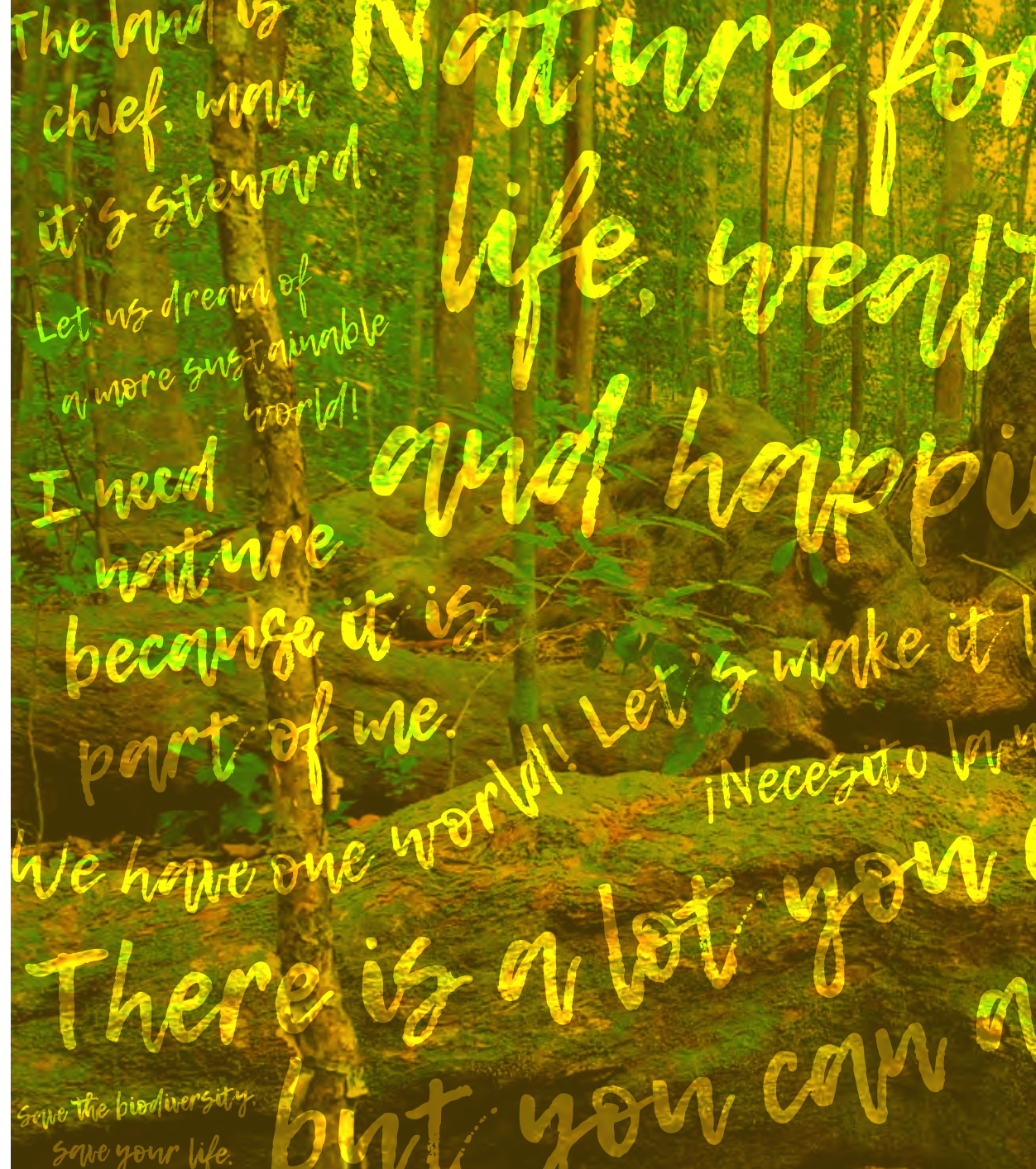


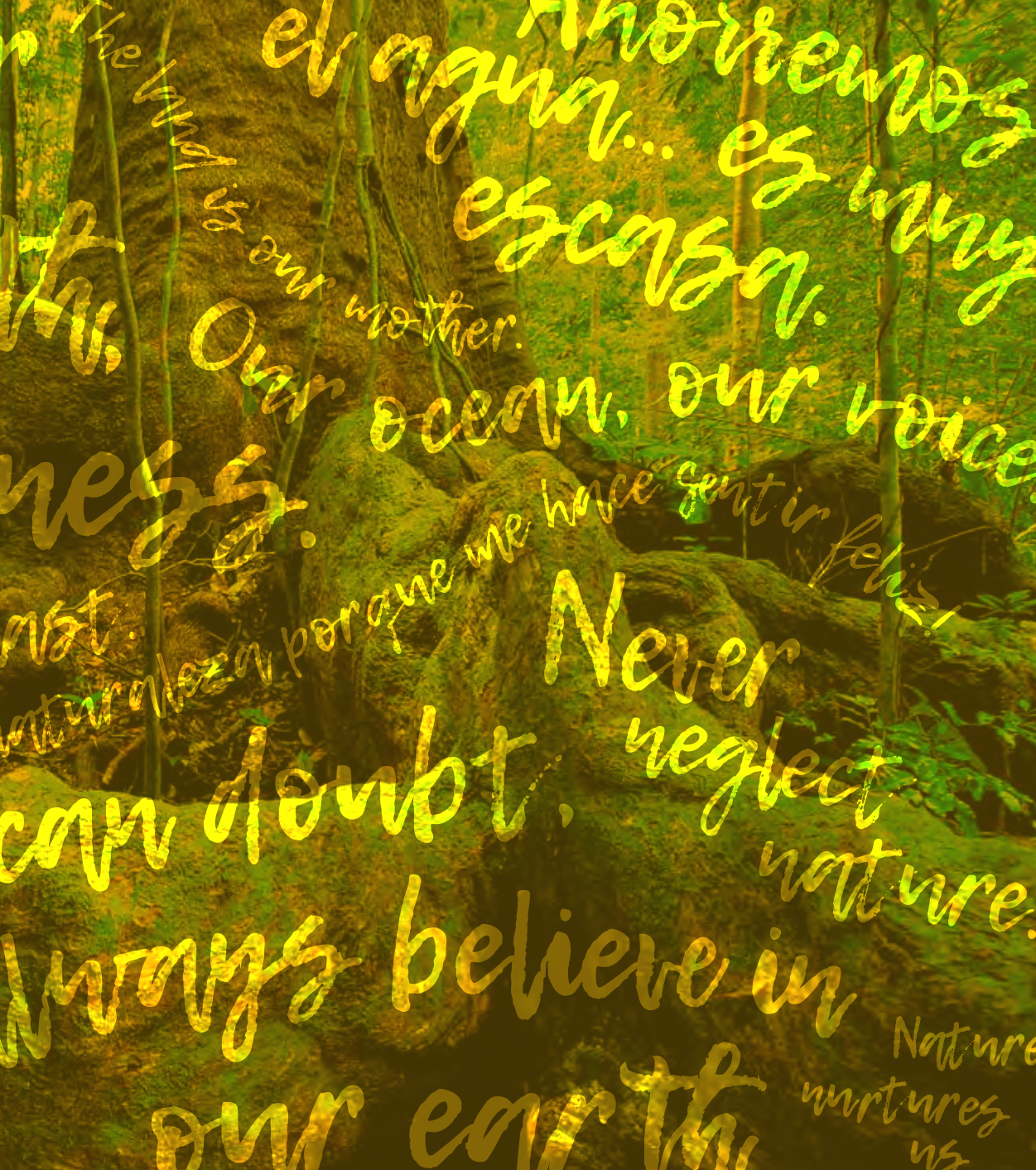


WE NEED NATURE

Humanity needs nature to thrive. And so when Conservation International asked the more than 10,000 delegates at the World Conservation Congress in Hawai'i to tell us why #WeNeedNature, the response was overwhelming. The wall was the latest echo of CI's rallying cry in support of nature and the benefits it provides to people everywhere. The messages written on the wall are the inspiration for the imagery found in this book.



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: © CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL/PHOTO BY BILLY CANDELA; © TROND LARSEN



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We need nature
now more
than ever



ABOVE: © M. SANJAYAN; RIGHT: © JEFF GALE



Peter Seligmann

Chairman and CEO

Dear friends,

We live in uncertain times. But there is one thing we can be sure of:
People need nature to survive.

That fundamental fact is as true today as it was when my conservation journey began half a century ago. Back then, I worked on a ranch in Wyoming, taking moments to watch birds and insects, listen to the wind and smell the sweetness of the tall grass. I knew then that I was hooked on nature.

But our connection to our natural world is more than sentimental. Humanity depends on fresh water, reliable food and a stable climate. For that, we need intact forests, productive fisheries and healthy ecosystems.

At CI, we have always done what is right for communities and for nature — regardless of whether it is easy or conventional. We invented debt for nature swaps, pioneered applied conservation science and created the biodiversity hotspot strategy. We revolutionized conservation by partnering with corporations and focusing on sustaining nature for people. And through your support, we have thrived.

Moving forward, we need more of the change that CI delivers. We need more partnerships with the indigenous peoples and local communities who steward the vast majority of the Earth's biodiversity. We need more relationships with influential companies to drive change across entire sectors. We need more investment in the science and technology that will enable us to stop and even reverse the degradation of the planet.

In short, we need more on-the-ground action to secure the critical places and resources we all rely on — working directly with communities, businesses and innovators to achieve results.

Our message is a powerful one. We know that there is a direct link between conservation and the economic well-being and security interests of all people and all nations. We know that sustainability is essential for stable livelihoods and long-term economic growth. We know that preserving nature and its benefits is an imperative, not a luxury.

But we need to sharpen the way we share this message. From Amazonia to Appalachia, we must be able to explain how nature is the basis for improving lives. We must use new science, partnerships and tools like virtual reality and social media to share our work with people around the world. We must show that protecting nature is in everyone's enlightened self-interest — no matter who they are or where they live.

I am incredibly proud to celebrate CI's 30 years of tremendous accomplishments, and I am passionately optimistic for the future of our organization and our community of professionals and partners. At CI, we have built a culture of openness, grit and determination. We are sustained by the wisdom and generosity of our visionary board and loyal donors like you. As we face global challenges, these strengths will enable us to continue to make progress together.

Thank you for all you do for CI. Now, more than ever, we appreciate your steadfast commitment to protect nature everywhere.

Because we need nature.



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Arlington, Virginia

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Conservationist

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Enki Tan, M.D.

Executive Chairman

Giti Tire Global Trading Pte. Ltd.
Singapore

Byron Trott




Chairman and CEO

BDT Capital Partners LLC
Chicago, Illinois

WHERE WE WORK

Starting with our first project in Bolivia 30 years ago, Conservation International has helped support 1,200 protected areas across 77 countries, safeguarding more than 601 million hectares of land and sea. Working in 30 countries worldwide, CI's reach has never been broader, but our mission remains the same: to protect nature for the benefit of us all.

MAP KEY

-  CI Offices
-  Global HQ
-  Priority Regions









PROTECTING WHAT IS ESSENTIAL

**Working with communities
for local action**



© CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL/PHOTO BY JOHN MARTIN

SEE THE WORLD THROUGH MY EYES

“THIS PLACE. OUR ISLANDS,” says Ronald Mambrasar to his eldest son, Valen. “Son, do you know we are blessed?”

A native of West Papua, Indonesia, Mambrasar began fighting for marine conservation when he saw the destruction of the coral reefs West Papuans have depended on for generations. For the past 12 years, CI and our partners have worked with community leaders like Mambrasar to protect an area known as the Bird’s Head Seascape — the single greatest reservoir of marine life on the planet.

Local partners are patrolling for illegal fishing, monitoring the health of reefs and fisheries, and creating steady, well-paying jobs through tourism and sustainable fishing. As a result, the reefs are recovering and fish are returning — a remarkable success story for community-led conservation.

continued on page 13





25%

Twenty-five percent of the Earth's land is stewarded by local communities and indigenous peoples.



EMPOWERING INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

Indigenous peoples and local communities steward nearly a quarter of the Earth's land and the vast majority of its wildlife — and studies have shown that local management can result in better conservation outcomes and more stable livelihoods.

Recognizing the role of these communities, CI helped found the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund in 2000. The fund empowers local people working on some of the world's most pressing conservation issues, from restoring wildlife on Pacific islands to supporting sustainable ranching in the rangelands of Africa. To date, the fund has improved the sustainability of 41 million hectares (101 million acres) of land and water — an area larger than Germany — helping 2,600 communities worldwide.



SEE THE WORLD THROUGH MY EYES continued from page 11

Now CI, working together with the Walton Family Foundation, the Global Environment Facility, WWF, The Nature Conservancy and the government of Indonesia, is leading the creation of the Blue Abadi Fund. The largest fund for a dedicated marine conservation area in the world, the Blue Abadi Fund will support local management of this region in perpetuity. It is a powerful formula: By pairing local expertise with long-term financial stability, CI is able to achieve and maintain on-the-ground impact at scale.



Most people will never be able to visit the Bird's Head to experience the exceptional results of this project. So to share this remarkable story, CI teamed up with The Tiffany & Co. Foundation and the virtual reality studio Here Be Dragons to create "Valen's Reef," a 360-degree immersive experience. Building on the success of CI's bold "Nature Is Speaking" campaign, CI is able to reach and engage audiences as never before with this groundbreaking technology.

CI's work has had a critical impact on the region, but there's still much to be done. "Now the fish are returning and our community is thriving," Mambrasar says. "But I am scared because we still face many outside pressures. There is still more work to be done. I hope you will continue to protect our ocean." Watch "Valen's Reef" at conservation.org/valensreef. ■





TOP LEFT: © SHAWN HEINRICH; BOTTOM LEFT: © CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL/PHOTO BY ELISE HARRIGAN
ABOVE: © CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL/PHOTO BY JOHN MARTIN

THE TIFFANY & CO. FOUNDATION

© ISLAND EFFECTS

THE TIFFANY & CO. FOUNDATION SUPPORTS OCEAN AWARENESS

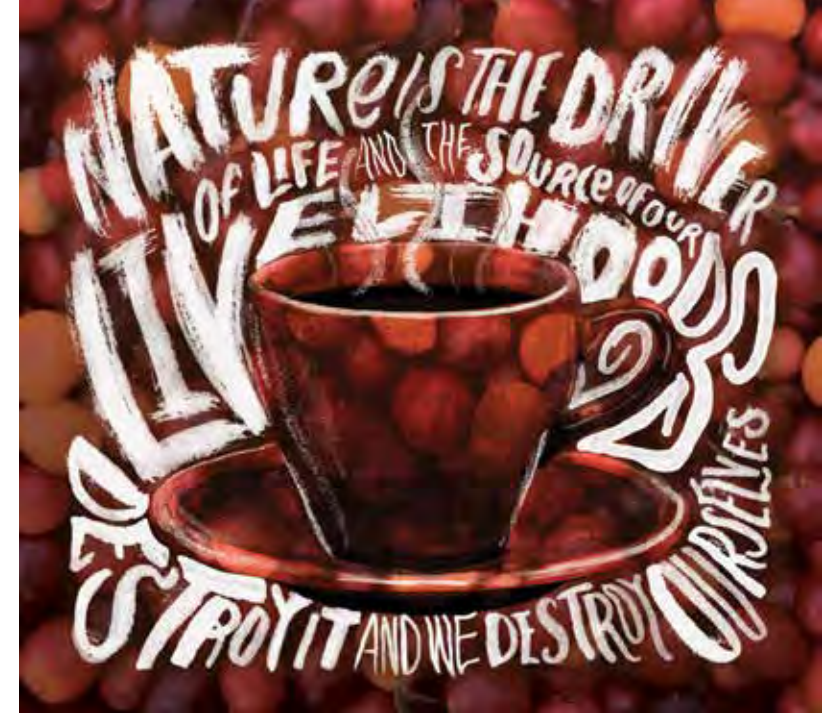
The Tiffany & Co. Foundation is committed to improving ocean health through the protection of vital coral reefs. It was therefore a natural fit for the foundation to support CI to raise awareness of a world-class marine resource through the groundbreaking medium of virtual reality. “We are always looking for opportunities to highlight critical issues in engaging new ways,” said Anisa Costa, chairman and president of The Tiffany & Co. Foundation. “Working with CI on its first virtual film, we were able to create an unforgettable viewer experience that supports the conservation of one of the world’s natural treasures.”



INSPIRING SUSTAINABLE ACTION

**Changing the nature of
business — for good**





LEFT: © CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL/PHOTO BY TORY READ; TOP RIGHT: © CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL/ILLUSTRATION BY PETER STRAIN, BACKGROUND: © CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL/PHOTO BY STERLING ZUMBRUNN; LOWER RIGHT: © PRASHANTBY/Flickr CREATIVE COMMONS

BREWING SUSTAINABILITY

BUSINESSES NEED NATURE TO THRIVE. This includes the roasters and farmers responsible for your daily cup of joe. But what happens when nature stops giving coffee what it needs?

Coffee is the most widely traded tropical agricultural product in the world, and demand for it continues to rise. Yet nearly every major coffee-producing region of the world is feeling the impacts of climate change. Rising temperatures, drought and changing weather patterns are causing these areas to become less suitable for growing the crop, pushing farmers to clear virgin forests elsewhere. Meanwhile, the 120 million people who rely on coffee for their livelihoods — mostly small-scale farmers and farm workers — face an uncertain future.

CI looks for opportunities to make sector-wide advances. To do this in coffee, CI launched the Sustainable Coffee Challenge at the Paris climate talks with the goal of making coffee the world's first truly sustainable agricultural product. Working with our longtime partner Starbucks, we have helped chart a new way to produce coffee: one that is sustainable, transparent, and good for people and the planet. With the Sustainable Coffee Challenge, CI is bringing together all levels of the coffee supply chain — from farmers, roasters and retailers to governments and civil society — to advance sustainability. Since its launch, the Challenge has grown to include the governments of Rwanda and Mexico as well as major retailers such as McDonald's, which plans to buy all of its coffee from sustainable sources by 2020. **continued on page 19**



© JOSHUA TRUJILLO, STARBUCKS

FROM GRANDE TO VENTI

For nearly 20 years, Conservation International has worked with Starbucks to develop a program to ethically source their coffee. Now, Starbucks has verified 99 percent of their coffee as ethically sourced — the largest coffee retailer to reach this milestone. Starbucks has also launched the One Tree for Every Bag program, which has set out to provide 20 million new coffee trees to farmers to replace old or diseased trees — providing a tree for every bag of coffee sold in participating U.S. stores. This program helps communities while preventing deforestation by enhancing production on existing coffee farms. Through its membership in the Sustainable Coffee Challenge, Starbucks is leading the coffee industry toward a future that is good for people, good for nature and good for coffee.



BREWING SUSTAINABILITY **continued from page 18**

Coffee is just one of the industries CI works with for the benefit of nature. Through our Center for Environmental Leadership in Business, CI collaborates with industry leaders such as palm oil producers in Brazil, mining companies in Peru, fishermen in Central America and energy developers in Liberia — all to improve sustainable practices and safeguard nature. Through our Business & Sustainability Council, major companies representing US\$ 2.2 trillion in revenue and 4 million employees have committed to pursuing sustainability by creating healthy ecosystems and strong communities.



Businesses around the world are seeing conservation of nature as crucial to their bottom lines. By supporting sustainable practices and building partnerships with these forward-thinking companies, CI is working to ensure that industries like coffee thrive for years to come. ■





BEAN COUNTING FOR NATURE

Business needs nature for raw materials, fresh water and a stable climate. Yet accurately accounting for nature — understanding its risks, impacts and opportunities for companies — was close to impossible, until recently. Launched in July, the Natural Capital Protocol helps businesses, including coffee producers, identify and measure their reliance and impact on nature, enabling them to make smarter decisions. No company would survive without a careful assessment of its human and financial capital. Likewise, successful businesses are now accounting for the natural capital they depend upon.



INNOVATING FOR THE FUTURE

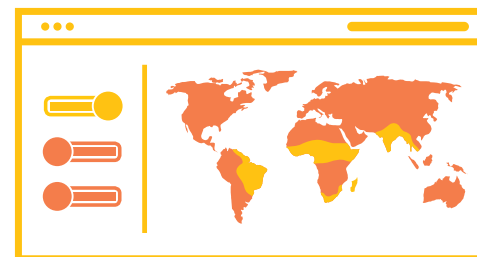
**Pioneering science
and technology**





NEW FRONTIERS

Since its founding, Conservation International has been an innovator. We pioneered the first debt-for-nature swap, a concept that revolutionized conservation by achieving massive and lasting results at national and regional scales. With this spirit of innovation, we strive to accomplish our mission faster, with fewer resources, for greater impact. Here are some of the ways we did that in 2016.



RESILIENCE ATLAS

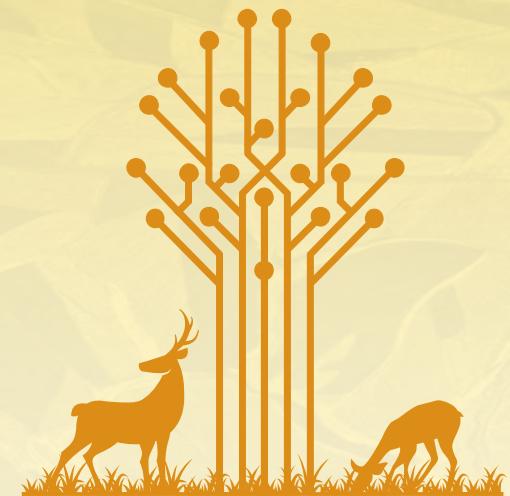
The Resilience Atlas – created by CI with financial support from The Rockefeller Foundation – is an open-access interactive tool for government leaders and resource managers to make smart, evidence-based decisions on which investments increase resilience to climate variability, conflict and other external shocks.

- ✦ Aggregates more than 12 terabytes of data from more than 60 of the world's best data sets
- ✦ Summarizes data in easy-to-understand maps at regional, national and local scales
- ✦ Already being used by international development organizations and foundations to build resilience to flooding, food insecurity
- ✦ Check out the Resilience Atlas at conservation.org/atlas



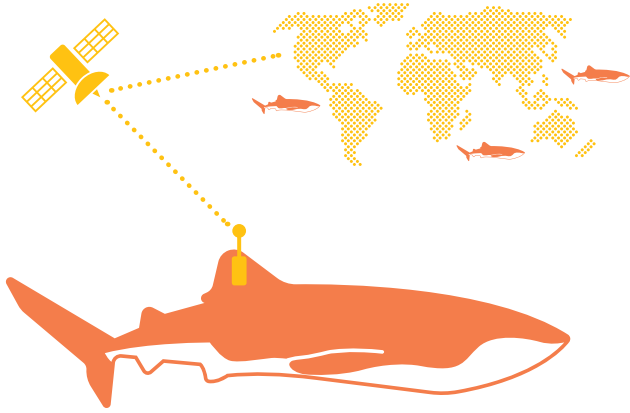


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MIDDLE: © BENJAMIN DRUMMOND; RIGHT: © EDDIE GERALD/ALAMY STOCK PHOTO



ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, MEET NATURE

Artificial intelligence (AI). Machine learning. They sound like something out of a sci-fi movie, but they're already here, poised to create radical change in fields from conservation to poverty alleviation. Conservation has yet to adequately harness the power of these cutting-edge technologies. With that in mind, CI — with the support of The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation — is bringing together thought leaders in technology and conservation to advance the application of AI and machine learning toward the environmental challenges facing our planet. In 2017, CI will explore supporting the most promising ideas.



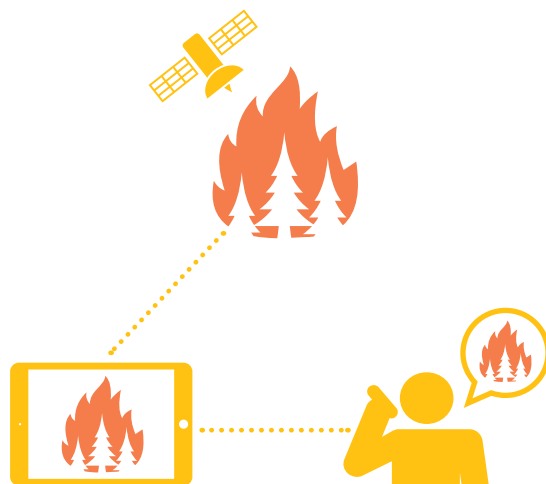
WHALE SHARK TRACKER

To date, CI scientists in Indonesia have attached satellite transmitters to the fins of 23 whale sharks. The tags are now providing an unprecedented look at these massive, mysterious fish — and you can follow them in near real-time. Using this data, CI is collaborating with the Georgia Aquarium to ensure that whale shark tourism is managed sustainably and doesn't adversely impact the health of the fish.

- ✦ Trackers gather data on their feeding and diving habits — much of it new to science
- ✦ Two of the sharks have dived nearly 6,000 feet deep — among the deepest dives observed for this species
- ✦ Migration habits are unique to each shark
- ✦ Anyone can follow 10 of the tagged sharks in the Pacific at conservation.org/whaleshark



LEFT: © CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL/PHOTO BY MARK ERDMANN; TOP MIDDLE: © ART WOLFE/WWW.ARTWOLFE.COM
BOTTOM MIDDLE: © CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL/PHOTO BY MARK ERDMANN



FIRECAST ONSIGHT

Firecast OnSight brings firefighting into the digital age. The app uses satellite data that can alert forest rangers to send a team to a remote area within minutes of an outbreak. Over time, the app becomes more valuable as fire data is modeled to not only fight fires, but also to predict where and when a fire might start.

- + Delivers data in one of four different languages
- + Open-source: Enables any user to alert authorities to fires — crucial in remote areas with lack of equipment or technical capacity
- + Helps experts collect data on private cloud-based dashboard for field work management
- + Check out Firecast at firecast.conservation.org ■



© MCDOBBIE HU

NEW RESEARCH PARTNERSHIPS

In 2016, CI joined forces with Arizona State University (ASU) and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), two of the world's top innovation and research universities. The ASU partnership — among the first of its kind between a large public American university and a U.S.-based international conservation organization — will focus on making agriculture and fisheries sustainable. CI scientists will teach and conduct research with ASU professors, while ASU students will participate in CI's field work. The partnership with MIT will advance the fight against climate change by bringing together technical solutions with nature-based approaches.



WHAT'S NEXT

Conservation International is constantly learning, evolving and pushing boundaries. Here are a few of the major projects we have underway.

ABOVE: © CRISTINA MITTERMEIER; TOP RIGHT: © AMI VITALE
BOTTOM RIGHT: © CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL/ILLUSTRATION BY PETER STRAIN, BACKGROUND: © CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL/PHOTO BY SARAH HOYT



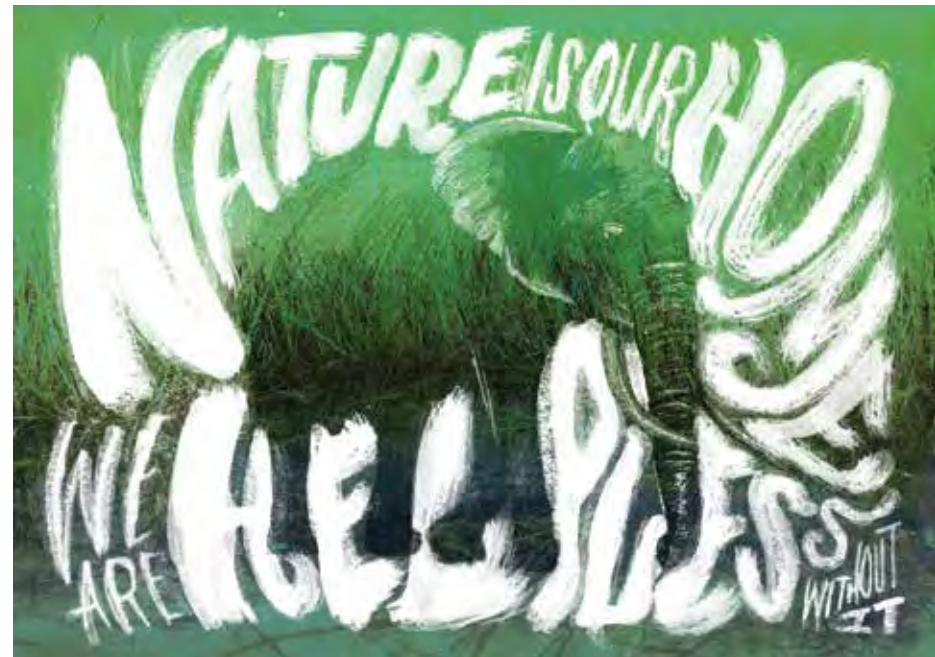
STOPPING WILDLIFE TRAFFICKING

Wildlife trafficking threatens iconic species, economies and global security. In the coming year, CI will lead several strategic efforts aimed at demonstrating the value of wildlife and halting the demand for illegal wildlife products. As co-secretariat (with Stop Ivory) of the Elephant Protection Initiative, a global effort to stop the illegal ivory trade, CI will help African member states develop and carry out National Elephant Action Plans while assisting to fund a highly trained rapid-response mobile ranger unit to stop poachers. In the U.S., CI will work with the new administration and Congress to implement the END Wildlife Trafficking Act, secure appropriations for poaching and trafficking programs, and raise awareness of the direct connection between wildlife trafficking and security.



PROTECTING 'BLUE CARBON'

Mangroves are a critical nursing ground for marine life. And there may be no greater natural ally in the fight against climate change than mangroves, which store massive amounts of so-called “blue carbon.” In the coming year, CI will complete the first large-scale carbon-credit system designed specifically for blue carbon. The new approach will help dozens of countries protect these incredible ecosystems while helping them include blue carbon in their emissions cuts agreed to under the Paris Agreement. Working with the International Partnership for Blue Carbon, CI will expand awareness and action by governments and the private sector while building pilot projects in countries with the biggest stores of blue carbon including Costa Rica, Ecuador, Indonesia, Liberia and the Philippines.





A 15-YEAR GRANT ENDS, A NEW ERA BEGINS

As a major gift from the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation draws to a close, the Global Conservation Fund will continue to build on its impact: More than US\$ 100 million in investments has helped to protect 810,000 square kilometers (300,000 square miles) of land and sea. CI's next major foray into conservation finance aims to support the stakeholders that hold the key to a stable climate in the future: indigenous peoples and local communities, stewards of nearly one-quarter of the Earth's lands — and the vast majority of its biodiversity. By supporting these communities equitably as valued partners, we can help ensure a future for our global biodiversity.



DEMONSTRATING SUSTAINABILITY IN AFRICA

CI will take new steps toward breaking the cycle of environmental degradation across the continent by working to protect Africa's natural capital, supporting sustainable production of food and energy and promoting effective governance. As secretariat of the Gaborone Declaration for Sustainability in Africa, an African-led initiative that places the value of natural resources at the center of economic decision-making, CI is working with governments and the private sector to better account for their reliance and impacts on nature. Meanwhile, CI aims to chart a new course of sustainability in East Africa through the Sarara Initiative, an effort to protect elephants, local indigenous communities and the landscapes that people and elephants depend on.





SUPPORTING COMMUNITY-BASED FISHERIES

Coastal community-based fisheries provide 50 percent of all wild-caught fish globally, and yet these local economic engines have historically been overlooked by major ocean conservation programs. Guided by our new global ocean strategy, CI is launching a Resilient Coastal Community Fisheries program to expand the reach and impact of our work in these fisheries systems, with the goal of improving governance, building community capacity and aligning market incentives for sustainable harvesting — securing the future of these fisheries so they can continue to support food and livelihood security globally.



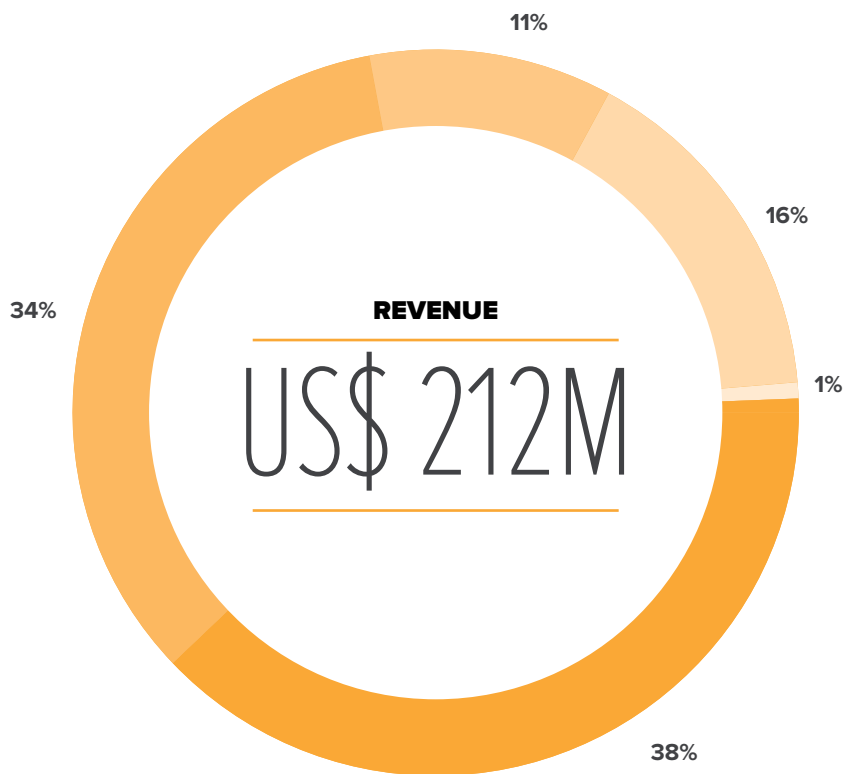
NEW FOREST BOND BEATS EXPECTATIONS

CI's Conservation Finance Division worked with the International Finance Corporation (the private-sector arm of the World Bank) and mining company BHP Billiton to create a new green investment product that channels private money into protecting forests. Launched in October 2016, the Forest Bond raised US\$ 152 million from institutional investors, roughly twice as much as was originally planned. Going forward, CI will manage a knowledge-sharing platform with law firm Baker & McKenzie to expand on the lessons learned and develop new products in the coming year. ■



FINANCES

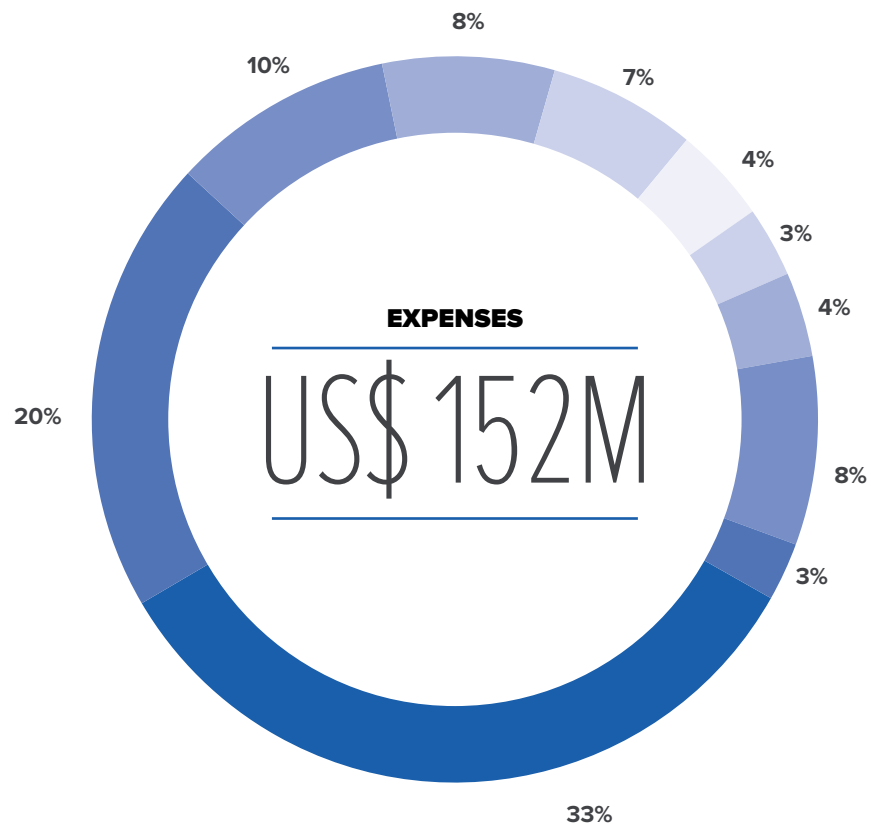
CI's donors and partners know that we need nature. Their tremendous generosity is helping CI protect the planet for the future of us all.



REVENUE

In fiscal year 2016, Conservation International raised a total of US\$ 212 million in revenue from deeply committed supporters from around the globe.

- 38%** Individuals
- 34%** Foundations
- 16%** Corporations
- 11%** Public Funding, NGOs + Multilaterals
- 1%** Other Income



EXPENSES

CI closed fiscal year 2016 with expenses totaling US\$ 152 million.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 33% Country + Regional | 7% Fundraising |
| 20% Ecosystem Finance | 4% Policy |
| 10% Operations | 4% Communications |
| 8% Moore Center for Science | 3% Center for Oceans |
| 8% CELB | 3% Other Programs |

For 30 years, Conservation International has built a legacy of innovative conservation that benefits humanity. This work wouldn't be possible without the steadfast dedication and passion of our global supporters. Through their donations, individuals, foundations, corporations and NGOs have become CI's partners in our global efforts to protect the nature that people need for food, water, livelihoods and climate resilience.

With our FY16 financial statements reflecting revenues of US\$ 212 million and expenses of US\$ 152 million, FY16 was truly a landmark year for CI. Notably, we closed the year with revenues, expenses and net assets at or near historic levels.



© JESSICA SCRANTON

REVENUE

Revenues increased by 28 percent over FY15 levels. Many of CI's loyal donors have redoubled their commitment to CI's long-term sustainability by investing in the biggest and most important places and initiatives that will protect nature and people.

EXPENSES

Expenses increased by almost US\$ 28 million, or 22 percent, over FY15 levels, with the majority of that attributable to increased grant-making in the Ecosystem Finance Division (EFD) and the Center for Environmental Leadership in Business (CELB). In the case of EFD, the Global Conservation Fund supported several new trust funds that will provide long-term support to protected areas, including a US\$ 11 million grant to establish the Valdivian Coastal Reserve Trust in Chile. CELB's growth is attributable to our partnership with Starbucks to support sustainable coffee production. Country and regional programs — the epicenter of our conservation efforts — make up the largest share of our conservation investment, at 33 percent of total expenditures.

Though we have grown to a multimillion-dollar organization, we never forget the magnitude of our mandate, and we continue to steward each dollar as carefully as we did at our inception in 1987 when our operating budget was less than US\$ 2,000.



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

FY16 STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

(Balances are in the thousands)

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	2016 Total	2015 Total
REVENUE					
Contributions					
Individuals	\$3,149	\$76,994	—	\$80,143	\$102,969
Foundations	7,659	48,949	—	56,608	22,555
Corporations	1,797	1,486	—	3,283	5,891
Other	20	583	—	603	2,178
Grants + Contracts					
Corporations	13,090	16,953	—	30,043	6,247
NGO/multilaterals	673	16,020	—	16,693	4,047
Foundations	346	15,361	—	15,707	7,305
Public Funding	1,519	4,707	—	6,226	10,082
Licensing Agreements, Product Sales + Other Income	908	—	—	908	1,573
Investment Income	(284)	1,600	—	1,316	2,249
Net Assets Released from Donor Restrictions	122,941	(122,941)	—	—	—
Total Revenue	151,818	59,712	—	211,530	165,096
EXPENSES					
Program Services					
Country + Regional	50,597	—	—	50,597	54,444
Ecosystem Finance	30,791	—	—	30,791	15,225
Center for Env. Leadership in Business	12,737	—	—	12,737	2,350
Moore Center for Science	11,614	—	—	11,614	10,510
Policy	6,484	—	—	6,484	6,044
Center for Oceans	4,759	—	—	4,759	5,233
Communications	5,716	—	—	5,716	5,142
Other Programs	3,939	—	—	3,939	1,954
Total Program Services	126,637	—	—	126,637	100,902
Supporting Services					
Management + Operations	15,068	—	—	15,068	13,634
Fundraising	9,988	—	—	9,988	9,542
Total Supporting Services	25,056	—	—	25,056	23,176
Total Expenses	151,693	—	—	151,693	124,078
Changes in Net Assets Before Non-Operating Activity	125	59,712	—	59,837	41,018
Non Op Activity Gain (Loss) on Foreign Currency Translation	—	(791)	—	(791)	(6,866)
Changes in Net Assets	125	58,921	—	59,046	34,152
NET ASSETS					
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	15,346	235,178	13,315	263,839	229,687
Changes in Net Assets	125	58,921	—	59,046	34,152
Net Assets at End of Year	\$15,471	\$294,099	\$13,315	\$322,885	\$263,839



LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

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

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Boston, MA

VICE CHAIRPERSON

Katie Vogelheim

Tiburon, CA

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Seattle, WA

Tom Byers

Palo Alto, CA

John H. de Neufville

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Lisa Dynner

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Jane Gale

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Mary C. Gallo

Modesto, CA

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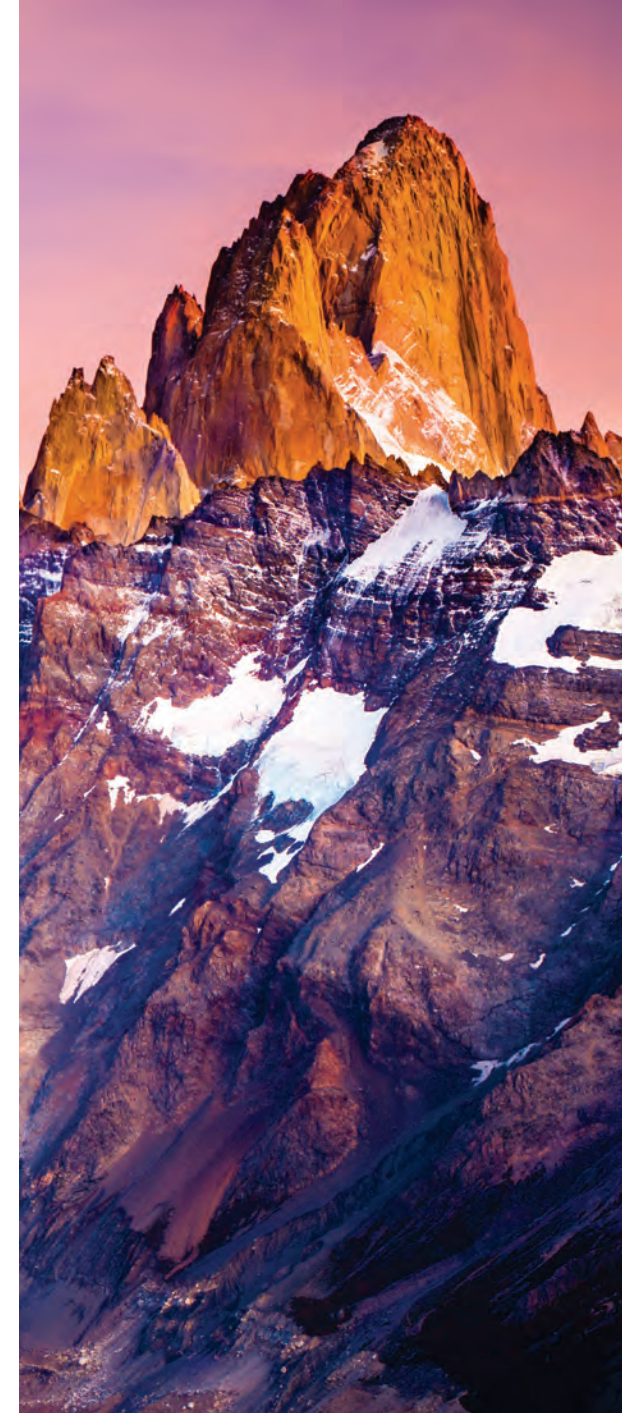
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Meg Goldthwaite served as Chief Marketing Officer through December 8, 2016.

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VOLUNTEER PROFILES



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Danilo Ochoa

*CI Youth Leader, Artist, Musician
Bogotá, Colombia*

Q: *You helped your mother clean up streams at 5, joined a gang at 14 and have since become a conservationist. How did that happen?*

A: Gangs offered me — and kids like me — a family. I grew up surrounded by nature. As I saw it disappear, I realized that my actions could benefit nature. I left drugs, spent a short stint in prison and began my journey with CI.

Q: *Why do you need nature?*

A: Nature provides all: our food, air, water and shelter. But for me it is the spiritual tranquility I value most.

Q: *You work with youth in your community. What inspires your work transforming young lives?*

A: I meet hundreds of kids who share my story. I want them to make the transformation I made. Let's change their thinking about nature and themselves.

Q: *What does your future hold?*

A: My hope is for future generations to pursue their dreams through conservation, art and community. It all stems from having self-worth. That's what allows you to appreciate your surroundings. There shouldn't be a need for conservation. Nature should be allowed to function and flow freely. But until then, there is CI. CI is family.



Alan and Lisa Dynner
*Philanthropists, CI Leadership
Council Members
Boston, MA*

Q: *Why do you two need nature?*

ALAN & LISA: Nature provides everything we need: water, sunlight, clean air, beauty, inspiration. It provides life. Nature is our common connection — it brings us all together.

Q: *What about the ocean inspires you?*

ALAN: It's in my DNA. I grew up diving. It's the only place on Earth where you can fly with only an air tank on your back. But I've seen the enormous impacts humans have had on the oceans. It's very important that we preserve them for future generations.

Q: *What is important about CI's Center for Oceans?*

LISA: CI is a magnet for attracting the best, from its scientists to its managers. They're creating amazing new ways to protect nature for people.

ALAN: CI is using science and big data, planning with indigenous communities, creating marine protected areas and developing new fishing techniques.

Q: *You tend to get behind projects earlier than others. Why?*

ALAN: I like to create the impetus and get things rolling. When I see a true visionary like CI with practical ideas for saving our oceans, it just makes sense to help.

Q: *What do both of you hope for the future?*

ALAN & LISA: We hope that more people, institutions and communities incorporate a conscious effort to care for our environment. We're talking about our survival and the survival of the planet.



LEFT: © JESSICA SCRANTON; TOP: © MULAGO



Kevin Starr

*Managing Director, Mulago Foundation
San Francisco, CA*

Q: *The Mulago Foundation fights poverty — what is the connection to conservation?*

A: The poor depend on the services that ecosystems provide even more than others. In that way, their fate is even more closely linked to nature, and they have even more to benefit from conservation.

Q: *Why support CI?*

A: CI is consciously ambitious. They have a self-proclaimed ambition to go big. The Conservation Stewards Program has developed a systematic model to help communities conserve nature in exchange for the development benefits they need. It's a relatively easy model to replicate.

Q: *Have you seen CI scale its work?*

A: I'm watching CI scale up the Conservation Stewards Program as we speak, and I am impressed with CI's commitment to bringing partners from throughout the conservation world to make it happen.

Q: *Why should others get involved with conservation?*

A: It's hopeful work, and it's joyous. It brings you into contact with impassioned people in remarkable places. When it works, it leaves you optimistic and with a sense of agency.



TOP: © ILLUSTRATION BY PETER STRAIN, BACKGROUND: © DENIS TABLER; BOTTOM: © WILL TURNER



Dr. Yvonne Lui, Ph.D.

Mother, Scientist, CI Board Member

Hong Kong, China

Q: *As a scientist, what attracted you to CI?*

A: CI is working to bring about planet-sized change for the good of humanity. I support their vision. CI's results-oriented approach is based on a strong foundation of science, field work and partnerships.

Q: *Why did you underwrite CI's Lui-Walton Innovators Fellowship?*

A: Together with Rob and Melani Walton, I believe we need to recruit proven innovators and passionate, young conservationists from the East and West. I'm excited to invest in the next generation of scientists, decision-makers and change agents.

Q: *Why do you need nature?*

A: Nature is the great provider, offering medicinal benefits, shelter and the food that we take for granted on a daily basis. I — we — cannot survive without it.

Q: *You are keenly interested in children experiencing nature. Why?*

A: Children are ambassadors for conservation. I'm inspired by my children's interest in nature's wonderfully diverse wildlife. Because of them, I place great importance on securing the future of our planet.

Q: *What is the hope you have for our future?*

A: I hope that we accomplish CI's vision of a healthy, prosperous world in which societies are forever committed to caring for and valuing nature.



Lee Pace

Actor, CI Leadership Council Member
New York, NY

Q: *What does nature mean to you?*

A: I need nature to survive and to enjoy the little time we have on this planet. The Earth doesn't need us, but we need it.

Q: *You have turned your international fan base into a community of conservationists — why?*

A: I've learned that nature is as important to them as it is to me. Whether they're gardeners, hikers or armchair scientists, we're engaged in an exciting conversation.

Q: *What has inspired your deep relationship with CI?*

A: The results. From herders in South Africa, to fishermen in small Indonesian harbors, to South American governments — CI gets results. With CI in Kenya, I met Samburu and Maasai warriors. We ran together surrounded by giraffe, buffalo and zebras. It was surreal, and it inspired me to run the New York Marathon to support CI. Hearing the crowds on the sidelines shouting the phrase on my CI t-shirt, "People Need Nature" — it was one of the best experiences of my life.

Q: *Do you have hope for the planet?*

A: Yes. With the committed, smart people I've met at CI, I know we'll make the changes needed to survive on this planet.



LEFT: © LEE PACE; MIDDLE: © ART WOLFE/WWW.ARTWOLFE.COM; RIGHT: © COURTESY WALMART



Kathleen McLaughlin

*Senior Vice President and
Chief Sustainability Officer,
Wal-Mart Stores Inc.*

Bentonville, AR

Q: *How did Walmart come to realize nature matters?*

A: Nature is the source and destination of all we consume: the food, household goods and apparel used around the world. We witnessed the impact of Hurricane Katrina. Walmart jumped in, working with local governments to save lives. We saw our strengths and set our goals for 100 percent renewable energy, zero waste and more sustainably produced products.

Q: *What is the global effect of your commitment to sustainability?*

A: We deliberately challenged ourselves and others — suppliers, retailers and governments. We're measured and careful about what we commit to. We do our homework, understand the realities and are committed to acting collectively to succeed. Our partners are now developing their own standards on emissions, waste, renewable energy, deforestation and more.

Q: *What do you hope to see?*

A: We hope to transform the retail, production, consumption, distribution and end of life for all food and goods so they are truly sustainable for people and the planet. If we want coffee in the future, its production and distribution must be made sustainable today. We need CI's help with its deep expertise and network of relationships. Conservation International's voice is inspirational. ■



LEFT: © STEVE BITTINGER; ABOVE: © CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL/ILLUSTRATION BY PETER STRAIN





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.

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)

WE ALL NEED NATURE.

JOIN US.



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