

Finding Nature's Voice

2015 ANNUAL REPORT





NATURE IS SPEAKING

ARE YOU LISTENING?



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A WARNING FROM MOTHER NATURE

“When I thrive, you thrive. When
I falter, you falter — or worse.”

**My planet is changing. My ice caps
are melting. My rivers are drying up.
My islands are disappearing. And my
storms are making conditions for life
more difficult.**

I can adapt to this, of course. Evolving is what I do
best — but I fear for your future.

Humans are the greatest disruptors to life on Earth.
Your ambition has driven you to build vast cities,
to invent ways to get more from less. I have been
here for you, but now you are outpacing me. I can
no longer replenish what you take. There is more
you need to do.

I am the source of the food you eat, the water you
drink, the weather that shapes your daily realities.
If you will not protect me, I cannot protect you.

I need you to listen — before it is too late.
You need me.



Nature spoke CI listened

Peter Seligmann
Chairman and CEO

Dear friends,

Mother Nature is speaking to us. Now more than ever, we must listen. We rely on nature to fulfill our needs for food, water and a stable climate. Society has failed to account for the value of her forests, grasslands and wetlands, her oceans, coral reefs and rivers.

But listening to Mother Nature is not enough. We must act.

At Conservation International, humanity's need for nature frames everything we do. Our scientists, policy experts and conservation managers work in more than 30 countries to help communities, businesses and governments thrive by sustaining nature instead of depleting it.

In 2015, we ensured that nature had a seat at the table at the UN climate talks in Paris. Sixteen members of CI staff were trusted advisors to 11 country delegations, and we tirelessly advocated for nature's role in climate solutions — especially forests. We are encouraged that the final climate agreement includes protection of forests to mitigate climate change.

We also strengthened our relationships with global businesses that can alter the course of entire sectors by developing sustainable sourcing models. In 2015, our 15-year relationship with Starbucks resulted in a remarkable milestone: 99 percent of its entire supply of coffee beans is now ethically sourced according to rigorous standards we developed together. Working with Starbucks

and the entire coffee industry, we are pushing to make coffee the world's first sustainable agricultural product.

In our field programs, we had great successes. We partnered with communities and government leaders to pioneer local conservation programs, which we replicated around the world. In Indonesia, we are protecting the epicenter of global marine biodiversity, the Bird's Head Seascape, and launching a fund to sustain it forever. In Suriname, we partnered with indigenous communities to protect one of the largest swathes of near-pristine rainforest in the world. In South Africa, we created a model to protect wildlife while supporting local farmers — and are taking this approach elsewhere.

For Conservation International, 2015 was a year of tremendous momentum and outstanding achievements. We have never been stronger.

Our people, staff, board, donors and partners are the keys to our success — and together, we are listening to and taking action to protect Mother Nature for the future of us all. Thanks to you, better days are ahead.

Regards,
Peter

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter Seligmann".

About 'Nature Is Speaking'

If nature could speak, what would it tell us? This question was the inspiration for Conservation International's "Nature Is Speaking" series of short films, each told by a part of nature. The films are voiced by acclaimed actors, including CI's Vice Chair, Harrison Ford, as "The Ocean."

Launched in October 2014, "Nature Is Speaking" has generated over Two billion impressions and 48 million video views.

The United Nations invited Conservation International to screen the films at the Paris climate talks in December 2015 to ensure that nature's voice was heard and could help influence the outcomes of the historic climate agreement. People are joining us in listening to nature — and taking action.

"Nature Is Speaking" films have been quoted by heads of state and tweeted by Oprah Winfrey. Most important, the campaign has inspired tens of millions of people around the world with the message that nature doesn't need people — people need nature.

Find out more at NatureIsSpeaking.org





The Ocean, voiced by Harrison Ford, was awarded a coveted Cannes Gold Lion in 2015

© IRINA BELOUSA



Films have been produced in 13 languages



The UN invited CI to screen "Nature Is Speaking" at the Paris climate talks

© YANN CARADEC/FLOKOR CC



SPARKING CONVERSATIONS



2 billion impressions raise the profile of nature

© BEN DUCHAC



OPRAH WINFREY

@ConservationOrg

So powerful what you're saying.

#NatureIsSpeaking will we listen?

© KRISTIN CALLAHAN/EVERETT COLLECTION/ALAMY STOCK PHOTO



#NATUREISSPEAKING

raised \$1 million for Earth Insights
(Feature on page 28)

© CRISTINA MITTERMEIER



Nature's voice is heard in more than 40 countries

© JEFF YONOVER

Where We Work

CI works in priority areas around the world where we have the opportunity to make substantial contributions to human well-being through our field work, our partnerships and our investments.

The following pages show three examples of Conservation International's work in 2015 through the lens of oceans, soil and rainforests. These features illustrate how we define the challenges that nature faces — and how we achieve solutions.

MAP KEY

-  CI Offices
-  Global HQ
-  Priority Regions

Seattle

Europe

★ United States

Mexico

Sub-Saharan Africa

Costa Rica

Colombia

Guyana

Panama

Suriname

Liberia

Ecuador

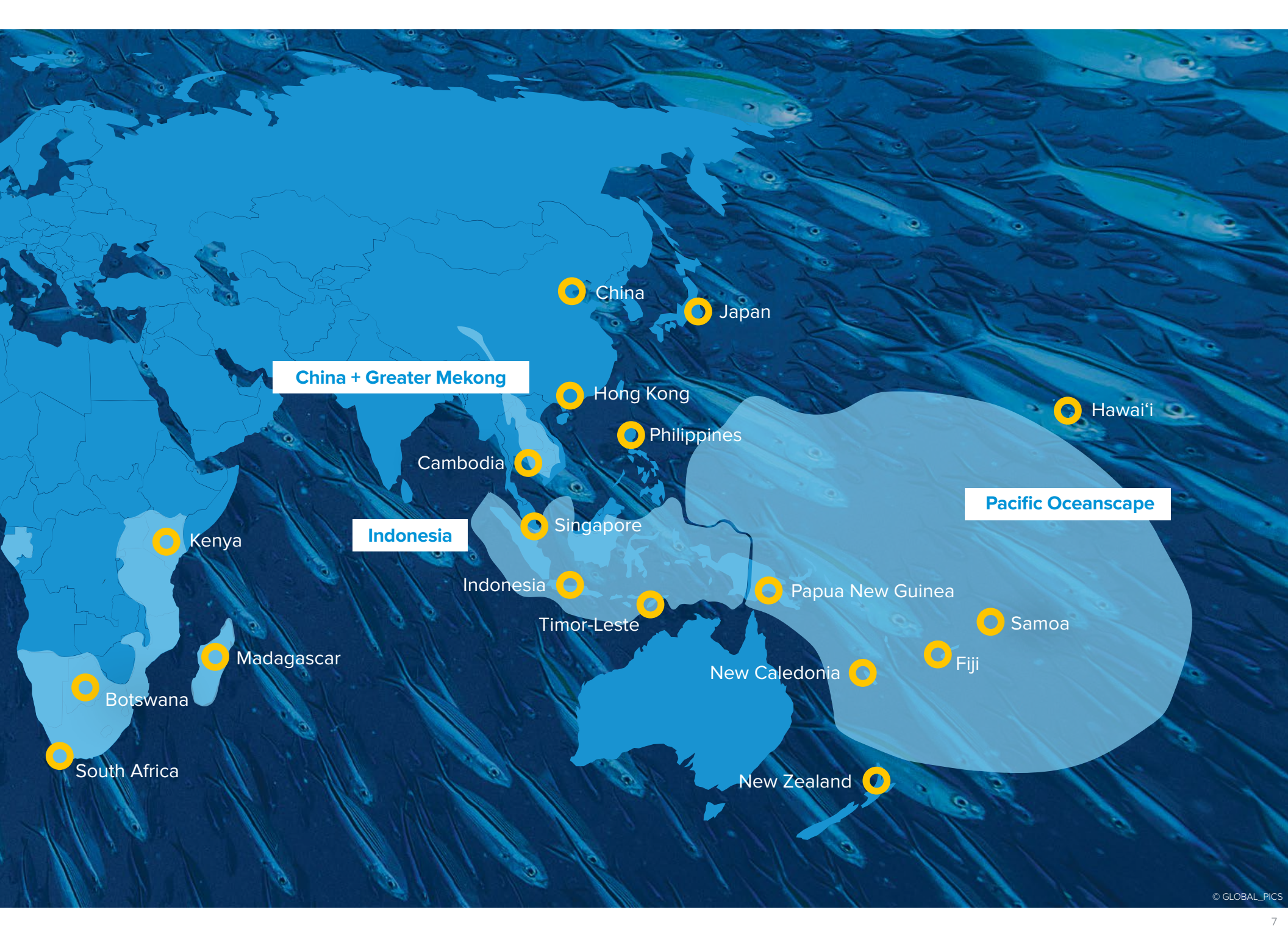
Amazonia

Eastern Tropical
Pacific Seascape

Peru

Bolivia

Brazil



China + Greater Mekong

Pacific Oceanscape

Indonesia



China



Japan



Hong Kong



Philippines



Cambodia



Singapore



Kenya



Indonesia



Timor-Leste



Papua New Guinea



Samoa



Fiji



New Caledonia



New Zealand



Madagascar



Botswana



South Africa

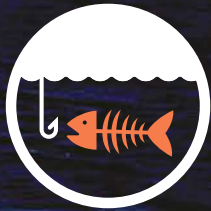
THE OCEAN

“One way or another, every
living thing here needs me.”



watch the film at
NatureIsSpeaking.org

How can we protect the oceans while demanding so much from them, in the face of climate change and dwindling fisheries?



90% of the world's wild-catch fisheries are fully fished or overfished



1 billion (1 in 7) people rely on seafood as their main source of animal protein



Less than 3% of the oceans are protected

GUARDIANS OF THE SEA

Protecting the Epicenter of Marine Biodiversity: The Bird's Head Seascape

One in seven people depend on fish for their basic protein, and 350 million jobs worldwide depend on the marine sector. In Indonesia — the second-biggest seafood producer in the world — Conservation International is helping to ensure that the ocean provides the resources we need now and in the future.

Home to more marine species than any other region, the Bird's Head Seascape in West Papua, Indonesia, represents the global epicenter of oceanic biodiversity. It's a paradise that was almost lost.

In the early 1990s, local fishermen were ill-prepared to compete with an influx of poachers lured by Papua's seemingly endless resources. Using fish bombs, cyanide and long-lines, poachers ignored the traditional ownership rights of indigenous communities — and fish populations plummeted. To compete, many Papuans had little choice but to employ the same destructive practices.

Over the past decade, CI has worked with thousands of local people — almost all of them indigenous Papuans — to help transform the seascape from a playground for poachers to one of the Earth's healthiest and most productive marine environments.

By showing local indigenous leaders like Kristian Thebu how conservation efforts reinforce traditional ownership rights, communities were motivated to establish the largest marine protected-area network and no-fishing zones in all of Southeast Asia. To guard against poachers, local teams began to patrol the protected areas. Poaching by outsiders has been reduced by more than 90 percent, enabling corals, fish and the local economy to all rebound.

Now, under CI's leadership, the region is poised to become Indonesia's first sustainably financed network of marine protected areas, serving as a model to inspire and inform others. "Through the generations, we passed down a traditional resource management system called 'sasi' that ensured each generation was always left with enough," Thebu said. Now that is possible again.



WHAT'S NEXT

The future of Bird's Head Seascape looks bright thanks to Conservation International's involvement in two key developments in 2015. The first was the local government's declaration of West Papua as a "conservation province," a legal framework to ensure that economic development in the province doesn't damage the environment. CI is providing technical support as the regulations are written.

Also in 2015, CI launched the Blue Abadi Fund — "abadi" means "forever" in Indonesian — to fund the long-term protection of the seascape. Early financial support from the Government of Indonesia and CI has set a promising course, but more funding will be needed to protect this singular reservoir of tropical marine species in perpetuity.

**"Only through conservation
can we save our natural
resources and provide a living
for the community itself."**

Kristian Thebu (Right)
indigenous leader



© JEFF YONOVER



© CIPHOOTO BY J. ROTINSULU





Spotlight on Science

OCEAN HEALTH INDEX

Conservation International is a founding partner of the Ocean Health Index, the first assessment tool that scientifically measures key elements from all dimensions of the ocean's health — biological, physical, economic and social — to assess how sustainably people are using the ocean. More than 65 scientists and partners worked together to develop the Index, which provides an annual assessment of ocean health using information from over 120 scientific databases. We work to update scientific methodology with the latest techniques, produce annual updates and work with governments and universities to apply the Index on a regional or local scale.

Indonesia
OHI Score

67

out of 100

Find your country's score at
oceanhealthindex.org

THE SOIL

“I am alive, full of organisms.
I grow your food.”



watch the film at
NatureIsSpeaking.org

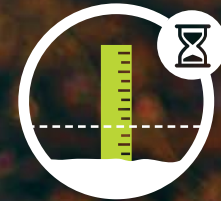
How can we feed an ever-growing population in a way that does not destroy the very soil on which our lives depend?



Healthy soil is essential to maintaining biodiversity that we rely on: 1 in 4 species live underground



1/3 of the world's soil is degraded due to overgrazing, deforestation and other threats such as chemical-intensive farming



It takes more than 500 years to replace just 1 inch of topsoil that has been lost to erosion



FEEDING THE WORLD



© CHARLIE SHOEMAKER

Ecorangers Save Soil and Sustain Livelihoods in the Process

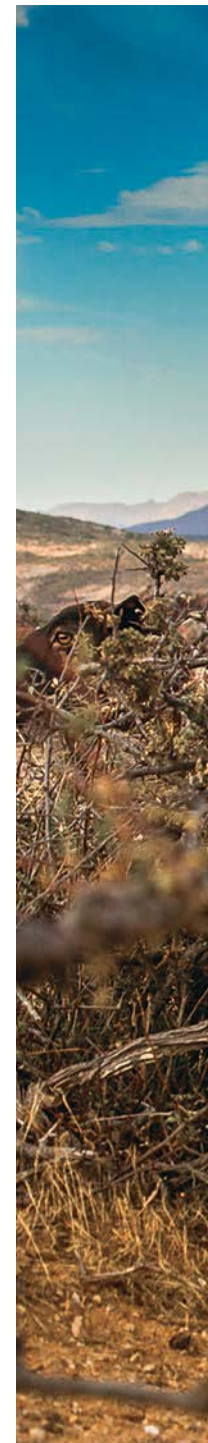
As the global population tops nine billion in the coming decades, current food supplies will have to double. On a planet where 30 percent of cultivable land has become unproductive, restoring healthy soils is fundamental to preventing a food security crisis.

In Africa, where conditions are most dire, how and where people grow food will determine the fate of the continent's people, biodiversity and unique wildlife.

Life has always been precarious for farmers in South Africa's dry regions, with water scarcity, weather extremes, loss of livestock to predators and limited market access. But poor rangeland conditions, aggravated by overgrazing, have caused the area's biodiversity and water supply to suffer. With less to eat, stressed livestock are more

vulnerable to predation: Farmers have suffered livestock losses of up to 50 percent from predators at a cost of US\$ 125 million per year.

Gerbrand Nel, a technical manager with Conservation South Africa (CSA), Conservation International's affiliate in South Africa, knows the challenge personally. "It was my dream to return home to raise a family on the farm where my parents, brother and sister still live," he recalls. But he was shocked to find his family's farmlands depleted and overrun by invasive species.



Feature Story: The Soil

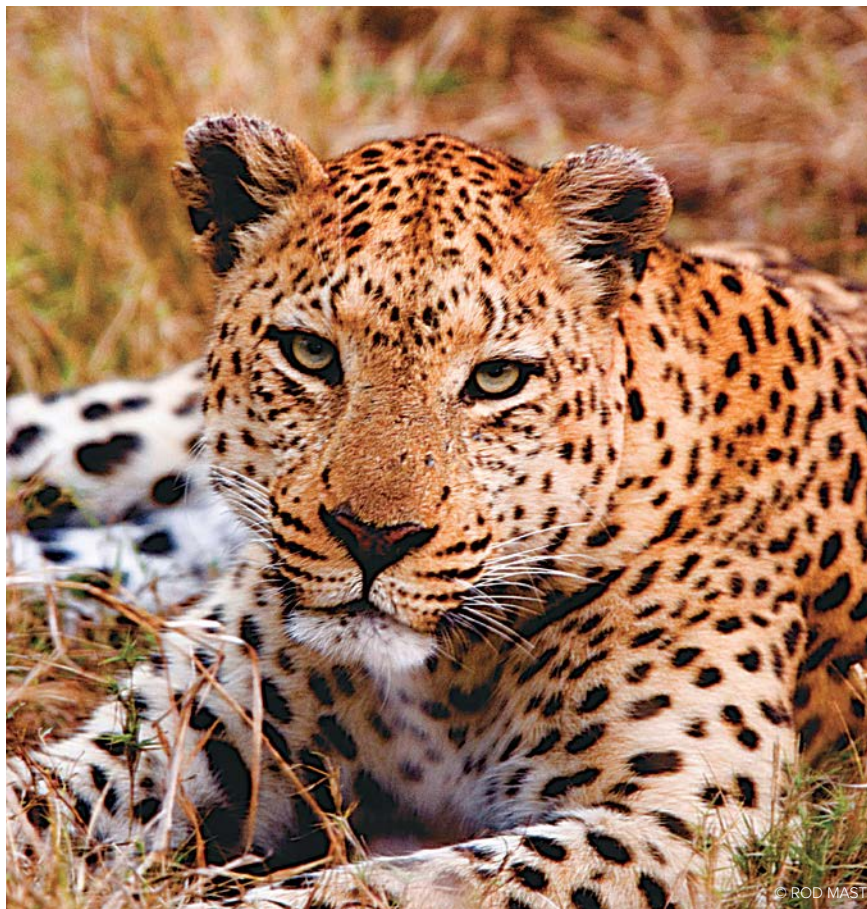
In the Eastern Cape, CSA trains ecorangers to use a combination of traditional herding techniques and new technologies to prevent overgrazing — protecting biodiversity and water supplies — and a monitoring program to minimize loss from predation. The program also helps offset the costs of tagging and vaccines, which benefits livestock — and the people who rely on them.

WHAT'S NEXT

The ecoranger program is so successful that the Government of South Africa has asked CSA to lead a national rollout of an accredited training curriculum for ecorangers within three years. CI also plans to expand the program to other arid areas in Botswana, Kenya and additional countries.

“It’s critical that we farm smarter than we have been, protecting the land while we still can.”

Gerbrand Nel (Right)
Technical Manager
Conservation South Africa





© BENJAMIN DRUMMOND

Spotlight on Science

VITAL SIGNS

Established in Africa with a grant to CI from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Vital Signs is creating a “gold standard” environmental monitoring system, which provides near real-time data and diagnostic tools to leaders around the world to help inform agricultural decisions and monitor outcomes. CI is leading the program in partnership with the Earth Institute at Columbia University and the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research in South Africa. The system is operating in five African countries — Ghana, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda — with plans to roll out to more than 10 countries in Africa by 2020.



Soil health

Soil health is one of the 12 indices used by Vital Signs. Find out how Conservation International is providing insights for soil and people at vitalsigns.org

THE RAINFOREST

“Humans making air.
That’ll be fun to watch.”



watch the film at
NatureIsSpeaking.org

How can we continue to use our forests while knowing they sustain life and protect us from climate change?



About 1/2 of Earth's species
(including humans) rely on forests



Tropical forests cover less
than 5% of the Earth's surface



13 million hectares of forest are
destroyed annually — an area equal
to the size of Portugal

PROTECTORS OF THE FOREST



Launching a Conservation Corridor in Suriname's Tropical Forest

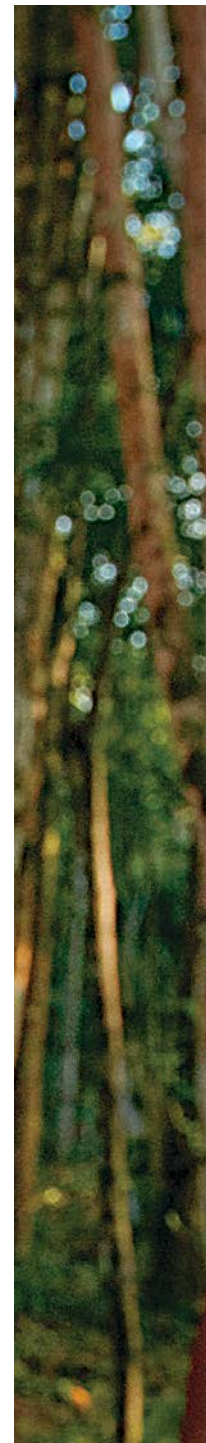
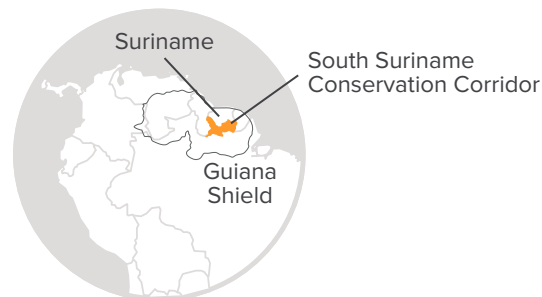
Tropical forests make up less than five percent of the Earth's surface, but they support almost half its species. They are essential to humans, too: More than one billion people depend on tropical forests for their livelihoods, and indigenous people are the custodians of much of them. By storing carbon, these forests play a critical role in the planet's resilience to climate change — research shows that protecting forests can provide 30 percent of global carbon emissions and sequestration goals. Deforestation and climate change, however, threaten these critical places.

Conservation International marked a major achievement in March 2015 for the protection of one of the Earth's last great tropical forests. With support from CI, Suriname's indigenous people declared the South Suriname Conservation Corridor, safeguarding a 72,000-square-kilometer (7,800-square-mile) tract of continuous tropical forest. CI is now working with the government on legal recognition of the corridor.

The benefits of this forest are felt far and wide: The area stores roughly 11 gigatons of carbon — about a year's worth of global carbon emissions — and absorbs more than eight million tons of carbon annually.

The corridor also comprises almost all of Suriname's watersheds, which provide 60 percent of the country's water supply. The forests also provide medicines, food and construction material for Suriname's indigenous people.

Granman Ashongo Alalaparu of the Trio Tribe shares his advice: "Protect your area; protect your water; protect your land."



Feature Story: The Rainforest

The new corridor, managed by the indigenous groups that live within it, provides economic benefits to Suriname — and to the indigenous people themselves, who are taking on jobs as rangers and park guards. It also has potential to generate income for the country as forest carbon markets develop. The Paris Agreement made it clear: Tropical forests represent at least 30 percent of the solution to keep the planet from radically overheating.

WHAT'S NEXT?

Conservation International is convening a coalition of governments and other partners in an effort to protect a further 30 million hectares (74 million acres) of forest across the northern Amazon and the Guiana Shield. When fully realized, the initiative will provide tremendous local and global benefits for nature and for people.

“We live in the forest, we live from the forest and we live with the forest.”

Ashongo Alalaparu (Right)
tribal leader



COURTESY OF INPA AND TEAM NETWORK



© CI/PHOTO BY RUSSELL A. MITTERMEIER





© BENJAMIN DRUMMOND

Spotlight on Science

TEAM

The Tropical Ecology Assessment and Monitoring (TEAM) Network is an innovative partnership between Conservation International, the Wildlife Conservation Society and the Smithsonian Institution with the goal of better understanding how tropical forests are responding to a changing climate and disturbed landscapes. TEAM monitors more than 100 vegetation plots and almost 300 species of mammals and birds across 17 protected areas in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Data collected from TEAM sites are analyzed and made publicly available in near real time to provide data-driven insights for protected-area managers.



Camera Trap Network

TEAM monitors wildlife, climate and vegetation with the world's largest camera trap network. With more than 1,000 camera traps, TEAM has collected 2.6 million images globally.

See TEAM's camera trap images at teamnetwork.org

PARTNERING FOR INFLUENCE

An aerial photograph of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, showing the bay, the city skyline, and the lush green hills of the favelas. The text "PARTNERING FOR INFLUENCE" is overlaid in large white letters.

Expanding Our Reach

Conservation cannot succeed unless everyone is in it together — that's why partnerships with businesses and communities are such a crucial part of what we do. Conservation International collaborates with businesses to demonstrate that protecting the planet is good for the bottom line.

We empower people closest to the forests, grasslands and coastlines that benefit us all, directing an average of 30 percent of our funds to communities.

Engaging with businesses and communities has enabled CI to have a far greater impact than we would on our own, and 2015 saw our partnerships achieve concrete results around the world. The stories on the following pages highlight just a few of our biggest successes of the past year. Our partnerships are built into what we do.



BUSINESSES

On the business side, CI's Center for Environmental Leadership in Business helps companies minimize their environmental impacts. As more companies embrace sustainability, CI continues to help them meet growing global demands for food, water and energy in ways that are good for people and for the planet. Member companies of CI's Business and Sustainability Council — established in 2003 as a forum for corporate leaders taking positive environmental actions in their businesses — have an employee base of 5.6 million people.



**5.6M people are employed
by Business & Sustainability
Council member companies**



COMMUNITIES

On the community side, the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) — a joint initiative of Conservation International and six other partners — extends our reach to civil society around the world. Since 2000, CEPF has awarded more than US\$ 192 million in grants to more than 2,000 organizations and individuals in 92 countries and territories, securing US\$ 347 million in additional funds from other donors.



**CEPF awards grants to 92
countries and territories**



CI AND HP LISTEN TO TROPICAL FORESTS

Conservation International and HP are using science, technology and innovation to address one of the world's most complex environmental challenges. Together, in 2013 we launched HP Earth Insights, a partnership that leverages HP technology to improve data collected through the Tropical Ecology Assessment and Monitoring Network, a program that captures real-time data from tropical forests around the world. HP Earth Insights serves as an early-warning system for conservation efforts by quickly analyzing that data to understand species trends — such as whether a population is declining — across 17 research sites and more than 275 species. The Wildlife Picture Index Analytics System, built by HP, is a comprehensive dashboard and analytics tool.

The insights it provides enable scientists, government officials and the public to see changes in ecology and biodiversity unfold in real time.

Building on the effort to better understand what is happening inside tropical forests, HP also supported CI's "Nature Is Speaking" campaign as the exclusive partner of the #NatureIsSpeaking hashtag, and committed US\$ 1 million to conservation to encourage engagement with #NatureIsSpeaking on social media platforms.





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© JEFF WILSON/DISNEY



DISNEY NEEDS NATURE

For more than two decades, Conservation International and Disney have worked together to protect nature, save threatened species and improve human well-being. The collaboration reflects Disney's commitment to reducing its carbon emissions and slowing deforestation for the benefit of wildlife, communities and future generations.

To date, Disney has made the largest corporate investment in CI's forest carbon efforts, including seed funding to help launch a forest carbon offset project in Peru's Alto Mayo Protected Forest.

In 2015, CI teamed up on the release of Disney's feature film "Monkey Kingdom," which supported CI's efforts to protect monkeys and endangered species across Sri Lanka, Cambodia and Indonesia. In addition, the film helped CI to achieve more than one billion shares on social media. This effort will continue to protect monkeys and other endangered species, and also help to restore forest areas that help provide fresh water to tens of millions of people.



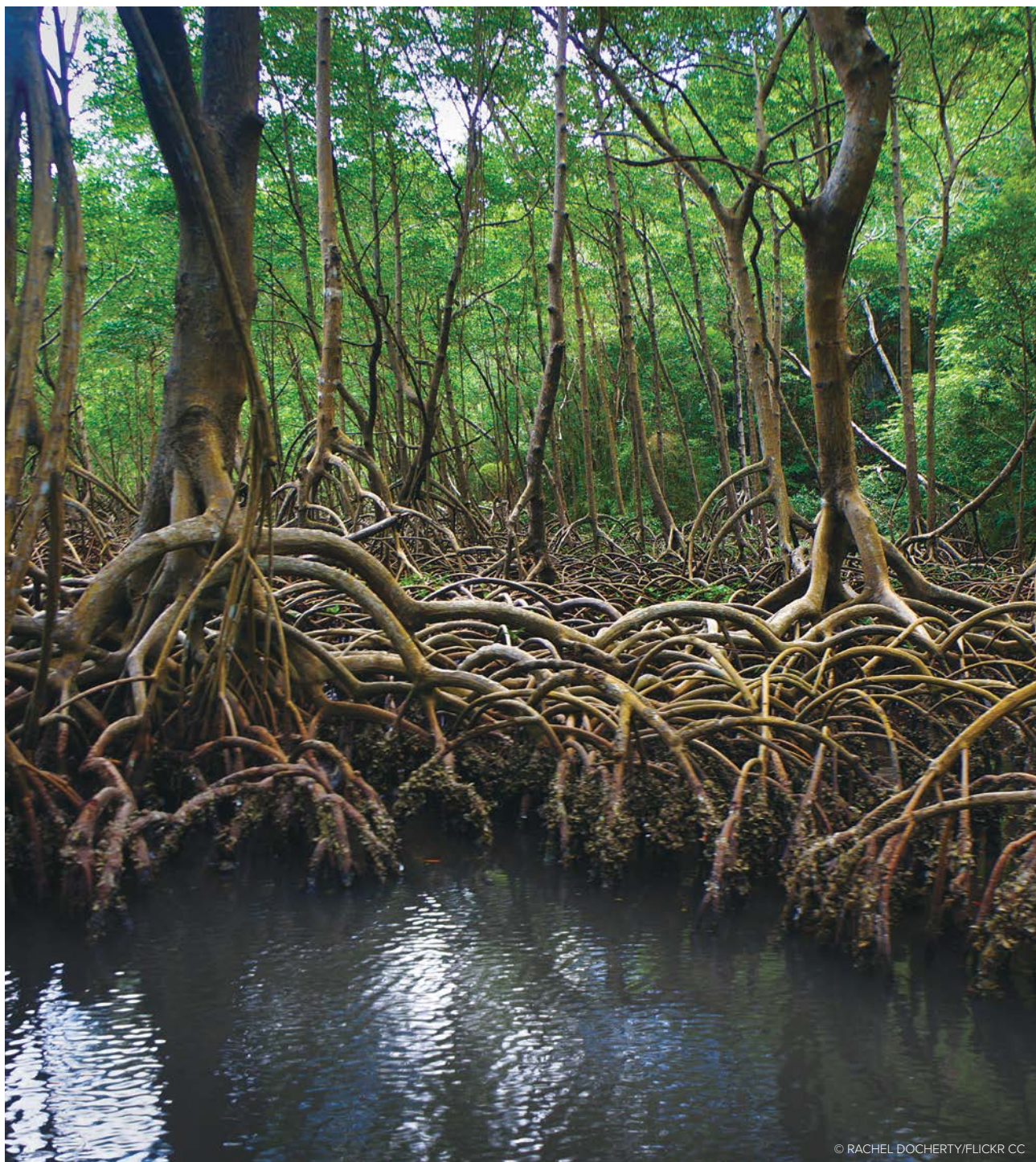
DEMONSTRATING THAT PEOPLE NEED NATURE IN THE CARIBBEAN ISLANDS

In Haiti, mangroves, beaches, lagoons and cays are essential for providing habitats for fish, sequestering carbon, buffering communities from the effects of storms and attracting tourists. Unfortunately, many of these areas have been decimated by overfishing, pollution and unplanned development.

CEPF has supported local conservation leaders such as CEPF grantee Jean Wiener, founder of Fondation pour la Protection de la Biodiversité Marine (FoProBiM), the only Haitian-operated and Haiti-based NGO dedicated to the protection and management of Haiti's coastal and marine ecosystems.

With funding from CEPF, Wiener and FoProBiM have protected Haiti's delicate biodiversity, provided communities with new income opportunities and strengthened local organizations.

Wiener was one of six recipients of the 2015 Goldman Environmental Prize, the world's largest award for grassroots environmental activists, for leading "community efforts to establish Haiti's first marine protected areas by empowering Haitians to see the long-term value in sustainably managing fisheries and mangrove forests."





HELPING ECOTOURISM TAKE FLIGHT IN NORTHERN AFRICA

The Mediterranean Basin is one of the most popular tourism destinations, attracting nearly one-third of the world's tourists annually. Unfortunately, all that attention puts pressure on the region's natural resources.

CEPF empowers communities to pursue ecotourism activities while also conserving the natural habitats that visitors come to see. In Tunisia, CEPF supported the Association Les Amis des Oiseaux (AAO), which has been developing ecotourism in northern Tunisia since 2013.

AAO helps communities manage five of the country's most important bird habitats, each of which benefits from support to rehabilitate tourism infrastructure and train local birding guides.

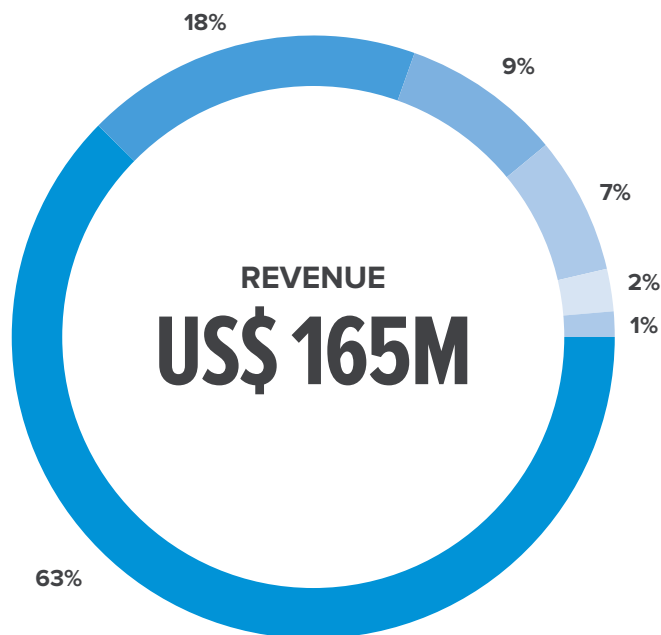
Now, nonprofit organizations, government institutions and private sector partners at each site are starting to develop their own agendas — with biodiversity conservation at the heart of their plans. In a country where the tourism industry sustains 10 percent of the population and accounts for 6% of GDP, that's no small victory — for nature and people.



FINANCES

The tremendous generosity of our donors and partners demonstrates that people are indeed listening to nature and taking action to protect our planet for the future of us all.

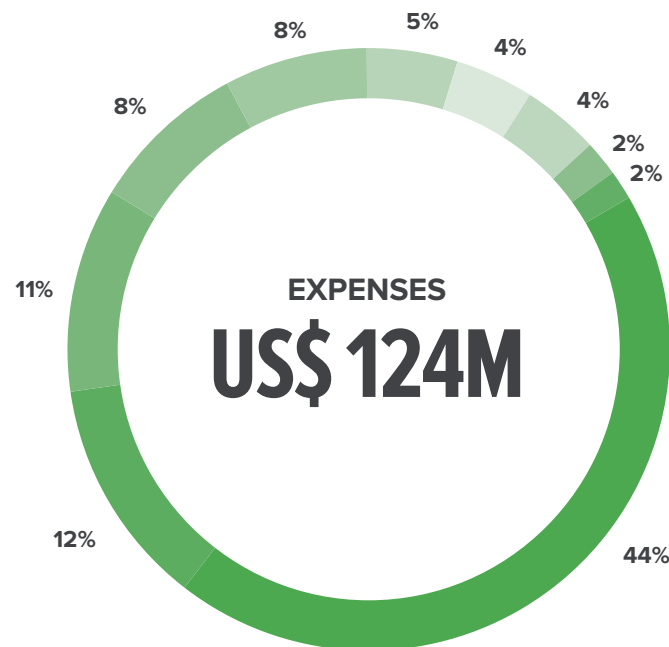
FY15 Revenue & Expenses



REVENUE

In fiscal year 2015, Conservation International raised a total of US\$ 165 million in revenue from deeply committed supporters from around the globe.

- 63%** Individuals
- 18%** Foundations
- 9%** Public Funding, NGOs + Multilaterals
- 7%** Corporations
- 2%** Other Income
- 1%** Investments



EXPENSES

CI closed fiscal year 2015 with expenses totaling US\$ 124 million.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 44% Country + Regional | 5% Policy |
| 12% Ecosystem Finance | 4% Center for Oceans |
| 11% Operations | 4% Communications |
| 8% Moore Center for Science | 2% CELB |
| 8% Fundraising | 2% Other Programs |

FY15 Statement of Activities

(Balances are in the thousands)

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
REVENUE				
Contributions				
Individuals	\$3,287	\$99,682	—	\$102,969
Foundations	5,514	17,041	—	22,555
Corporations	1,292	4,599	—	5,891
Other	980	1,198	—	2,178
Grants + Contracts				
Public Funding	5,599	4,483	—	10,082
Foundations	3,628	3,677	—	7,305
Corporations	4,418	1,829	—	6,247
NGO/multilaterals	2,227	1,820	—	4,047
Licensing Agreements, Product Sales + Other Income	1,573	—	—	1,573
Investment Income	704	1,545	—	2,249
Net Assets Released from Donor Restrictions	94,943	(94,943)	—	—
Total Revenue	124,165	40,931	—	165,096
EXPENSES				
Program Services				
Country + Regional	54,444	—	—	54,444
Ecosystem Finance	15,225	—	—	15,225
Moore Center for Science	10,510	—	—	10,510
Policy	6,044	—	—	6,044
Center for Oceans	5,233	—	—	5,233
Communications	5,142	—	—	5,142
Center for Envl Leadership in Business	2,350	—	—	2,350
Other Programs	1,954	—	—	1,954
Total Program Services	100,902	—	—	100,902
Supporting Services				
Management + Operations	13,634	—	—	13,634
Fundraising	9,542	—	—	9,542
Total Supporting Services	23,176	—	—	23,176
Total Expenses	124,078	—	—	124,078
Changes in Net Assets Before Non-Operating Activity	87	40,931	—	41,018
Non Op Activity Gain (Loss) on Foreign Currency Translation	—	(6,866)	—	(6,866)
Changes in Net Assets	87	34,065	—	34,152
NET ASSETS				
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	15,259	201,113	13,315	229,687
Changes in Net Assets	87	34,065	—	34,152
Net Assets at End of Year	\$15,346	\$235,178	\$13,315	\$263,839





© JEFF YONOVER

Creating Lasting Change

Our success reflects the commitment and passion of people and partners around the world who support our mission.

In fiscal year 2015, Conservation International raised US\$ 165 million in revenue. Ever greater numbers of individuals from around the world have shown us that they share our vision. Through gifts large and small, they inspire us with their generosity and commitment. In addition, foundations, corporations and NGOs remain stalwart supporters of CI's work and look to CI for leadership in understanding the intersection of human well-being and nature.

CI is committed to using every dollar received in donations to further our conservation efforts. Due to our careful stewardship of contributions and emphasis on programmatic impact, we consistently earn high ratings from watchdog groups such as Charity Watch and Charity Navigator.

Expenses in FY15 totaled US\$ 124 million with 81.3 percent of funds going directly to

programmatic costs. Support costs, including expenses related to management, operations and development, were 18.7 percent, in line with industry standards.

To meet our goal of creating lasting change, we direct approximately 30 percent of our programmatic spending toward enabling local partners and communities to build capacity to care for their natural resources.

CI ended fiscal year 2015 with US\$ 264 million in net assets. An important indicator of the organization's financial health and sustainability, net assets represent the cumulative revenue that CI has raised in excess of expenditures since the founding of the organization. CI's net assets have steadily increased over time.



Due to our careful stewardship of contributions and emphasis on programmatic impact, we consistently earn high ratings from watchdog groups such as Charity Watch and Charity Navigator.



What's Next

Conservation International is continually learning, evolving and pushing boundaries. Here are a few of the major projects we will be working on in the coming year.

PROTECTING NEW GROUND

Since our founding nearly 30 years ago, CI has helped to protect more than 730 million hectares of the planet's most important land, marine and coastal areas. We continue to build on that number, including the forthcoming establishment of 3.5 million hectares of new protected areas in Colombia's National System of Protected Areas.

NEXT-GENERATION ACCOUNTING

CI is guiding governments to account for their natural resources and factor them into development decisions. The government of Peru has committed to build on CI's regional work by expanding ecosystem accounting and scaling up to the national level.

More broadly, CI helped develop the Natural Capital Protocol, a framework to help companies incorporate their impacts on natural capital into decision-making. Fifty companies are piloting the protocol, which is scheduled for its global launch in 2016.

This is a moment of opportunity and momentum. With generous supporters by our side, CI is emboldened to protect our planet for the future of us all.

FUNDING THE FUTURE

Long-term conservation requires funding, and so to protect Indonesia's Bird's Head Seascape, in 2015 CI launched the Blue Abadi Fund. The fund's name — "abadi" means "forever" in Indonesian — signals the goal of securing the vitality of the seascape and the community in perpetuity. Early financial support from the Government of Indonesia has set a promising course, but more funding will be needed to protect this singular reservoir of tropical marine species in perpetuity.

ENGAGING NEW AUDIENCES

Millions around the world have already been inspired by our "Nature is Speaking" film series. From New York to Paris, Rio to Hong Kong, and Cape Town to Bali, people are learning that conservation is not about saving nature — it's about saving ourselves. Looking forward, we'll tap new technologies, like virtual reality, to bring the "Nature Is Speaking" message to more communities and provide immersive experiences into the exceptional beauty and very real challenges of global conservation.



Natural Capital Protocol guides companies to more sustainable decision-making



3.5 million hectares of new protected areas in Colombia



Blue Abadi Fund to forever secure the vitality of Bird's Head Seascape



Provide immersive experiences of our work through virtual reality

ON THE HORIZON



EVENTS

Responding to the urgent need to protect nature for future generations, friends of Conservation International gathered at events in Houston, Los Angeles, New York and Washington, D.C., in FY2015. Their participation strengthened our professional network, expanded our family of supporters and raised essential funds for global conservation initiatives.

GLOBAL CONSERVATION HERO AWARD PRESENTED TO:

The Rockefeller Foundation
U.S. Senator Rob Portman
U.S. Senator Tom Udall
U.S. Representative Kay Granger



CI's Lifetime Achievement
Award presented to Mark
Feldman (Feature story
page 58)



Charlie Rose, Broadcast Journalist, and Dr. Judith Rodin, President, The Rockefeller Foundation

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Doug McMillon, President and CEO, Wal-Mart Stores

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Table spread at the NYC Dinner



Sarah Ippel, Adrian Grenier, Kiley Taslitz, AJ Eaton and Disneynature Monkey Kingdom characters, Maya and Kip

© TRACEY LANDWORTH



Dr. Jared Diamond, CI Board Member, President Anote Tong of Kiribati, CI Board Member, and Dr. Greg Stone, Executive Vice President, CI

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Dr. M. Sanjayan, Executive Vice President, CI

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US Secretary of Commerce Penny Pritzker

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DINNER LEADERSHIP

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Henry Arnhold
Jody + John Arnhold
Secretary James A. Baker, III*
Wendy Benchley
Diane + Sam Bodman
Heather + Skip Brittenham
Sarah Brown
Natalie + Wes Bush*
Nancy Chiamulon
Ann + Lee Cooper
John de Neufville
Lisa + Alan Dynner
Calista Flockhart + Harrison Ford
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Sydney McNiff Johnson **
Maria + Andy Karsner*
Rachel Kropa
Donna + Thomas McLarty
Anna-Maria + Stephen Kellen Foundation

Lisa + Tyler Kelley
Sara + Jeff Lesk**
Heidi + Brian Miller
Eddy Moretti
Shauna Robertson + Edward Norton
Maureen Orth **
Susan + Dexter Paine
Lisa Wolfe + Joseph Ravitch
Nancy Morgan Ritter
Lauren + Andres Santo Domingo
Kristina Brittenham + Jesse Sisgold
Jessica + Richard Sneider
Nikki Reed + Ian Somerhalder
Jessica Siebel
Judi + Bruce Stern
Heather Tomlinson**
Nina + Lothar von Maltzahn**
Lindsay Feldman Weissert + Brian Weissert
Mayor Bill White*
Gillian Wynn

*Co-Chairs

**Leadership Committee



More than US\$ 1.5 million was generated through events to advance Conservation International programs around the world

JOIN US

At this pivotal moment, when communities across the world are joining together to protect nature, your support is more important than ever. Please get involved and become part of the CI family.



Contact us at +1 800 406.2306
or visit conservation.org/donate

WAYS TO GIVE

- Make a one-time contribution.
- Join the Emerald Circle of annual givers.
- Become a monthly supporter.
- Donate stocks, bonds, or mutual funds.
- Honor friends, family members or loved ones with a gift in their name.
- Give through an annuity or a Donor Advised Fund.
- Remember CI in your will or living trust.
- Give through your workplace.
- Fundraise for CI through your own event or activity.

BECOME AN AMBASSADOR

- Stay in touch with us through our emails and social media, and share CI's message with friends.
- Sign our pledge to protect the planet.
- Let policy makers, business leaders and elected officials know that you value nature, and encourage them to act on her behalf.

© LUCA ZANON

ADDISON'S GIFT


A lesson for us all

Inspired by a Disney movie, a 9-year-old nature lover from Lake Forest, Illinois, turned her birthday into a little "monkey business" for conservation. Addison learned that seeing DisneyNature's "Monkey Kingdom" during its premiere week would benefit CI programs and hatched a plan:

"I asked everyone coming to my party to bring a donation to Conservation International instead of gifts for me. We were able to raise \$388! I had the best birthday ever and it's good to be able to help make a difference!"



© ADDISON'S FAMILY



WORLD-CLASS LEADERSHIP

Conservation International is powered by extraordinary people. Around the world, CI staff have their heads in the sky and their feet in the mud. From making discoveries about the natural world to forging relationships with partners, our thought leaders are making conservation happen every day.



CHAMPION OF THE 'WATER FOREST'

Staff Spotlight: Jürgen Hoth

Who needs nature? Mexico City does: One of the world's megacities depends on a mountainous nearby area called the "Water Forest" for most of its water supply. But that forest faces multiple threats, including deforestation and aquifer contamination.

Luckily, the "Water Forest" has a champion in Conservation International's Jürgen Hoth, a conservation expert who has lived in and studied the area for nearly 30 years. Marrying cutting-edge science with local traditional knowledge, Hoth has informed policy that is protecting the forest and Mexico City's precious water — and sharing lessons for other cities around the globe.



PROTECTING PARADISE — FOREVER

Staff Spotlight: Laure Katz

There are not enough superlatives to describe the exquisite reefs of the Bird's Head Seascape off West Papua, Indonesia, home to more fish and coral species than anywhere else on Earth. For nearly a decade, scientist Laure Katz, director of CI's Seascapes program, has been helping to lead our efforts to protect this region.

Now, she is helping to secure its long-term future through the Blue Abadi Fund, a collaborative financial vehicle to fund the protection of this area indefinitely. Few people know and love the Bird's Head Seascape and its people like Katz. Its future is in good hands.



BREWING SUSTAINABLE COFFEE

Staff Spotlight: Bambi Semroc

Coffee — the world's most traded agricultural commodity — has a tremendous environmental footprint. How can we prevent the world's thirst for coffee from coming at the expense of tropical forests and local farmers?

Understanding the complexities of this challenge is the job of conservation strategist Bambi Semroc, of CI's Center for Environmental Leadership in Business. Fresh off her work in CI's longtime partnership with Starbucks — which in 2015 announced that 99 percent of its beans were ethically and sustainably sourced — Semroc will help expand a coffee sector-wide coalition, which already represents more than 30 roasters, traders and others who are attempting to make coffee the world's first sustainably sourced agricultural product.



♥ In Memoriam

MARK FELDMAN

Conservation International lost a remarkable friend in 2015. A passionate conservationist, Mark Feldman was a member of CI's Board of Directors since 1995 and was later elected Board Member Emeritus. He was honored with CI's Lifetime Achievement Award in 2015.

"As a Board member, his concern was always the people of CI," says CI Chairman Peter Seligmann. "He was a friend to all of the field programs and understood what made CI unique: the quality and passion of people who have their feet in the mud fighting, place by place, to protect nature." Mark traveled the globe to meet with staff and advocate with national leaders on CI's behalf.

CI has created the Mark Feldman Feet in the Mud Fund, which will embolden what makes our field staff deeply effective — their ability to innovate, engage powerfully in communities and share cultural and conservation knowledge to empower global change. The Fund will directly support Mark's vision, seeding the exchange of knowledge and ideas so that our successful conservation actions take root across the world.

We salute Mark's deep regard for nature, his enduring service and his indelible impact on CI.

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Conservation International's Leadership Council is a group of highly engaged and talented individuals who are dedicated to furthering CI's mission through community connections, professional expertise and skills, and financial support.

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Note: Gary Edson served as President September 2014-October 2015

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Notable Publications

Conservation International's work is grounded in science. Our scientists develop innovative approaches and apply the best available information to tackle the world's most pressing environmental issues in a way that meet the needs of both nature and people. Each year, their research and leading-edge studies are featured in respected peer-reviewed journals and other publications. At right are some highlights from fiscal year 2015.

Harnessing biodiversity and conservation knowledge products to track the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals

Biodiversity

Reductions in emissions from deforestation from Indonesia's moratorium on new oil palm, timber, and logging concessions

Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences

Freshwater ecosystem services supporting humans: Pivoting from water crisis to water solutions

Global Environmental Change

Spatial and temporal changes in cumulative human impacts on the world's ocean

Nature Communications

From Reef to Table: Social and Ecological Factors Affecting Coral Reef Fisheries, Artisanal Seafood Supply Chains, and Seafood Security

PLoS ONE

Sustainability: Map the evidence

Nature

REDD+ and Biodiversity Conservation: A review of the Biodiversity Goals, Monitoring Methods, and Impacts of 80 REDD+ Projects

Conservation Letters

Considering the impact of climate change on human communities significantly alters the outcome of species and site-based vulnerability assessments

Diversity and Distributions

Ecosystem-based adaptation for smallholder farmers: definitions, opportunities and constraints

Agriculture, Ecosystems and Environment

Balancing hydropower and biodiversity in the Amazon, Congo, and Mekong

Science

A woman wearing a colorful headwrap and a patterned orange and white shirt stands in a lush green cornfield. She is holding a large basket filled with freshly harvested green plants. The field is filled with tall corn stalks, and the background shows a bright blue sky with scattered white clouds. The foreground is dominated by large, out-of-focus green leaves, creating a sense of depth and immersion in the agricultural setting.

OUR VISION

We imagine a healthy, prosperous world in which societies are forever committed to caring for and valuing nature, our global biodiversity, for the long-term benefit of people and all life on Earth.

A wide-angle landscape photograph showing a river winding through a valley. The valley is flanked by numerous sharp, jagged karst mountains. The sky is filled with soft, colorful clouds in shades of orange, yellow, and blue, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The lighting is warm and golden, casting long shadows and highlighting the textures of the mountains and the water.

OUR MISSION

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.

Learn more about what we do
at [**conservation.org/about**](https://www.conservation.org/about)

People need nature to thrive.



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www.natureisspeaking.org