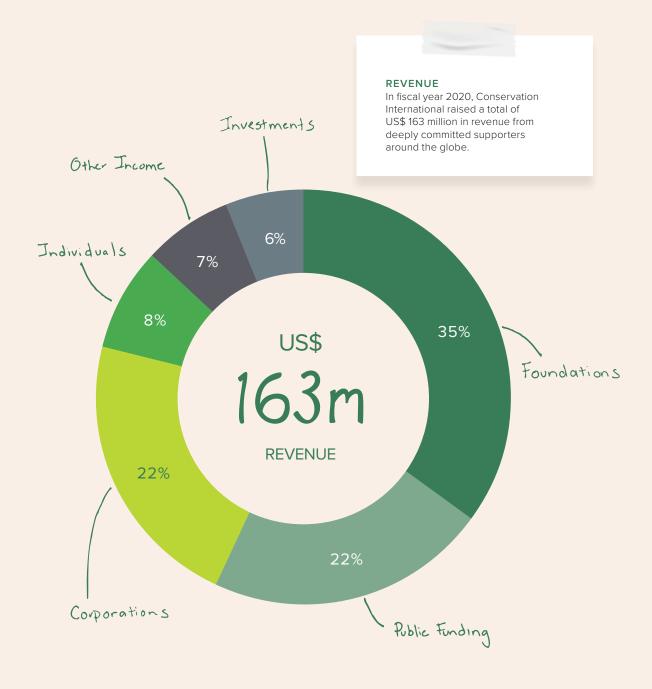
DOGOL, INDONESIA, © JESSICA SCRANTON

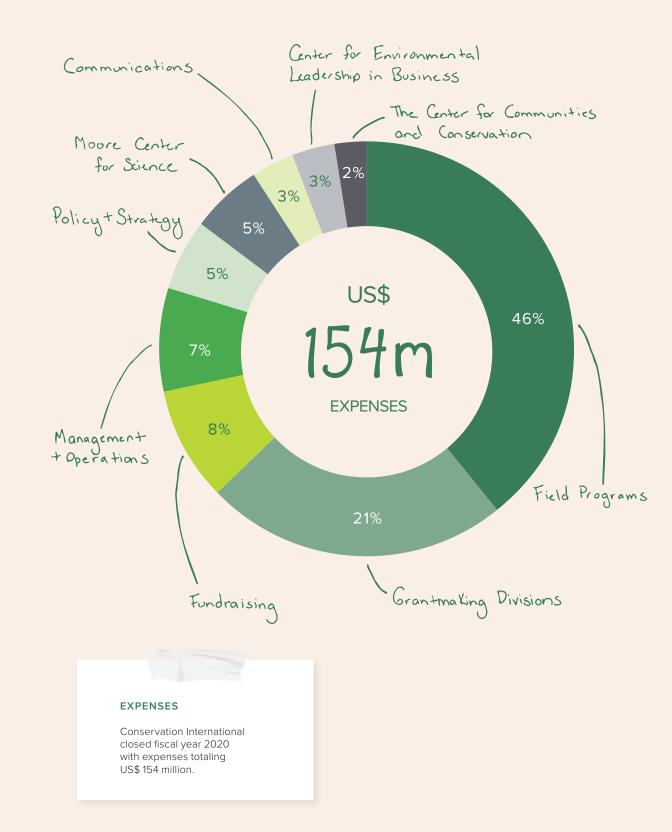




# Revenue + Expenses

Conservation International's supporters and partners know that we need nature. Their tremendous generosity is helping Conservation International protect the planet for the future.





# FY20 Financial Overview

The Board of Directors and staff of Conservation International wish to extend our profound thanks to our donors and partners who continued their support of our critical work during this very challenging year.

Thanks to this support, Conservation International achieved most of our ambitious goals for FY20 despite uncertainty caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. We closed the year with revenues exceeding FY19 levels by 8% and a robust level of expenditures despite significant constraints from the crisis. Throughout the past year, Conservation International's board, leadership and staff have taken every precaution for the safety of our people and the communities in which we work.

## REVENUE

Conservation International closed FY20 reporting total revenues of \$162.6 million, \$11.4 million over FY19 levels. We were extremely fortunate that our donors and supporters maintained and, in some cases, increased their giving. The pandemic necessitated the cancellation of two fundraising events that we rely upon to generate a significant portion of our general support. Fortunately, our Foundation, Corporate and Public funding donors provided vital support for critical programs.





### **EXPENSES**

Conservation International entered FY20 in strong financial position with significant funding already committed. More than ever, in this difficult economic environment, we must carefully manage every dollar we spend. Although COVID restrictions affected our ability to conduct field visits, convene workshops, and organize in-person training and policy events for much of the year, our teams adapted. In addition, Conservation International provided emergency relief to communities and Indigenous groups. This assistance included supplies as well

We are gratified that we were While our Field Programs and FY19 to 14.9% in FY20.

as training on methods to safely to support Ecuador's marine and developed \$400 million in new

nonetheless able to close the year Grantmaking divisions are respon- Given the economic uncertainty with a similarly robust level of pro-sible for the majority of Conserva-prevalent during the year, Congrammatic delivery as in FY19. Ex- tion International's programmatic servation International's leaderpenditures totaled \$153.5 million expenditures, all of our programs ship took aggressive steps to in FY20 compared with \$152.8 work in synergy to deliver results. manage costs while ensuring efmillion in FY19. Programmatic de- Examples of our FY20 achieve- fective management and operalivery increased by \$3.5 million ments include the launch of the tional support of our work around from \$127.2 million to \$130.7 mil- Blue Nature Alliance, a consortium the world. Much of these savings lion while supporting services de- led by Conservation International, are reflected in the \$2.7 million creased by \$2.7 million, reducing The Pew Charitable Trusts, The reduction in supporting services our overhead rate from 16.7% in Minderoo Foundation, the Rob & costs, notably savings related to Melani Walton Foundation, and travel and events. the Global Environment Facility, Conservation International's Field which have together raised \$150 NET ASSETS Programs Division, comprising 28 million to deliver ocean conserva- Total net assets increased by country programs in the Americas, tion at scale. Conservation Inter- almost \$7 million in FY20, from Africa and the Asia-Pacific regions, national also worked to develop \$315.3 million to \$322.1 million. accounted for almost half of total similar efforts to support forest. The modest increase is the reexpenditures in FY20. Through conservation driven by devastat- sult of securing multi-year contriour Grantmaking and other divi- ing fires that have plagued Am- butions in FY20 that will provide sions, Conservation International azonia, Indonesia and parts of support in current and future provided \$35.6 million in support Africa. Conservation International years. Thanks to the steadfast to 647 partners in FY20, with is pioneering innovative solutions support of our donors, Consergrants ranging from a few hundred to climate change by structuring vation International begins FY21 dollars to support a community long-term investment vehicles on sound financial footing and is project in Madagascar to a \$5 mil- that will support these efforts. In well-positioned to meet our ambilion grant to create an endowment FY20, Conservation International tious goals in the years to come.

financing mechanisms to support forest protection and restoration.

continue their conservation work. coastal protected areas.

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# FY20 Statement of Activities

	2020			2019
	WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS	WITH DONOR RESTRICTIONS	TOTAL	TOTAL
SUPPORT AND REVENUE				
Grants + Contributions				
Foundations	\$7,034	\$49,539	\$56,573	\$44,201
Public Funding	82	36,590	36,672	32,586
Corporations	2,310	33,999	36,309	10,907
Individuals	4,048	8,377	12,425	34,639
Other	60	1,256	1,316	2,793
Cancellations and de-obligations	_	(4,250)	(4,250)	_
Contract Revenue	9,991	_	9,991	9,067
Other Revenue	502	3,709	4,211	2,874
Investment Income, Net	162	9,190	9,352	14,160
Net Assets Released from Donor Restrictions	129,763	(129,763)	_	_
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE	153,952	8,647	162,599	151,227
EXPENSES				
Program Services:				
Field Programs	70,270	_	70,270	69,791
Grantmaking Divisions	31,985	_	31,985	29,456
Moore Center for Science	7,808	_	7,808	8,548
Policy and Strategy	7,689	_	7,689	6,185
Center for Environmental Leadership in Business	5,140	_	5,140	4,254
Communications	4,521	_	4,521	5,498
The Center for Communities and Conservation	3,303	_	3,303	3,489
<b>Total Program Services</b>	130,716	_	130,716	127,221
Supporting Services:				
Management + Operations	10,816	_	10,816	11,509
Fundraising	12,005	_	12,005	14,034
<b>Total Supporting Services</b>	22,821	_	22,821	25,543
TOTAL EXPENSES	153,537		153,537	152,764
Changes in Net Assets Before Other Income and Losses	415	8,647	9,062	(1,537)
Other Income and Losses				
Loss on Translation of Affiliate and Field Office Net Assets	_	(2,203)	(2,203)	(288)
Loss on Translation of Grants and Pledges Receivable	_	(2)	(2)	(42)
CHANGES IN NET ASSETS	415	6,442	6,857	(1,867)
Net Assets				
Beginning	17,724	297,545	315,269	317,136



# Regional + Programmatic Boards + Councils

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São Paulo, Brazil

Bogotá, Colombia

Gonzalo Córdoba

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Kevin Hardy Singapore

Leo Tan Wee Hin Singapore

Richard Jeo Singapore

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Kristofer Helgen Sydney, NSW, Australia

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Kim Lawrence Brisbane, QLD, Australia

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Marcelo Britto

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Lilian Esteves São Paulo, Brazil

Gilberto Gil Salvador, Bahia, Brazil

Luis Justo

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Carlos Klink Federal District, Brazil

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Helio Mattar São Paulo, Brazil

Carlos Nobre São Paulo, Brazil

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Maitê Proenca São Paulo, Brazil

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**UK BOARD\*** Nick Kukrika U.K.

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Mike Rands U.K.

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**Nick Southgate** U.K.

# Distinguished + Senior Fellows

ARNHOLD DISTINGUISHED **FELLOWS** 

Mark Carney United Kingdom

HE Ian Khama Botswana

Dr. Johan Rockström Germany

**HE Juan Manuel Santos** Colombia

**LUI-WALTON SENIOR FELLOWS** Hindou Oumarou Ibrahim Chad

Dr. Günther Bachmann

John Scanlon Switzerland

Germany

As of March 2021

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<sup>\*</sup> denotes fiduciary responsibilities





# MELANI AND ROB WALTON

The Conservation International Founders Award is presented on occasion to remarkable leaders whose long-term dedication to conservation and wisdom have had an outsized, positive influence on Conservation International's ability to change our world.

humanity.

people across the globe.

They helped to create the first servation movement. women's community patrol team replaceable tropical forests.

partnership, a 2 million square State University in 2012, seven what's possible when imaginakilometer marine protected area programs are now bringing re- tion, opportunity, compassion that spans the coasts of Colom- al-world solutions to more than and partnership flourish. bia, Costa Rica, Ecuador and 70 million people across five Panama has been established, continents. One of the seven Our entire team remains gratesetting the standard for marine programs within the Service ful for their astonishing legacy protected area management.

This year, it gives us great plea- Melani and Rob have been sim- in all 50 states. Another works in spirit, care and support has lenges — ensuring our transition sible to all. touched the lives of millions of from a founder-led organization and helping us to reimagine our With an approach that embodies role in leading a new global con- our "head in the sky, feet in the

in Indonesia's Fam Archipelago, Key to their philosophy is making with African Parks, helping transempowering Papuan women certain the conservation ideas of form a vacant lot in the middle of to combat illegal fishing activity today and tomorrow take root. Phoenix into the Rob and Melani and play a greater role in their Through their Lui-Walton Fel- Walton Urban Farm at St. Vincent community. Across the country in lowship, our organization has de Paul where 30,000 pounds Sumatra, they helped to pioneer worked with 37 emerging and of food are grown each year, a new development model that recognized leaders from around giving care to more than 9,000 unites local governments and pri- the world, including three for- animals annually at the Rob and vate sector partners to improve mer presidents, who bring their Melani Walton Campus of Liberty community livelihoods while pro- expertise and networks to bear Wildlife, or reaching out directly tecting millions of hectares of ir- on our planet's most pressing to our team and partners during problems. By creating the Rob a record 20-month tour visiting and Melani Walton Sustainabil- 22 countries where we work — In the Eastern Pacific, with their ity Solutions Service at Arizona Melani and Rob together show engages K-12 science teachers of accomplishment.

sure to honor Melani and Rob ilarly influential in shaping Con-directly with 191 science muse-Walton, both of whom have servation International's strate- ums in 32 countries. Meanwhile, devoted much of their lives to gic direction. Their engagement Melani and Rob's guidance in protecting nature in service to helped capitalize a unique developing the Theodore Roos-Spend Down Fund that provides evelt Presidential Library honors 15 years of support for capacity a great conservation president Melani and Rob's generosity to grow and meet emerging chal- and makes his life's work acces-

> mud" ethos — whether translocating 500 elephants in Malawi





"Melani and Rob care deeply about the fabric of our organization our people - as much as they do about the impact of our work. They are great travelers who have brought a sense of adventure, engagement and compassion to the many conservation projects they have visited around the world. They have seen our challenges firsthand and are unwavering in their support for solving the difficult problems inherent in lifting up communities and protecting nature. We look forward to a time when we con gather in person to celebrate their exceptional dedication to our organization and our planet."

> M. SANJAYAN CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER





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# Senior Staff Listing

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## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

This report, including typography, was developed internally by Conservation International's design and editorial teams, and with the support of the organization's subject-matter experts and leadership.

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