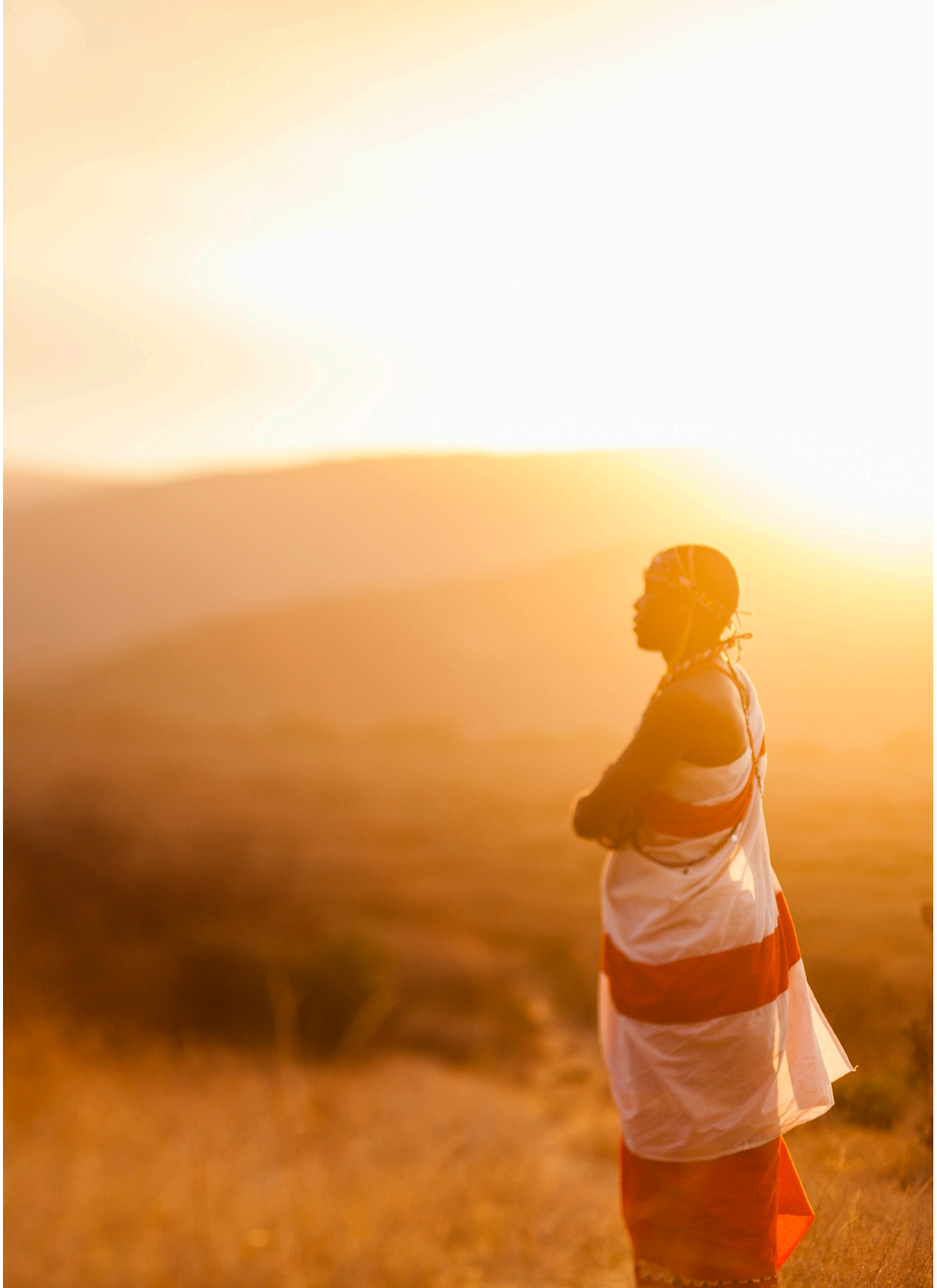


IMPACT REPORT 2018

CONSERVATION
INTERNATIONAL







You changed despair to hope. Challenges to opportunity.

In a year marked by stunning news — extreme weather events decimating life and landscapes, fewer years to meet more ambitious carbon reduction targets, water and food shortages and political uncertainties — your support has empowered Conservation International to accomplish our mission faster, more efficiently, and with greater impact. Thank you.

Hand-in-hand with community leaders, enlightened government officials and global business leaders, our scientists are showing the world what we've always known: nature is the most important factor in addressing climate change. From restoring forests at scales never before attempted, to elevating the importance of coastal mangroves to protect lives and wildlife, the world is beginning to embrace nature as the solution.

Measured in livelihoods improved, wildlife saved, carbon reduced and acres protected, your support of our work resulted in powerful, tangible impacts.

We hope you feel proud of the magnitude of these accomplishments because achieving this dramatic impact on our planet would not have been possible without you.

With gratitude, we share a few examples of how your generosity translates into tangible, science-based results for people and nature. For frequent updates and inspiration, follow Conservation International on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram.

 @ConservationOrg

 @ConservationOrg

 @Conservation International

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While you work to meet the challenge of climate change, **I beg of you, don't forget nature** because today, the destruction of nature accounts for more global emissions than all the cars and trucks in the world.

As long as Sumatra burns, as long as the Amazon's great forests are slashed and burned, as long as the protected lands of tribal people, indigenous people are allowed to be encroached upon, so long as wetlands and bog pits are destroyed, our climate goals will remain out of reach, and we will be out of time if we don't stop the destruction of our natural world.

Never forget who you're fighting for. It's the fisherman in Colombia, the fisherman in Somalia who wonders where their next catch is coming from and wonders why that government can't protect them from a factory fishing from across the world. It's the mother in the Philippines who's worried that the next big storm is going to rip her infant out of her arms. It's the people right here in California who are fleeing from unprecedented fires. People on the East Coast are facing the worst storms in recorded history. It's our own country, our own community, our own families.

This is the core truth: if we are to survive on this planet, the only home any of us will ever know, for our climate, for our security, for our future, we need nature now more than ever.

Harrison Ford

Actor and Activist
Vice Chair, Conservation International Board of Directors
2018 Global Action Climate Summit

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Combating Climate Change with Nature

WHAT IF NATURE REACHED ITS FULL POTENTIAL AS A CLIMATE SOLUTION?

Protecting and restoring our forests and other carbon-rich ecosystems is as important in the fight against climate change as transitioning to renewable energy, but forests are currently being underutilized as climate solutions. So we are doubling down on protecting and restoring tropical forests and mangroves to combat climate change.

In the Brazilian Amazon, Conservation International and its partners have launched the world's largest tropical forest restoration, with a goal of planting 73 million trees in an area equal to the size of 30,000 soccer fields by 2023. Our project has set in motion the restoration supply chain, from seed collection to nursery production to plant maintenance and monitoring, leading to increased incomes for local communities. It has started a movement bringing together indigenous people, farmers, urban communities and landowners, as well as the private and public sectors, to participate in all aspects of the restoration process.

But can we achieve a higher rate of return on our investment? Our goal in Brazil is to restore the highest valued ecosystems as efficiently as possible. One of the biggest challenges to restoration efforts worldwide is often the high costs — labor for hand-planting, transport to remote places, and more. Here, we're using agricultural machinery not typically used in restoration and innovative seed-spreading techniques that enable large areas to be planted with less time, effort and expense, proving to the world that a new model for cost-effective restoration exists.

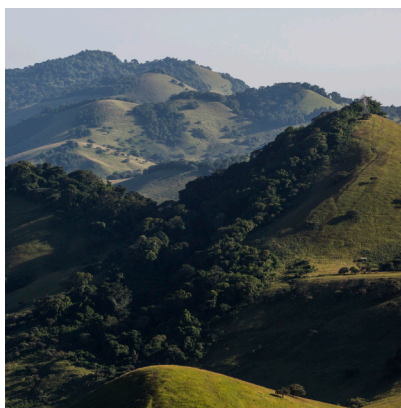


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Two Million Carbon Credits Benefit Maasai People

Led and managed by local communities, the Chyulu Hills REDD+ project is now verified to sell 2 million carbon credits, thanks to support from CI's technical assistance. The Maasai people and the area's endangered rhinos and elephants will directly benefit from the income as the project measurably addresses climate change.



Reducing Carbon Emissions

We supplied more than 350,000 tonnes of verified carbon dioxide emission reduction credits through REDD+ investments of nearly \$2.4 million from our corporate partners, including Disney, Tiffany & Co., and United Airlines.

Designed by the UN, REDD+ stands for Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation, plus the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests, and the enhancement of forest carbon stocks.

Global Climate Action Summit

Harrison Ford, our Board of Trustees Vice Chair, inspired thousands at California's Global Climate Action Summit with a fiery speech imploring the audience to protect nature for the good of our climate and ourselves. Along with Ford, Conservation International leaders Dr. M. Sanjayan, CEO; Johan Rockström, Chief Scientist; and Christiana Figueres, a Conservation International Distinguished Fellow in our Lui-Walton Innovators Fellowship, all took center stage at the international conference. **The summit was a pivotal moment in Conservation International's 30-year history, as we saw our call for natural solutions to combat climate change take the spotlight as never before.**

Investing in Forests

Conservation International launched a REDD+ project in Prey Lang, Cambodia that will provide benefits for the 250,000 people living within or adjacent to the area. Prey Lang, plagued by illegal logging, contains the most carbon-rich forest in Cambodia, making it critical for alleviating climate change while creating sustainable income for local communities.

Creating Sustainable Landscapes and Seascapes by Protecting Nature

WHAT IF NATURE AND PEOPLE COULD THRIVE IN THE SAME PLACE, FOREVER?

We are creating scalable models of sustainability built upon the protection of nature as a service for human prosperity.

Conservation International's Alto Mayo REDD+ project in the Peruvian Amazon is a primer on effective climate change conservation today. In ten years, the project has:

- **Generated over 6.2 million tons of carbon emissions reductions** — the equivalent of taking nearly 150,000 cars off the road each year;
- **Directly impacted the lives of more than 250,000 people** who get their water from the forest's streams;
- **Transformed farmers into well-trained agrarians focused on profits and protecting their environment** — because when farmers and local communities gain tangible benefits from conservation, protecting their environment becomes a viable choice.

The Alto Mayo once had some of Peru's highest deforestation rates. Coffee farmers using

unsustainable growing practices rapidly depleted the soil and cut down even more trees for new fertile growing grounds.

Conservation International countered this with incentive-based conservation agreements. To date, more than half of the families in the community have pledged not to cut down the Alto Mayo's trees in return for agricultural training with engineers and technicians making regular farm visits — no small feat in this remote, mountainous area. **The impact: these farmers have increased their yields and incomes while reducing deforestation by 75 percent.**

Success in the Alto Mayo shows the world that we no longer need to decide between protecting forests and economic growth.



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Bringing You to Africa with Virtual Reality

To make the experience of our work at the Reteti Elephant Sanctuary come alive, we produced the virtual reality film “My Africa.” With a compelling story and unique perspective, never-before-seen wildlife footage, and a voiceover by actress Lupita Nyong’o, the film premiered at the Tribeca Film Festival and has been viewed approximately 75,000 times in its first seven months. Most of our work in the Northern Kenya Landscape is extremely remote, and the new film enables viewers who may never visit Africa to experience its beauty and the impact of the elephant sanctuary.



Making Coffee Sustainable

We’re on track to achieve our 2030 goal of establishing coffee as the first sustainable commodity. **The Sustainable Coffee Challenge now includes 102 partners, representing an estimated 48 percent of global coffee production and 40 percent of US coffeehouses.** Our love of coffee can drive sustainable agriculture and farmer prosperity across all crops and engage hundreds of millions of people globally in sustainable living.



Expanding the Bird’s Head Seascape

We’ve helped expand Bird’s Head Seascape Marine Protected Area (MPA) networks in Indonesia to 4.3 million hectares — four times the size of Los Angeles — impacting more than 1 million people. Home to the world’s richest marine biodiversity, the MPAs employ local people to protect their waters, empowering communities to manage their resources sustainably. Since the initiative’s inception, fish populations have rebounded; sharks, whales and rays have returned; poaching by outside fishers is down 90 percent; coral is recovering; and ecotourism is flourishing.



New Yaguas National Park in Peru

With numerous local and international partners, Conservation International helped create a new national park in Peru's Amazon, the Yaguas National Park, amid a rise in illegal mining there. It protects nearly 1 million hectares of Amazon forest, an area about the size of Yellowstone National Park, as well as the indigenous people who rely on it. Yaguas borders existing conservation areas in Peru, Colombia and Brazil. **Together, these places will comprise one of the largest blocks of remaining pristine tropical forest in Amazonia.**

Taking Conservation International South Africa's Successful Model to Botswana

Conservation International South Africa has helped put more than 340,000 hectares of communal rangelands under conservation stewardship agreements. Now, in partnership with the Peace Parks Foundation, **we are expanding this innovative program to Botswana with a goal to restore 1 million hectares of rangeland and reduce wildlife-livestock conflict.**



Ocean Conservation on Grand Scale

WHAT IF WE COULD PROTECT THE OCEAN AT A SCALE UNLIKE ANY WE'VE SEEN BEFORE?

We're creating collaborative efforts to increase protection for our oceans, a realm minimally protected and yet crucial to all life on Earth.

Coastal wetlands — mangroves, tidal marshes and seagrasses — are powerful “blue carbon” storehouses that sequester up to 10 times more carbon per hectare than terrestrial forests. Protecting and restoring these natural carbon repositories are cost-effective, no-regrets solutions that confront climate change head-on, absorbing carbon while providing communities with thriving fisheries and needed protection against rising tides and increasing storms.

Conservation International and partners created certified methodologies for the conservation and restoration of coastal wetlands through the Verified Carbon Standard (VCS). This new accreditation is an essential step to establish the viability of a project site and signal its value to investors. **Conservation International's Blue Carbon project in Cispatá, Colombia is on track to be the first project globally to be accredited under the new methodology.**



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Learning Exchange

Iceland's former President and Conservation International Distinguished Fellow Ólafur Grímsson hosted a learning exchange among Iceland, the Cook Islands, Kiribati, Solomon Islands and others. Thirty years ago, Iceland faced the same challenge the Pacific Islands face today: developing sustainable fisheries. **The leaders who attended are now collaborating to pilot many of the modernized policies and practices they witnessed.**

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CREATIVE COMMONS

The Philippines Expands Marine Protection

Conservation International has helped expand the Philippines' Verde Island Passage Marine Protected Area Network to 1.4 million hectares, adding an area larger than the state of Vermont. The network ensures food security, local incomes, and protection against the effects of a changing climate. It's a win for this global epicenter of shore fish biodiversity as well as for the two million people who depend on it for food and livelihoods.

New Marine Protected Areas in Brazil

With Conservation International's guidance, Brazil created four new Marine Protected Areas, including two areas larger than France and the UK combined. **Brazil has now increased the area of its protected waters to nearly 25 percent,** surpassing the United Nations goal of protecting 10 percent of a country's marine and coastal area by 2020.

Colombia Triples Sanctuary

Conservation International Colombia assisted national leaders in tripling the size of the Malpelo Flora and Fauna Sanctuary, **bringing 13 percent of the country's marine territory under formal protection.** A UNESCO World Heritage Site, the region is home to the largest populations of several species of sharks and tuna, and provides a haven for endangered whales and turtles.

Innovating in Science and Finance to Accelerate Results for Conservation

WHAT IF WE COULD SPUR INNOVATIONS IN SCIENCE AND FINANCE THAT ACCELERATE CONSERVATION EVERYWHERE?

We are using innovations in science and conservation finance to deepen our understanding of humanity's relationship with nature and to generate long-term financial security for conservation.

Science

Bringing Big Data and Artificial Intelligence (AI) Technology to Wildlife Monitoring

Conservation International's Wildlife Insights brings cutting-edge AI technology and "big data" to wildlife conservation, creating one central clearinghouse and data center for the millions and millions of camera trap wildlife images scattered across computers and hard drives around the world. While camera traps have long been essential tools in wildlife conservation, the data has limited use if it isn't widely accessible.

Now anyone from citizen scientists to academicians to park rangers can upload their images to Wildlife Insights, where the picture is analyzed, made searchable and shared in real time to provide advanced analytics and indicators of wildlife health. It's helping us all to manage our conservation successes better. Seeing the potential, Google has joined the partnership and committed to support it with cloud services.



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Finance

Unlocking New Sources of Capital

We launched Conservation International Ventures, a first-of-its-kind impact investment fund that supports small- and medium-sized sustainable enterprises in the forests, oceans and grasslands where Conservation International works. Conservation International Ventures has been capitalized with an initial \$14 million, with an investment focus in Kenya, South Africa, Colombia and Peru.

Although their value to conservation and people's livelihoods is clear, targeted enterprises are typically too small to access commercial loans and too big to secure microfinance, effectively limiting their growth and financial sustainability. Conservation International Ventures — structured as an LLC — takes philanthropic capital and deploys it in the form of low-interest loans, guarantees, or equity-like investments to startup and growth-stage enterprises, eventually recycling the initial capital many times over as the loans are repaid. The businesses can use this assistance to upgrade their infrastructure, improve their operational capacity, obtain certifications or take other necessary steps to enhance their business's value and unlock larger pools of capital.

Powerful New Tool: Trends.Earth

If we are to feed Earth's surging population, knowing the health of our lands is critical. Together with NASA and Lund University in Sweden, Conservation International launched Trends.Earth, an online platform that uses satellite imagery and global data to identify degraded areas and helps decision-makers improve them. Trends.Earth is a key tool to assist governments as they strive to meet ambitious restoration targets. In Kenya, for example, **Conservation International is aiding the government with data and science to identify critical areas to restore, including more than 5.1 million hectares of land — an area twice the size of the state of Maryland — by 2030.** After piloting Trends.Earth in four African countries, Conservation International has now trained users from over 142 countries on the breakthrough tool, which is freely available anywhere in the world.



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Arizona State University Partnership

To train the next generation of conservation scientists, Conservation International has partnered with Arizona State University. **Six of our scientists co-taught the first “Conservation in Practice” course to 38 undergrad and graduate students and will offer the course again in spring 2019.** In addition, students worked on Trends.Earth, creating a visual interface that makes it more accessible for cabinet secretaries, companies and regional lawmakers to make smart decisions about land health.



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Vital Trust Funds Launched

Innovative financing mechanisms are core to Conservation International's approach. When we pioneered debt-for-nature swaps 30 years ago, we knew they would achieve massive impact. Our innovation continues today: **in the last year, we've launched first-of-their-kind trust funds in Cambodia, Liberia and Colombia.** These multimillion-dollar funds are critical to ensure lasting conservation results for hundreds of thousands of people — often those who depend most directly on nature to supply their food and livelihoods.

WHAT'S NEXT?



Conservation Multiplier Fund

We want our investments to go farther, don't you? With Conservation International's upcoming Multiplier Fund, we will enable supporters to multiply their investment by an average of seven times in global public conservation dollars. With seed money from Conservation International's committed donors, we've designed the fund to enable Conservation International to tap into more than \$85 billion in publicly available funding. Gifts of any size are welcome.



Green Guyana

Guyana is one of the greenest countries on Earth, with carbon-sequestering forests covering nearly 85 percent of its land. We want to help keep it that way. Recently, huge offshore oil reserves were discovered, presenting an unprecedented financial opportunity for the country. Decision makers will have to weigh the short- and long-term benefits of harnessing these oil reserves, and Conservation International, with our long history in Guyana, is well-positioned to ensure that nature has a voice.



Ensuring Freshwater

Working with NASA, we are expanding the Freshwater Health Index (FHI), a tool to gauge the condition of some of the most important freshwater ecosystems on the planet. By applying NASA's remote-sensing data, key water users and managers can model the impact of future scenarios — such as building more dams or converting forests. The FHI is already in use in Asia and Latin America. In the coming year, we will expand into Africa and also launch a web-based platform, allowing FHI users to access tools and conduct assessments from anywhere in the world.



Measuring our Impact

Conservation International is launching a new process to standardize and measure the impact of our work, measuring it in Hectares, Tonnes of Carbon Dioxide, Beneficiaries and Species. While the benefits are often far more extensive, we believe these four quantitative measures will provide a topline view of conservation achievement on a global scale.



Ocean Protection in the Deep End

In the coming year, we will announce our goal to achieve the world's most ambitious targets for marine protection. As a source of climate stability, food, commerce, livelihoods and more, the ocean must be treasured and protected.



Catalyzing Innovation

The speed and flexibility with which we act on opportunities — and threats — governs our ability to accomplish our mission. Knowing this, we created the Seligmann Innovation Fund to honor Conservation International's founder and indomitable innovator, Peter Seligmann. The fund invests in science, policy and brand — areas critical to guiding, influencing and affecting change. The fund aided several accomplishments in 2018 and, with your support, seed investments will continue to propel boundless innovation.



Thank You

As a result of your generous support, we are showing the world that nature is at the heart of the solution to our greatest challenges. From feeding our families to protecting our homes from storms, fires and floods, nature is and has always been our strongest ally. Protecting, restoring and valuing nature for all it provides is at the core of our work. With your belief in Conservation International, we are intent on delivering the most meaningful and lasting results for humanity. We can do it, together.

Your generosity and commitment made each and every one of our achievements possible. We offer our profound gratitude for the vital role you play in our community.



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