

ANNUAL REPORT

2023

IUCN NL

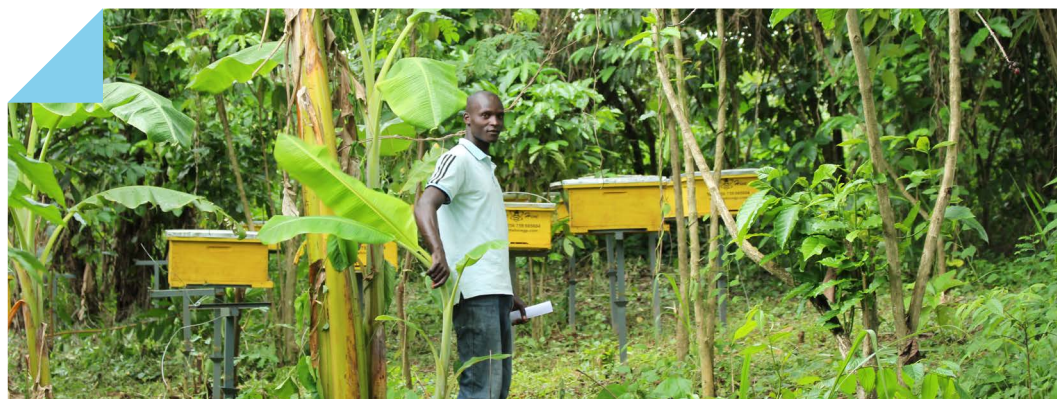
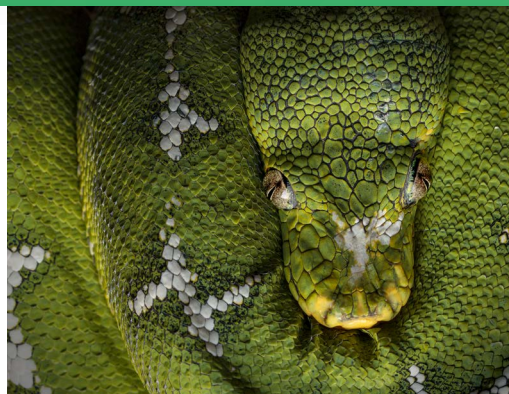


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FOREWORD

AROUND THE GLOBE, 2023 BROUGHT MULTIPLE SHOCKS AFFECTING THE PROSPECTS FOR NATURE AND PEOPLE. MILLIONS OF PEOPLE SUFFERED AS A RESULT OF UNINHIBITED AGGRESSION AND DESTRUCTIVE LAND USE, WHILE CLIMATE CHANGE AND BIODIVERSITY LOSS SPEED UP. WE FOUND HOPE IN THE INCREDIBLE STRENGTH OF CIVIL SOCIETY STANDING UP FOR ITS RIGHTS AND WELL-BEING, AND IN THE ASTONISHING RESILIENCE OF NATURE. WHEN COMBINED, A RECIPE OF OPTIMISM MAY WELL EMERGE.

Also in 2023, we strived for a just world that values and conserves nature. We did this together, as always, with the Dutch IUCN members and with over 100 environmental civil society organisations in Africa, Asia and Latin America. We continued to build on our knowledge network and track-record of more than 30 years in supporting locally-led agenda's rooted in civil society.

We are proud of the meaningful steps made in 2023, presented and highlighted in this annual report. We were able to support over 80 initiatives of conservation organisations operating at the frontier of nature conservation and restoration in 28 countries. Through our Land Acquisition Fund, unique, threatened biodiversity was secured. Policies were changed and laws were made towards safeguarding tropical forests and many more people are now engaged in forest governance. In the Netherlands we developed and launched the prototype for the National Dashboard Biodiversity and we supported the government in the development of a national strategy and action plan towards the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

To complement our portfolio, we developed and started multiple new projects, such as the NL2120 public-private programme to consolidate knowledge for successful nature-based solutions. Another example is our new project strengthening the work of women environmental defenders in the Peruvian Amazon.



Land purchase project in Manabi, Ecuador © Proyecto Washu

We were thrilled to continue our support to sustainable management and development of the Mono River Delta in Benin. With the new initiatives, we also welcomed new financial partners supporting our work.

We are also proud of the teamwork, both with our members and partners, and at our home base in Amsterdam. With commitment and collective spirit the IUCN NL staff was able to realise our ambitions in a changing world.

Already well on the way in 2024, IUCN NL is fully active in its distinctive roles in the Netherlands and in biodiversity hotspots in Africa, Asia and Latin America, supporting collective action. The continued support by our financial partners provides a vital basis for our collective action. After all, only together we can make the necessary change for nature and people.

Coenraad Krijger, Director

Angélique Laskewitz, Chair Supervisory Board



Angélique Laskewitz



Coenraad Krijger

We are also proud of the teamwork, both with our members and partners, and at our home base in Amsterdam.

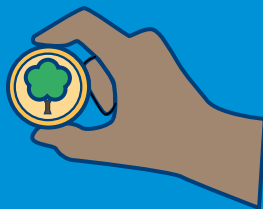
2023 IN A NUTSHELL



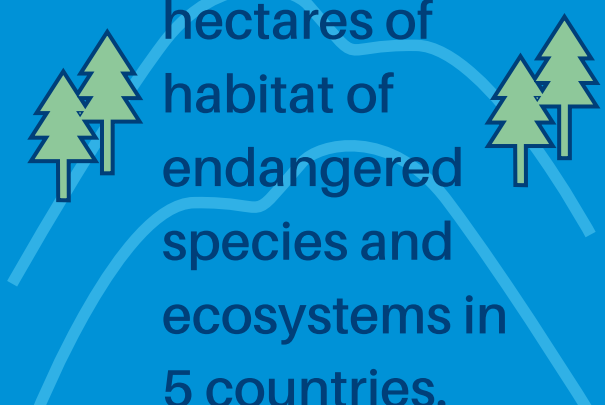
34 million hectares under sustainable forest management within the Green Livelihoods Alliance, with our direct support.

Financed 84  initiatives of local environmental organisations in **28 countries** for €3,770,806.

Attracted public investments worth more than **€4 million** and private investments worth over **€11 million** with the MoMo4C programme.



The Land Acquisition Fund enabled **6** **new land acquisition projects** securing 1880 hectares of habitat of endangered species and ecosystems in 5 countries.



2023 IN A
NUTSHELL



We supported the Indonesian environmental organisation KKI WARSI in successfully raising **€1.8 million EU funding for defending forest livelihoods.**

25 policy changes to safeguard nature within the Green Livelihoods Alliance, with our direct support.



Engaged **192,000** people from Indigenous and local communities as part of the Green Livelihoods Alliance.

As part of Strengthen the Roots, **27** grassroots environmental organisations in Bolivia, Ghana and Indonesia received fundraising and mobilising support training.

2023 IN A
NUTSHELL

Provided **€30,623**
in emergency funds to 8



environmental organisations to provide urgent natural disaster relief and legal support to environmental defenders.

Report on **palm oil supply chain from Colombia to the EU**, including an analysis of its potential social and environmental risks and  recommendations for EU policy makers.



Report on the criminal networks behind **jaguar trafficking** in Suriname.

13

organisations in Madagascar, the Comoros, Mauritius and the Seychelles supported with CEPF **grants for ecosystem-based adaptation and conservation projects** based on our assessments.

€7.7 million in income

€7.8 million in expenditure



► More detailed financial information can be found in the financial report 2023 that will be published on our website in June 2024.

Note 1 • Preliminary figures. Financial data on 2023 to be confirmed in May 2024, following audit and Supervisory Board approval.

NEWLY APPROVED PROJECTS

New

Regional Implementation Team for small grants fund management for the Madagascar and Indian Ocean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot • **\$2,000,000** • Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund • 2023 - 2027

Bottom Line! A fair and successful energy transition • **€1,785,450** • Dutch Postcode Lottery • 2023 - 2026

NL2120: knowledge & innovation programme that aims to make nature-based solutions a structural part of the Netherlands' green earning capacity • **€1,435,000** • Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management (National Growth Fund) • 2023 - 2029

Support for the management of the Mono Delta Biosphere Reserve and the development of the Bouche du Roy Marine Protected Area • **€879,231.65** • EU • 2024 -2027

Contribution to the Land Acquisition Fund • **€300,000** • Private foundation • 2023

Restoring mangroves financed with blue carbon credits in Benin • **\$69,999** • UNEP SSFA • 2023 - 2024

Nationaal Dashboard Biodiversiteit, phase II • **€94,000** • Adessium • 2023 - 2024

Nationaal Dashboard Biodiversiteit, phase II • **€35,000** • Het Cultuurfonds • 2023 - 2024

Nationaal Dashboard Biodiversiteit, phase II • **€10,000** • Ars Donandi • 2023 - 2024

Virunga Youth: A Musical Bond • **\$99,876** • The Schmidt Family Foundation • 2024 - 2025

Renewable Energy Covenant • **€59,500** • Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO) • 2023 -2025

The Collaborative Soy Initiative • **€52,000** • 2023

Metal Covenant • **€30,100** • RVO • 2023 -2024

UN Water Conference • **€30,000** • Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO) • 2023

Red List workshops • **€29,848** • Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality • 2023 - 2024

Next to these new projects, in 2023 we also supported twelve short-term consultancy assignments with a total income of **€491,790**

A full list of our financing partners can be found on our [website](#).

2023 IN A NUTSHELL

Platform for 39 IUCN member organisations in the Netherlands

Supervisory board:

- Angélique Laskewitz (Chair)
- Franc van den Berg (Vice-Chair)
- Luc Bas
- Daan van Cann
- Merel Soons (until 15 November)
- Teo Wams

Management team:

- Coenraad Krijger (Director)
- Cas Besselink
- Liliana Jauregui

31 employees
(26.33 FTEs)



61.3% female

38.7% male



4 employees and **3** interns joined IUCN NL

2 employees left the organisation

Average age: **40**
(youngest employee **24**, oldest employee **65**)



**January
2023**

**February
2023**

**March
2023**

**April
2023**

**May
2023**

**June
2023**

23 January
Team kick-off meeting 2023 at the National Postcode Lottery in Amsterdam



2 February
IUCN members meeting on the CBD Global Biodiversity Framework

1 March
International coalition joins forces [for a fair and successful energy transition](#): Bottom Line!

6 March
IUCN NL joins [International RBC Agreement for the Renewable Energy Sector](#)

10 March
Kick-off meeting [NL2120](#)

13 March
Workshop on nature-inclusive energy transition at IUCN NL

21-24 March
UN Water Conference with side events (co)organised by IUCN NL

23 March
Land Acquisition Fund [announces projects selected](#) from 2022 proposals

30 March
The Netherlands accepts [corporate social responsibility recommendations](#) requested by IUCN NL

1 April
Start [Inclusive Protection of Environmental Defenders in the Amazon](#) in Madre de Dios, Peru

13 April
[Observatorio Amazonia](#) launched by our Colombian partner FCDS

12-14 April
IUCN NL team visits the IUCN headquarters in Gland, Switzerland



22 april
Premiere [Tigre Gente](#) in Latin America. IUCN NL supported this film, which was broadcast to millions of people across Latin America as part of Operation Jaguar

26 april
Publication [report](#) on the criminal networks behind jaguar trafficking in Suriname

16 May
Opening [Ñembi Misi Operational Centre](#): a significant step towards protecting the rich biodiversity and cultural heritage of the Gran Chaco region in Bolivia

16 May
Land Acquisition Funds [supports Akehe](#) to strengthen conservation in Venezuela

22 May
Launch of the prototype for the National Biodiversity Dashboard

25 May
Launch Hummingbrew beer: [a collaboration](#) of the Land Acquisition Fund and Bird Brewery



1 June
Start of the NL IPBES Secretariat, in cooperation with Naturalis

July
2023

August
2023

September
2023

October
2023

November
2023

December
2023

7 July
Training on ecosystem-based adaptation for (future) CEPF grantees in the Madagascar and the Indian Ocean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot

10-14 July
First evaluation mission for the CEPF Regional Implementation Team, coordinated by IUCN NL, of the Madagascar and the Indian Ocean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot

10-12 August
IUCN NL contributed to International Symposium for Animal Protection in Colombia

15 August
Supreme Court of the Philippines rules in favour of nature and the rights of Indigenous peoples in the province of Palawan, IUCN NL contributed to supporting legal costs

29 August
[Updated soy standard benchmark report](#): setting a new bar for deforestation and conversion free soy in Europe

4 September
Publication [IPBES thematic assessment report on invasive species](#), with nation-wide media attention in the Netherlands

7 September
[English version of the guide](#) for international value chain management in the protein transition, with fact sheets on 16 different value chains

8 September
[Report Insights in the supply chain](#): potential risks for palm oil from Colombia to the EU

19-21 September
[Global meeting Green Livelihoods Alliance](#) for mid-term review of the Forests for a Just Future programme

1 October
Start Inception phase [NL2120 programme](#)

1 October
Start building phase [National Dashboard Biodiversity](#)

4-5 October
Visit IUCN Europe Director Boris Erg to IUCN National Committee

5 October
IUCN's 75th anniversary



23 October
Visit Deputy Director General IUCN Stewart Maginnis to IUCN NL

26 October
IUCN NL nominated for anti-fraud award

31 October
First call for proposals [BESTLIFE2030](#)

2 November
REWET calls for [an essential role for peatlands](#) in the EU Restoration law

7-12 November
CEPF global learning & exchange meeting for Regional Implementation Teams in Ecuador

9 November
Meeting for Dutch IUCN members in the office of Natuurmonumenten



9 November
Parliamentary elections debate co-organised by IUCN NL

20-21 November
Two-day IUCN NL team meeting on strategy 2024-2026

27 November
500 hectares of South African renosterveld [became a privately protected area](#) of ORCT with support from a coalition of NGOs, including the Land Acquisition Fund

1 December
Start project [Virunga Youth: A Musical Bond](#)

5 December
[Publication final article](#) of the series 'Drivers of Deforestation in the Colombian Amazon'

10 December
[IUCN Red List update](#) at COP28 in Dubai

13 December
Start [Bottom Line! petition](#) on the importance of a just energy transition



21 December
Recycling project of DierenPark Amersfoort raised €8,513 to restore habitat of the cotton-top tamarin through the Land Acquisition Fund

Timeline 2023

CONSERVATION HEROES



Diana Nabiruma

Country: Uganda

Diana Nabiruma is a Ugandan environmental defender who leads campaigns to fight environmental destruction and human rights abuses in Uganda. [Read more](#)



Daryl Bosu

Country: Ghana

As a part of A Rocha Ghana, Daryl Bosu is working together with communities to support them in defending their rights and promote the importance of preserving nature. [Read more](#)



Maria Fernanda Puerto Carrillo

Country: Venezuela

María Fernanda Puerto Carrillo has felt connected to nature for as long as she can remember. During her biology studies she started to research jaguars: the beginning of a life-long devotion to protect this threatened species. [Read more](#)



Tjalle Boorsma

Country: Bolivia

Tjalle Boorsma is a Dutch ecologist and conservationist who fell in love with Bolivia and the blue-throated macaw in 2011. He decided to stay in Bolivia to protect the countries' most endangered bird, of which only 450 individuals remain in the wild. [Read more](#)



Morteza Pourmirzai

Country: Iran

A small population of cheetahs inhabits Iran. It is the goal of Morteza Pourmirzai, environmental expert at the Iranian Cheetah Society, to conserve the Asiatic cheetahs living in the northern part of the country. [Read more](#)



Marcy Summers

Country: Indonesia, Sulawesi

Marcy Summers has dedicated her life to protecting the endemic maleo bird, together with the people of Tompotika on the island of Sulawesi. [Read more](#)



Iván Arnold

Country: Bolivia

Iván Arnold is the Director of Fundación NATIVA in Bolivia. His work focuses on the protection of nature in the Gran Chaco and Pantanal, two very biodiverse ecosystems. [Read more](#)



Ryan Lynch

Country: Ecuador

Ryan Lynch is a tropical ecologist with a specific focus on amphibians and reptiles. He has spent the past twenty years in the tropical forests of Ecuador. Driven by his love of the land and nature, as CEO of Third Millennium Alliance (TMA) he protects 800 hectares of nature every day. [Read more](#)



Vanessa Kadosoe

Country: Suriname

Vanessa Kadosoe is a biologist working on various aspects of the impact of human activities on biodiversity and the environment. At Neowild she conducts research, particularly on threats to big cats, like jaguars. [Read more](#)



Hana Raza

Country: Iraqi Kurdistan

Hana Raza was born in one of the Peshmerga camps of freedom fighters in Iraqi Kurdistan. When she was only few months old, the camp where she was staying was attacked with chemical weapons. Her family fled up into the mountains, where they and other families sought protection. Today, Hana protects the mountains that provided her safety and shelter when she was a child. [Read more](#)

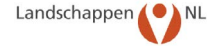


IUCN National Committee of the Netherlands and nature policy

IUCN NL represents IUCN in the Netherlands and serves as the platform for Dutch members of IUCN (the Dutch National Committee) and works with them to safeguard nature and biodiversity, in the Netherlands and beyond. In 2023, IUCN had 39 members in the Netherlands. We facilitate knowledge sharing and promote the joint defence of shared interests. In 2023, we worked with members, experts and politicians to prepare the Netherlands' Strategy and Action Plan for the new Global Biodiversity Framework. The Dutch National Dashboard for Biodiversity, which we are developing together with members, has the potential to be an important tool in monitoring national progress on biodiversity.



ARTIS



[Amazon Conservation Team](#)

[ARTIS](#)

[Avalon](#)

[Bears in mind](#)

[Black Jaguar Foundation](#)

[Both Ends](#)

[Carmabi](#)

[Chimbo Foundation](#)

[Commonland](#)

[DCNA](#)

[EAZA](#)

[EFFC](#)

[Floron](#)

[IBED](#)

[IFAW](#)

[KNNV](#)

[LandschappenNL](#)

[Leo Foundation](#)

[Milieudefensie](#)

[Naturalis](#)

[Natuur & Milieu](#)

[Natuurmonumenten](#)

[NVBT](#)

[Nederlandse Vereniging van Dierentuinen](#)

[Ouwehand Zoo Foundation](#)

[Prince Bernhard Chair](#)

[Rewilding Europe](#)

[RAVON](#)

[Rijksoverheid](#)

[Staatsbosbeheer](#)

[SOVON](#)

[Tropenbos International](#)

[Van Tienhoven Foundation](#)

[De Vlinderstichting](#)

[Vogelbescherming](#)

[Waddenvereniging](#)

[Wetlands International](#)

[WWF-NL](#)

[Zoogdiervereniging](#)



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
goal 5 • goal 14 • goal 15 • goal 17



GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK TARGETS
all

IUCN IN THE NETHERLANDS: KNOWLEDGE AND POLICY FOR NATURE

IUCN NL is the Dutch branch of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the world's largest and most diverse environmental network. In 2023, we facilitated the Dutch government and other members of IUCN in the Whole of Society Approach for the National Strategy and Action Plan for the Global Biodiversity Framework in the Netherlands. Furthermore we supported advocacy by members towards the Dutch parliamentary elections which took place in November.



NBSAP meeting on 24 May, 2023 © Dutch Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality

During two well-attended national meetings, Dutch IUCN members were discussed the contents of and next steps for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework as well as the Dutch national elections and its implications for nature. 'A public affairs advisor of the Groene 11 network shared with members how this cooperation network of major Dutch nature and environmental organisations has been working towards the national elections. Natuurmonumenten then shared their campaign to promote nature during the elections and formation of a new cabinet,' says Marianne de Beer of IUCN NL.

IUCN 75TH ANNIVERSARY

IUCN NL was honoured with a visit by Boris Erg, Director of the IUCN European Regional Office. He met with members and presented the European Regional Office's work to them on October 5th, which coincided with IUCN's 75-year anniversary. In November, this was [formally celebrated](#) at the Castle of Fontainebleau. Angélique Laskewitz, Chair of the Supervisory Board, was in attendance.



Cake to celebrate IUCN's 75-year anniversary

NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

After the Kunming-Montreal Biodiversity Framework was adopted in late 2022, 2023 was the year in which countries started working on their national plans on how to achieve the new biodiversity targets – their so-called National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP).

In the Netherlands, this process was kicked off by the Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality, together with a wide group of stakeholders. After this broad orientation with the whole of society, IUCN NL – together with MVO NL, WWF-NL and Deltaplan Biodiversiteitsherstel – supported the Ministry in getting the right parties at the table to start drafting paragraphs for each of the targets, which will total into the Netherlands' NBSAP. IUCN Members were actively included in this process and enabled to contribute to a clear and adequate plan for the implementation of the Global Biodiversity Framework.

● [Learn more](#)

MORE INFORMATION

Do you want to know more about our work for and with Dutch IUCN members? Contact Marianne de Beer.

Email: Marianne.debeer@iucn.nl



Country **The Netherlands**

Partners

• IPBES • Naturalis



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
[goal 2](#) • [goal 3](#) • [goal 14](#) • [goal 15](#)



GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK TARGETS
[target 6](#)

INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES: A MAJOR THREAT TO NATURE, ECONOMIES, FOOD SECURITY AND HUMAN HEALTH

Rose-ringed parakeets, American crayfish and Japanese knotweed: it is almost impossible to imagine the Netherlands without them. Yet these are species that are not native to our country. The presence of these invasive alien species can have major consequences for the original biodiversity and ecosystems in a country.

From 28 August until 2 September 2023, experts and policy makers from around the world gathered in Bonn, Germany, to discuss how to effectively control invasive alien species. The main topic on the agenda of this meeting, organised by the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), was the report 'Thematic assessment of invasive alien species and their control'.

DUTCH IPBES FOCAL POINT

IPBES is an independent body that was created by more than 130 countries and a number of UN agencies with the aim to bring together scientific knowledge and policy to better protect and restore biodiversity and ecosystems. Commissioned by the Directorate-General for Nature and Fisheries of the Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality (LNV), IUCN NL, together with Naturalis, is the Dutch secretariat for IPBES. As such, we spoke to various media, including NOS, about the IPBES report on invasive alien species.

● [Watch the NOS video](#)

FACT AND FIGURES

- ➔ **37,000** alien species have spread worldwide due to human activity.
- ➔ Invasive alien species are one of the **5** most important direct drivers of biodiversity loss.
- ➔ In 2019, the global annual cost of addressing invasive alien species was **\$423** billion.
- ➔ Invasive alien species have been a major factor in **60** percent of global animal and plant extinctions.
- ➔ **80** percent of the impacts of invasive alien species on ecosystem services are negative, especially through damage to food supplies.
- ➔ **85** percent of impacts of invasive alien species negatively affect people's quality of life, for instance through health impacts, including diseases such as malaria, Zika and West Nile fever.

● [Download the report](#)



Rose-ringed parakeet © Hagtub

'It is beyond doubt that actions are needed to reduce the impact of invasive alien species. Effective management and better cooperation between countries and sectors is key to reduce the number of invasive alien species and their impact. The Kunming-Montreal Biodiversity Framework provides an opportunity for governments to work on this issue, in line with international commitments.'

Coenraad Krijger, director of IUCN NL

MORE INFORMATION

Do you want to learn more about this IPBES report? Contact Coenraad Krijger.

Email: coenraad.krijger@iucn.nl



Country **The Netherlands**

Partners

Ecoshape (Arcadis, Boskalis, HKV, RHDHV, Sweco, Van Oord, Witteveen+Bos and others) • Province of Friesland • Municipalities of Dordrecht and Rotterdam • Staatsbosbeheer • Deltares • Wageningen University & Research • TU Delft • TU Twente • Utrecht University • ARK Rewilding NL • De Noordzee • IVN • Natuur & Milieu • Natuur & Milieu Federaties • Natuurmonumenten • SoortenNL • Vogelbescherming • WWF-NL • CoE Delta Platform • CoE Groen • CIV Groen (Hogeschool van Hall Larenstein and HZ UAS)



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

[goal 8](#) • [goal 9](#) • [goal 11](#) • [goal 13](#) • [goal 14](#) • [goal 15](#) • [goal 17](#)



GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK TARGETS

[target 8](#) • [target 11](#)

NL2120: KNOWLEDGE AND INNOVATION PROGRAMME ON NATURE- BASED SOLUTIONS



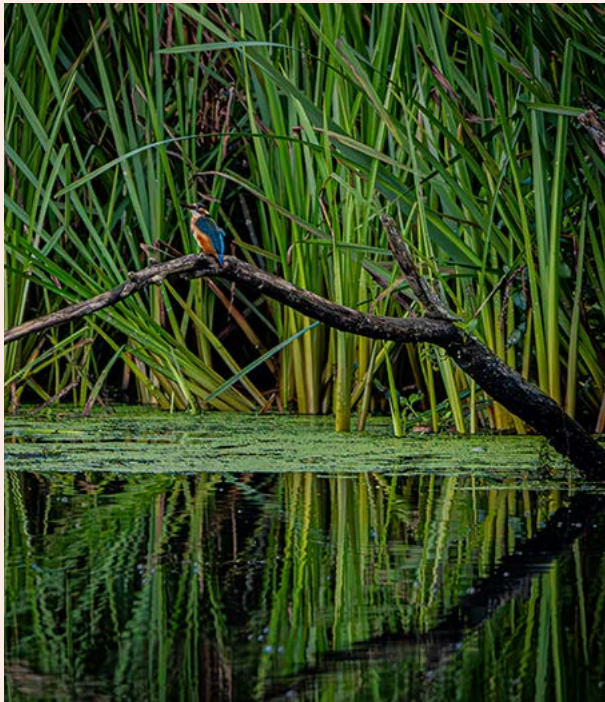
Mallard © Janosch Diggelmann

In February 2023, the Dutch government announced that it plans to invest 110 million euros in the NL2120 knowledge and innovation programme. IUCN NL is one of the founding partners in the NL2120 consortium, which will conduct research in the coming years into how nature-based solutions can contribute to a biodiversity- and climate-proof Dutch delta with a resilient economy.

INTEGRATED APPROACH

Climate change and biodiversity loss are putting pressure on deltas worldwide. An integrated approach aimed at sustainable and climate-proof use of our land and water systems is necessary. In recent years, nature-based solutions have become part of international treaties, such as the European Green Deal and the United Nations Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. Well-known examples in the Netherlands are coastal reinforcement with sand, and city parks for water collection and cooling.

Maxime Eiselin, who manages the NL2120 programme at IUCN NL, explains: 'The knowledge and insights generated by the NL2120 programme, will not only be applied in our own country, but will also be exported. This way, in addition to climate-proofing the Netherlands, NL2120 will also increase our country's earning capacity. After all, the challenges of populated delta systems and subsidence areas are global and not limited to the Netherlands.'



Kingfisher in Eijsden, the Netherlands © Kenny Goossen

JOINING FORCES ON NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS

Financed through the National Growth Fund, NL2120 is one of the largest partnerships in the world in the field of nature-based solutions. In the programme, governments, nature organisations, engineering firms, dredging companies and knowledge institutions join forces on nature-based solutions for major challenges in the areas of climate, nature-inclusive agriculture, biodiversity and housing. NL2120 has a term of ten years and is expected to generate a cumulative growth of Dutch GDP of 1 billion euro.

MORE INFORMATION

Do you want to learn more about the NL2120 programme? Check out our [website](#) or contact Maxime Eiselin.

Email: maxime.eiselin@iucn.nl



National Park De Biesbosch © Stan Versluis

Country **The Netherlands**

Partners

• **Naturalis Biodiversity Center** • **SoortenNL** • **Sovon Vogelonderzoek Nederland**



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
goal 14 • goal 15



GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK TARGETS
target 14 • target 21



© Marten Schoonman, Naturalis

PROTOTYPE OF THE DUTCH NATIONAL DASHBOARD FOR BIODIVERSITY LAUNCHED

Biodiversity in the Netherlands is not doing well. Nature reserves are under severe pressure from nitrogen, drought and fragmentation, causing even common species like the rabbit and hedgehog to decline in numbers. Targets have been set by both the EU and the UN to halt biodiversity loss and bend the curve towards recovery by 2030. We want to understand how the Netherlands is doing in its attempt to achieve this ambitious goal. Are we on track to meet the targets? This is why IUCN NL, in collaboration with Naturalis, SoortenNL and Sovon, has developed the Dutch National Dashboard for Biodiversity.

This online dashboard focuses on biodiversity restoration in the Netherlands in the run up to 2030. On 22 May, the International Day of Biodiversity, the prototype of the Dashboard was presented in a well-attended [webinar](#).

WHAT IS THE DUTCH NATIONAL DASHBOARD FOR BIODIVERSITY?

The Dutch National Dashboard for Biodiversity provides an overview of reliable, science-based and regularly updated information on biodiversity in the Netherlands. This information is sourced from various existing reports and dashboards, such as the [Environmental Data Compendium](#) and [the Living Planet Report for The Netherlands](#). Both European and Dutch biodiversity targets are used for reference. The Dashboard presents this information in such a way that professionals in positions with influence on the key drivers of biodiversity restoration in the Netherlands (policymakers, civil servants, companies) can use it to steer their policies and action. In addition, it is also an interesting source for other people.

WHAT DOES THE NDB LOOK LIKE?

The Dashboard is structured around four themes that together guide the Netherlands towards biodiversity restoration: improving biodiversity, conserving and expanding nature, reducing the pressures on biodiversity and encouraging systems change. Based on these themes, we have drawn up indicators against which the state of biodiversity, and thus the progress towards biodiversity restoration, can be gauged. Examples are the area of restored ecosystems, nitrogen emissions and the extent to which harmful subsidies have been eliminated.



Grey seal © Jelger Herder

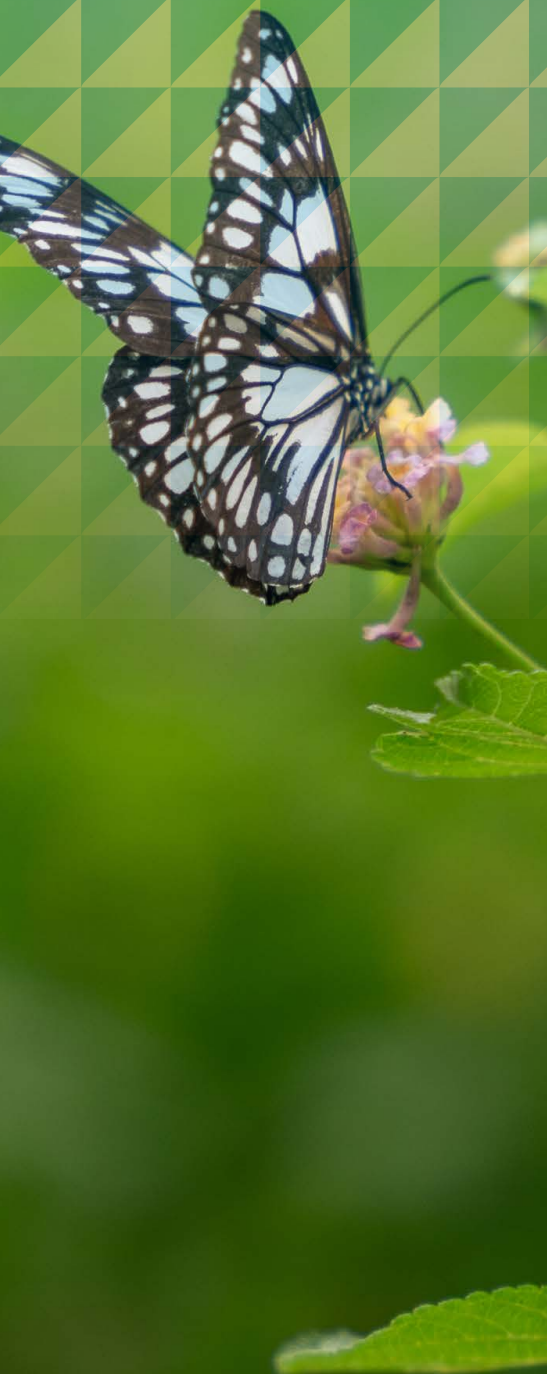
MORE INFORMATION

Curious about the themes, targets, indicators and design of the National Dashboard for Biodiversity?

● [Read the brochure \(in Dutch\)](#)

Would you like to contribute to the further development of the National Dashboard for Biodiversity? Then contact Hanneloes Weeda at hanneloes.weeda@iucn.nl





Nature conservation

Worldwide, biodiversity is rapidly declining, whilst healthy ecosystems are crucial for the well-being of nature and people. Among the main causes of the biodiversity crisis are habitat loss, climate change and wildlife crime. With partner organisations around the globe, we tackle forest crime and protect and restore the habitat of threatened species.

Country **South Africa**

Partner

• **Overberg Renosterveld Conservation Trust**



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
goal 13 • goal 15 • goal 17



GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK TARGETS
target 1 • target 2 • target 3 • target 4

500 HECTARES RENOSTERVELD SAFEGUARDED IN SOUTH AFRICA

For over 20 years, the IUCN NL Land Acquisition Fund has contributed to securing, connecting and restoring habitat of endangered species by supporting local conservation NGOs. Every year, a number of land acquisition projects is selected after a thorough selection process. Our partner organisation Overberg Renosterveld Conservation Trust (ORCT) in Plaatjieskraal, South Africa purchased 500 hectares endangered renosterveld in 2023.



Tagging black harriers © ORCT

To maximise impact, our Land Acquisition Fund often teams up with other donor organisations. By collaborating with WWF South Africa, World Land Trust and WildLandscapes International, we enabled the ORCT to establish a nature reserve safeguarding renosterveld.

A BIODIVERSITY HAVEN

Renosterveld, renowned for its floral diversity, is one of the most threatened ecosystems on Earth. Only five percent of the original ecosystem remains, which is threatened by overgrazing by livestock, inappropriate fire regimes, illegal damming, agriculture and invasive alien plant species. Despite being a fragmented ecosystem today, renosterveld still provides a haven for an abundance of biodiversity.

It has the largest breeding population of the black harrier: an endemic, endangered bird species, of which an estimated 1300 individuals to be left in the wild. Renosterveld is also extremely rich in plant life. Marc Hoogeslag, coordinator of the Land Acquisition Fund: 'We did not only look at protecting the habitat of renosterveld's charismatic animal species, but also took the fauna in this botanically unique region into account.'

JOINING FORCES TO SAFEGUARD NATURE

After sixteen years of working with local stakeholders and landowners, ORCT was able to safeguard the 500 hectares of endangered renosterveld. According to Dr. Odette Curtis-Scott, Director of ORCT, 'This is a powerful collaboration of like-minded organisations from across the world. This is significant because it shows that renosterveld is, at last, being recognised internationally. It is really exciting for us to be working with these incredible partners.'

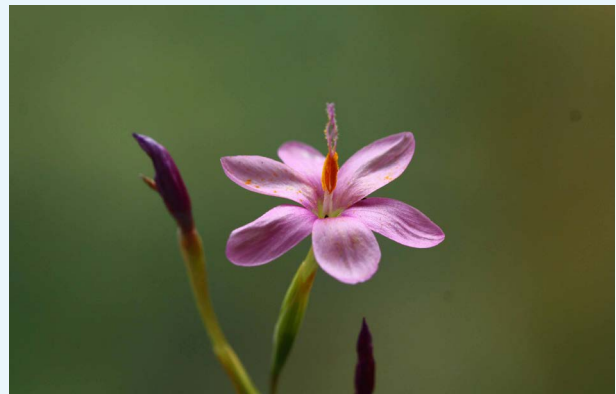
The acquired land of Plaatjieskraal is added to the Haarwegskloof Renosterveld Reserve, which also measures 500 hectares in size and was established in 2013. Both reserves are owned and managed by ORCT.

MORE INFORMATION

Would you like to learn more about the Land Acquisition Fund? Check our [website](#) or contact Marc Hoogeslag. Email: marc.hoogeslag@iucn.nl



Endangered plant species *Gibbaeum hartmannianum* © ORCT



Plant species *Hesperantha kiaratayloriae*, discovered on Plaatjieskraal © ORCT



Endangered black harrier © ORCT

Country **Democratic Republic of Congo**

Partners

• **Forgotten Parks Foundation** • **Institut Congolais Pour La Conservation de la Nature**



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
goal 1 • **goal 2** • **goal 14** • **goal 15** •
goal 17



GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK TARGETS
target 1 • **target 3** • **target 4** • **target 5** •
target 9 • **target 10**

PROFESSIONAL- ISING THE PARK MANAGEMENT OF UPEMBA NATIONAL PARK

In July 2017, the NGO Forgotten Parks Foundation (FPF) signed a contract with the National Parks Authority to co-manage the Upemba-Kundelungu Complex in the Democratic Republic of Congo. IUCN NL has supported this public-private partnership from 2017 through July 2023, contributing to professionalising the park management and the development of sustainable fishing activities.



Fishermen from Lake Upemba © IUCN NL

Before the area’s armed conflict started, it was very rich in biodiversity. However, due to industrial-scale poaching, large predators have now virtually disappeared and only 200 elephants are left. ‘Since the national park status did not safeguard biodiversity, it was important to improve the park management,’ says Mark van der Wal, senior expert ecosystems and extractives.

IMPROVING PARK MANAGEMENT

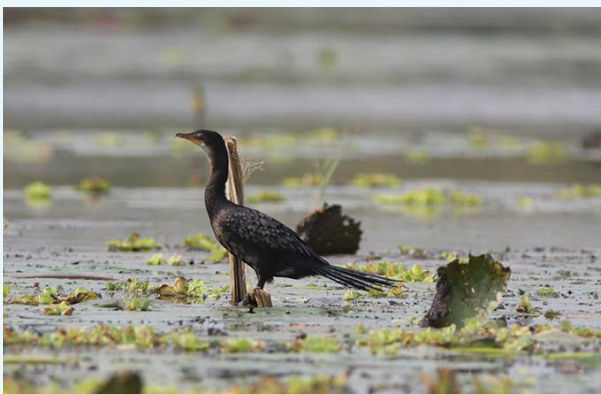
This aspect of the project focused on three interventions: building a strong management team and organisational structure, setting up a transparent system of financial management and accountability and recruiting and training local young rangers.

In the last project phase, we supported a research project connecting management to conservation science. The University of Lumbumbashi was asked to advise the park management and a new generation of researchers was able to make important steps in their career.

SUSTAINABLE FISHING

The population in the area largely depends on fishing. The majority of the 80,000 fishermen, however, used to fish independently and unregulated, in the shallows along the shore, the nursery habitat for many fish species. The result: fish stocks plummeted and the protein intake of people in the area decreased, as did the income of fishermen.

Foremen and representatives of NGOs from Lake Edward came to Lake Upemba to draft an inventory of the situation and to share their insights, experiences and solutions. With positive results: the fishermen of Upemba formed a union for mutual agreements and monitoring. Shortly after, illegal fishing markedly decreased.



Long-tailed cormorant © Paul Villaespesa, IUCN NL

MULTI-STAKEHOLDER APPROACH

‘Through a multi-stakeholder approach, we have laid the foundation for an effective management and sustainable development of the Upemba National Park,’ concludes Van der Wal. An ambition for the future is to attract large-scale funding blending private capital and donor funds for long-term, large-scale conservation.



Inhabitants of the Lake Upemba area
© Paul Villaespesa, IUCN NL

MORE INFORMATION

Do you want to know more about this project? Have a look on our [website](#) or contact [Mark van der Wal](#).

Email: mark.vanderwal@iucn.nl



Country **Bolivia**

Partner

• **Fundación NATIVA Bolivia**



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
goal 3 • goal 10 • goal 13 • goal 15



GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK TARGETS
target 1 • target 3 • target 4 • target 8 • target 22

SUPPORTING INDIGENOUS CONSERVATION IN BOLIVIA

Bolivia's Grand Chaco region is characterised by biological and cultural richness. Together with our partner organisation Fundación NATIVA Bolivia, we strengthen the Indigenous management of the Ñembi Guasu Indigenous Conservation Area that safeguards the Bolivian Gran Chaco through locally-led conservation. In 2023, the Ñembi Misi Operational Centre opened its doors.



Opening of Ñembi Misi Operational Centre © NATIVA Bolivia

The knowledge of Indigenous peoples is essential for sustainable landscape management. In many parts of the world, however, decision-making processes often ignore the interests and knowledge of Indigenous communities. But the Bolivian law on Indigenous autonomy allows for protected areas to be established and managed by an Autonomous Indigenous government.

INDIGENOUS CONSERVATION IN ÑEMBI GUASU

The [Ñembi Guasu Indigenous Conservation Area](#), consolidated in 2019, was the first conservation area established within the country's law on Indigenous autonomy. After supporting the establishment of the conservation area with others, we started a new phase in 2022 to support the Indigenous governance of the Guaraní people through NATIVA.

The project’s objective is for Ñembi Guasu to become an effectively-managed Indigenous conservation area with adequate management and strong local leadership. This is being achieved through by training park rangers, monitoring wildlife and bush fires and implementing the management plan. In addition, a financial mechanism for long-term management of Ñembi Guasu is being put in place, and public and political support for Ñembi Guasu and Great Chaco-Pantanal Conservation Landscape is being increased.



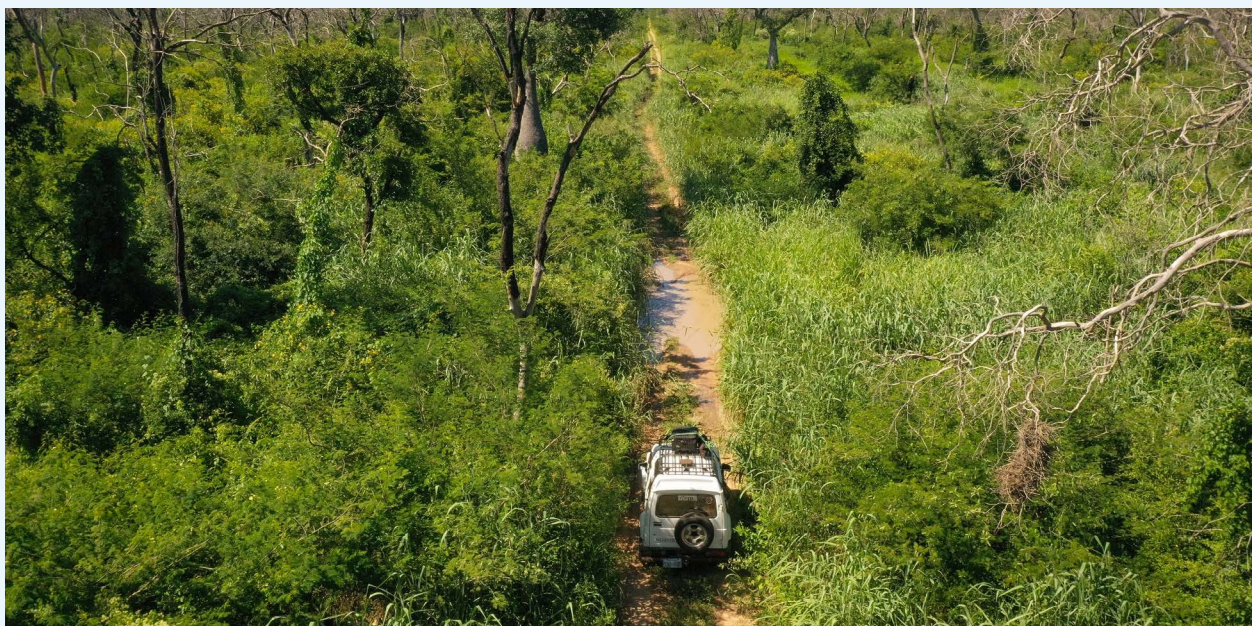
Opening of Ñembi Misi Operational Centre © NATIVA Bolivia

ÑEMBI MISI OPERATIONAL CENTRE

The opening of the [Ñembi Misi Operational Centre](#) in May 2023 was a milestone. The centre’s main objective is to facilitate operations by providing essential logistical support. The operational centre was established by the Indigenous Autonomous government of Charagua with support from NATIVA. All this work is jointly supported by World Land Trust, Nature and Culture International, DOB Ecology and IUCN NL. In this consortium, IUCN NL closely is advising NATIVA in various elements of the project. Together we aim to build a strong coalition of international partners to support Ñembi Guasu and the greater Chaco-Pantanal landscape.

MORE INFORMATION

**Do you want to learn more about our support to Ñembi Guasu? Check our [website](#) or contact [Sander van Andel](#).
Email: sander.vanandel@iucn.nl**



Ñembi Guasu reserve in Bolivia © NATIVA Bolivia



Co-funded by the European Union

Countries **EU overseas territories**

Partners

• IUCN Europe • OFB (Office français de la Biodiversité) • IUCN France (Comité français de l'IUCN) • Consulta Europa, NORDECO



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
goal 13 • goal 14 • goal 15



GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK TARGETS
target 1 • target 2 • target 3 • target 8



Natural bridge Aruba
© Orietta Gaspari from Getty Images Signature

BESTLIFE2030: NATURE CONSERVATION

Following its start in February 2023, the BESTLIFE2030 programme launched its first call for proposals on 31 October. BESTLIFE2030 provides funding for nature conservation and restoration projects in the European Union's overseas territories, including Aruba, Bonaire, Curaçao, Saba, St. Eustatius and St. Maarten.

A key aspect of the EU's Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 is to help stop and reverse the loss of global biodiversity. Within the European Union, the Outermost Regions and Overseas Countries and Territories are home to 80 percent of Europe's biodiversity. At the same time, they are among the places that are most vulnerable to climate change and exposed to a series of specific environmental pressures.

FOCUS OF BESTLIFE2030

The BESTLIFE2030 programme provides funding for projects aimed at protecting and restoring biodiversity, protecting natural resources and adapting to climate change in six regions: Amazon, Caribbean, Pacific islands, Indian Ocean, Macaronesia and Greenland.

BESTLIFE2030 is funded by LIFE, a European environmental and climate action grant programme. It is coordinated by IUCN Europe. As a regional hub, IUCN NL is the focal point for Aruba, Bonaire, Curacao, Saba, St. Eustatius and St. Maarten.

MORE INFORMATION

Do you want to learn more about our work in the Caribbean part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands? Check out our [website](#) or contact **Caspar Verwer.**

Email: caspar.verwer@iucn.nl





Climate

The biodiversity crisis is closely linked to the climate crisis. Many plant and animal species are suffering from the changing climate. At the same time, healthy ecosystems rich in biodiversity are indispensable to reduce climate change and to adapt to its impacts. Together with our partner organisations, we work to tackle both crises at once.



Country **Indonesia**

Partner

- Alliance for Tompotika Conservation (AlTo)



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

[goal 13](#) • [goal 14](#) • [goal 15](#) • [goal 17](#)



GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK TARGETS

[target 1](#) • [target 3](#) • [target 4](#) • [target 14](#) • [target 15](#) • [target 16](#) • [target 21](#) • [target 22](#)

NICKEL MINING FOR ELECTRIC VEHICLES COULD DESTROY UNIQUE INDONESIAN FOREST

With the Bottom Line! project, IUCN NL and its partners are working on a just energy transition that minimises the negative impact on nature and people. One of the challenges of the energy transition is the need for huge amounts of raw materials like nickel, which are used, for example, in batteries for electric vehicles.



Nickel mining in Sulawesi © Stephanie Broekarts

As the world's largest nickel producer and the country with the largest nickel reserves, Indonesia is aware of the economic opportunities presented by the energy transition. Between 2014 and 2022, nickel production in the country increased fourteenfold. Indonesia's largest nickel reserves are in Sulawesi.

EIGHT NEW NICKEL MINES

The 83,000-hectare Tompotika rainforest on the island of Sulawesi was recently selected by the Indonesian government for at least eight new nickel mines. This forest is home to an enormous wealth of biodiversity. Nine endemic species live here, including the critically endangered maleo bird.

The forest is also of great importance to 107 communities, with a total of 75,000 people, living in the area. It stores CO₂, purifies water, prevents floods and provides timber, rattan and damar resin. Moreover, the coral reefs off the coast depend on healthy forests on land. Deforestation for mining, and the mining activities themselves, would lead to large-scale pollution of coastal waters, degradation of coral reefs and dying fish, which would be detrimental to the livelihoods of fishers and their families.



● **In this podcast for ARTIS zoo, our head of communications Elske Swets, talks about the impact of mining on biodiversity hotspots.**

44 percent of all mining takes place in forests, whilst globally **1.6** billion people depend on forests for their livelihoods.

FORESTS, NICKEL AND CRITICAL CHOICES

In the video 'Tompotika: Forests, Nickel, and Critical Choices' staff from our partner organisation Alliance for Tompotika Conservation (AlTo) share what's at stake and how they are working with the peninsula's residents to protect their forest, wildlife and livelihoods.

● **Watch the video**

HOW DID BOTTOM LINE! CONTRIBUTE TO A JUST ENERGY TRANSITION IN 2023?

- We supported CSO partners and local and Indigenous communities in Indonesia, Ghana and the Philippines in their efforts to protect key biodiversity areas, tropical rainforests and watersheds from being mined, and facilitated knowledge and strategy sharing and networking among partners.
- Together with our partners in the project Bottom Line! we advocated for reduced energy consumption and a circular economy as crucial elements in reducing our dependence on primary raw materials as well as the negative impact of mining.
- We provided input to the [Dutch National Raw Materials Strategy](#) (Nationale Grondstoffenstrategie) and the European Critical Raw Materials Act.
- Together with other NGO's and financial institutions, we launched a [petition](#) calling on the Dutch Parliament to ensure that mining does not lead to large-scale environmental destruction (ecocide) and human rights violations.



Maleo birds © Stephanie Broekarts

MORE INFORMATION

Do you want to learn more about Bottom Line!? Check out our [website](#) or contact **Maartje Hilterman**.

Email: maartje.hilterman@iucn.nl

Country: **Indonesia**

Partner

• **KKI WARSI**



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
goal 5 • goal 12 • goal 13 • goal 15



GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK TARGETS
target 8 • target 10 • target 11 • target 22 • target 23

LOCALLY-LED ADAPTATION AND SOCIAL FORESTRY IN INDONESIA

Indonesia ranks high in terms of climate risk¹, with high exposure to all types of flooding and extreme heat. The intensity of these hazards is expected to grow as the climate is changing. Climate change is likely to have impacts on water availability, biodiversity, disaster risk management, and health and nutrition, with severe implications for poverty and inequality. Strengthening the work of local stakeholders to lead in adapting to climate change ensures that the voices of communities on the frontline of climate impacts are heard in decision-making that directly affects their lives and livelihoods.



Ibis with a rubber tree in agroforestry garden
© Stephanie Broekarts

WHAT IS LOCALLY-LED ADAPTATION?

Decisions on how to tackle interconnected crises are often made far away from local contexts and without the input of communities. Locally-led adaptation enables people to take the lead in dealing with the challenges of climate change, biodiversity loss and deprived livelihoods, by providing them with the information, capacity and resources to deal with them. IUCN NL supports bottom-up projects that are developed by partner civil society organisations (CSOs) in consultation with Indigenous Peoples and local communities (IP&LCs).

● [Read more: Locally-led adaptation](#)

THE IMPORTANCE OF LOCALLY-LED ADAPTATION

Since 2011, IUCN NL has collaborated with KKI WARSI as one of the front-runners among Indonesian CSOs to realise social forestry permits for IP&LCs in Sumatra, and to engage with the government to improve the policy framework and to simplify the procedures. The forests provide IP&LCs with livelihood sources, culture and identity as well as protection against natural disasters resulting from climate change. Social forestry permits are all the more important in the absence of territorial rights in Indonesia, causing IP&LCs to be at risk of being deprived of their livelihoods and their capacity to manage their forests. Furthermore, the process of obtaining forestry permits is long and complicated, making the help of organisations such as KKI WARSI indispensable.

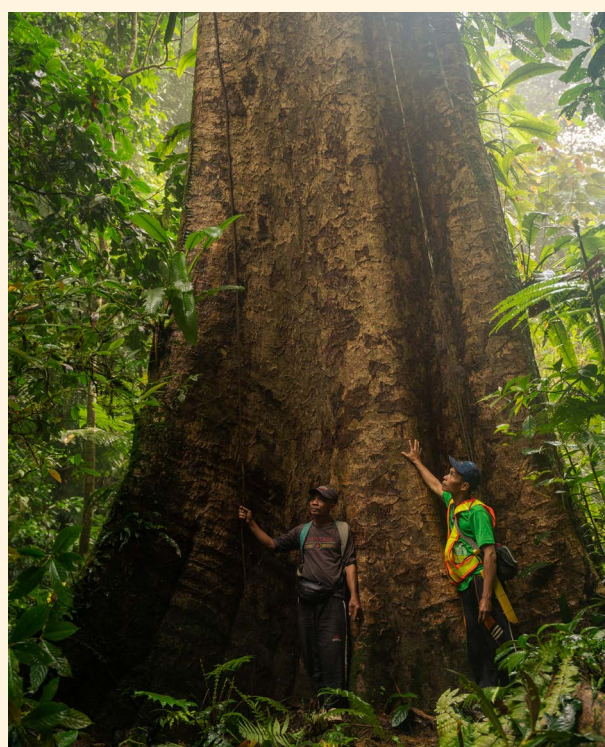
AN INCLUSIVE AND PARTICIPATORY APPROACH

KKI WARSI supports community-based organisations (CBOs) – Village Forest Management Groups, Village Enterprises and Women Groups – that are working on sustainable forest management, and train them to mobilise local support. WARSI invites women’s organisations to train local facilitators to become more inclusive of women, amplifying their voices and fostering women leadership. This has led to more women and youth becoming involved in CBOs. Local governments often lack capacity and resources and need the extra support of communities and non-government actors – as equal partners – in order to be more effective. WARSI therefore also works to address obstacles faced by local governments in dealing with climate change, through the sharing of lessons learnt, models and updates from the field.

● [Read more about locally led adaptation in Indonesia](#)



Organic rice field in Sumpur Kudus Sumatra
© Stephanie Broekarts



Members of a Village Forest Management Group in the Sumpur Kudus community forest © Stephanie Broekarts

MORE INFORMATION

Read more on our [website](#) or contact **Evelien van den Broek**.

Email: evelien.vandenbroek@iucn.nl



Partners

- Wageningen University & Research • Wetlands International • Idener Research and Development
- Agrupacion De Interes Economico • Kneia SL • University of Oulu • University of Eastern Finland
- Stroming BV • Bax Innovation Consulting S.L. • KU Leuven • University of Tartu • BOKU University
- University of Parma • Remote Sensing Solutions • University of Evora • Câmara Municipal de Alpiarça
- Autorità di Bacino Distrettuale del Fiume Po.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

[goal 6](#) • [goal 13](#) • [goal 15](#) • [goal 17](#)



GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK TARGETS

[target 2](#) • [target 3](#) • [target 8](#) • [target 10](#) • [target 11](#) • [target 14](#) • [target 20](#)



Stratiotes aloides in Weerribben-Wieden
© Nadine Kliffen, IUCN NL

REWET: A LABORATORY FOR EUROPEAN WETLANDS IN TIMES OF CLIMATE CHANGE

Wetlands provide drinking water, are rich in biodiversity and play a major role in mitigating climate change. The REWET project, a collaboration between IUCN NL and partners across Europe that started in 2022, investigates the role and potential of European wetlands in relation to climate change.

Wetlands include peatlands, which function like sponges retaining large amounts of water and release it in times of drought. Peatlands and other wetlands also hold large amounts of CO₂, making them a nature-based solution in combating climate change. But in Europe they are under pressure due to agriculture, forestry, urbanisation and peat extraction.

NATURE RESTORATION LAW

The EU Nature Restoration Law is crucial for restoring European nature after decades of biodiversity loss. The law is initiated to turn the tide and stop the crisis in Europe, as a flourishing biodiversity on our continent is essential to deal with climate, food security and health challenges.

Throughout 2023, REWET partners have stressed the importance of an ambitious and effective Nature Restoration Law, in which peatlands should be strongly embedded.

● [Read more about REWET and the Nature Restoration Law](#)

COLLABORATION AT EU-LEVEL

With information from seven open laboratories, including Weerribben-Wieden National Park in the Netherlands, REWET develops a comprehensive understanding of how European wetlands can best contribute to climate mitigation and adaptation.

The research focuses on monitoring biodiversity, greenhouse gas emissions and greenhouse gas absorption, and looks at various measures to optimise the absorption process. By developing a roadmap for wetland restoration and recommendations for policymakers and wetland managers, the project will contribute to the EU 2030 climate and biodiversity targets.

REWET: A LABORATORY FOR WETLANDS

Collaboration at EU level is important, according to senior expert nature conservation Caspar Verwer. 'Peatlands are being restored in some countries, while further degradation is taking place in other countries. Cooperation at European level is important to effectively protect and restore wetlands.'

The EU Nature Restoration Law is an important step. 'Once the law is fully adopted,' says Verwer, 'all eyes will be on member states. We must start restoring as soon as possible to secure biodiversity, and thus human existence, in the long term.' REWET, a laboratory for the restoration of wetlands at European scale, can support the member states to effectively implement the law.



Nationaal Park Weerribben - Wieden © Nadine Kliffen, IUCN NL

● Watch the video



Soil sample in Weerribben-Wieden © Nadine Kliffen, IUCN NL

MORE INFORMATION

Would you like to learn more about REWET? Check our [website](#) or contact Caspar Verwer.

Email: caspar.verwer@iucn.nl





COP28 side event on climate finance for forests biodiversity and food security © NTFP



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
[goal 5](#) · [goal 10](#) · [goal 13](#) · [goal 17](#)



GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK TARGETS
[target 8](#) · [target 19](#) · [target 22](#) · [target 23](#)

COP28 SIDE EVENTS SHOWCASING LOCALLY- LED CLIMATE POLICY AND FINANCE

From 30 November to 13 December 2023, around 85,000 participants, including over 150 heads of state, met at the UNFCCC COP28 in Dubai. IUCN NL and its partners were there to organise side events on climate finance for forests and gender-just climate solutions.

COP28 was particularly important as it marked the conclusion of the first global stocktake of the global efforts to address climate change following the Paris Agreement. As expected conclusions were that progress was too slow. However, there were also positive developments, as the Conference called on governments to speed up the transition from fossil fuels to renewables.

CLIMATE FINANCE FOR FORESTS, BIODIVERSITY AND FOOD SECURITY

On 4 December, IUCN NL, Gaia Amazonas, NTFP-EP, Tropenbos International and WECF organised a side event at the IUCN pavilion that explored approaches to prevent and remedies to pay for forests and biodiversity loss. The event emphasised the power of locally-led approaches to climate adaptation and mitigation and showcased the critical role of Indigenous peoples and local communities in protecting forests.



COP28 side event on climate finance for forests biodiversity and food security © NTFP

It highlighted the importance of placing gender responsiveness and inclusion in all policies, showcasing speakers from our network who brought grassroots (Indigenous peoples, frontline communities, civil society organisations) examples of gender-responsive forest governance. At the event, we advocated for increased climate investment, while stressing the urgent and equitable responsibility in addressing, minimising and averting loss and damage.

FROM BARRIERS TO ACTIONABLE SOLUTIONS

The day before, on 3 December, IUCN NL, the Global Alliance for Green and Gender Action and NTFP-EP organised a side event discussing how gender-just climate policy and finance can become a reality. Women-led community-based organisations (CBOs) find current financing and decision-making processes almost inaccessible. Yet, these are the very organisations that are spearheading the most holistic and effective gender just climate solutions.

During the event, local CBO and NGO representatives shared how they are implementing gender just climate solutions, and which obstacles they face to access finance and meaningfully engage in decision-making processes.

MORE INFORMATION

Do you want to learn more about IUCN NL's contribution and response to UNFCCC? Check out our [website](#) or contact **Maxime Eiselin**.

Email: maxime.eiselin@iucn.nl



COP28 side event on climate finance for forests biodiversity and food security © NTFP



Every person on Earth has the right to a safe, healthy and sustainable living environment. That's what we are working on, together with our partners.



Environmental justice and inclusion

Every person on Earth has the right to a safe, healthy and sustainable living environment. Unfortunately, in many countries where we work this right is violated and for many people, Indigenous peoples and women in particular, standing up for these rights is not without risk. Together with our partners, we work to safeguard the right to a healthy environment for people and nature.



COMBATTING PLASTIC POLLUTION IN GHANA

Ghana generates about 1.1 million tonnes of plastic waste per year. Due to a lack of proper waste management, only about 5 percent is recycled; the rest often ends up in the environment, is burnt or finds its way to a landfill. Most of these problematic plastics are single-use plastics (SUPs), which have a significant negative effect on both humans and wildlife. Supported by IUCN NL and A Rocha Ghana, the Ghana Youth Environmental Movement (GYEM) is combatting the issue of plastic pollution. Their goal? A ban on single-use plastics in Ghana by 2025.



Campaign against single-use plastics in Ghana © GYEM

Gloria Agyare is one of the organisers of GYEM’s campaign against SUPs. She explains: ‘Ghana has already seen the impact of plastic pollution. It is time for a transition away from plastic. Fortunately for Ghana, we have examples to inspire us from across the continent, even beyond. For a sustainable future, we do not want plastic. We want to leave it behind.’

‘The ultimate dream is that we achieve our vision, which is a ban on single-use plastics by 2025. Seeing people from all over Ghana rallying for this cause proves to me that this is achievable. The people are the ones with the power. I would like to see Africans going back to their Indigenous ways of living like going to the market with their own baskets and also seeing a change in mind-set.’

Together with a ban on single-use plastics, GYEM also works on empowering the public through providing them with information and knowledge on the negative effects of plastic pollution, and promoting locally available sustainable alternatives to single-use plastics.

MORE INFORMATION

Do you want to learn more about our work in Ghana? Contact Sander van Andel.

Email: sander.vanandel@iucn.nl



STRENGTHEN THE ROOTS

GYEM, A Rocha Ghana, WACSI, Wilde Ganzen and IUCN NL work together in the project [Strengthen the Roots](#), which supports grassroot community organisations that stand up for nature in and around their communities, enabling them to mobilise local support for their work. These grassroot organisations are essential in society to protect the natural environment. A Rocha Ghana [trained nine grassroot organisations](#), including GYEM, on local resource mobilisation, fundraising and communication.



Campaign against single-use plastics in Ghana © GYEM

Country **Democratic Republic of the Congo**

Partners

• **Union de Femmes pour le Progrès Social (UFPS)** •
Women Engage for a Common Future (WECF)

CONGOLESE WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION CHAMPIONS DROUGHT- RESILIENT FARMING

Drought as a result of climate change is increasingly impacting farmers in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. In Virunga National Park, this has led to conflict between people and eco-guards as people entered the protected park in search of fertile ground. With the support of IUCN NL and Green Livelihoods Alliance (GLA) partners, women's association Union de Femmes pour le Progrès Social (UFPS) has been stimulating the use of drought-resilient farming techniques. In this way, both livelihoods and biodiversity are protected, a successful example of [locally-led adaptation](#).



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

[goal 2](#) • [goal 5](#) • [goal 13](#) • [goal 15](#) •
[goal 17](#)



GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK TARGETS

[target 8](#) • [target 10](#) • [target 11](#) •
[target 22](#) • [target 23](#)

Under the leadership of UFPS president Saanane Odette, techniques such as agroforestry or row sowing have become common practice for many farmers in the area. This has increased the agricultural production of 67 UFPS members and 85 non-members (including 54 women) from 20 percent to 60 percent.

REDUCED AGRICULTURAL PRESSURE

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and other GLA countries, thanks to the presence of female role models, women increasingly implement sustainable practices which have less impact on the forests. Creating spaces such as associations or women-only meetings, where women feel comfortable to share knowledge, advocate for their rights and strengthen their capacities, has proven valuable.

The use of these farming practices has also reduced the need to enter Virunga National Park in search of fertile ground. This has reduced conflict between eco-guards and communities that live around the park, and protects peasant women from retaliations by eco-guards or violence by armed groups. Communities are now able to participate in the protection of Virunga, and the agricultural pressure on biodiversity has been reduced.

The Green Livelihoods Alliance

The Green Livelihoods Alliance (GLA) is a collaboration between IUCN NL, Gaia Amazonas, Milieudefensie, NTFP-EP, SDI, Tropenbos International, and Fern and WECF as technical partners. GLA's Forests for a Just Future programme aims to promote sustainable and inclusive governance of tropical rainforests in areas where the livelihoods of Indigenous peoples and local communities are threatened by the expansion of agriculture, infrastructure or mining. Since women are disproportionately impacted by climate change as a result of underlying inequalities, the Forests for a Just Future programme explicitly implements gender-transformative activities.

MORE INFORMATION

Do you want to learn more about our work? Check out our [website](#) or contact **Paul Villaespesa**.

Email: paul.villaespesa@iucn.nl



A farmer practices climate change resilient techniques in her field, Kinyandonyi Democratic Republic of Congo © CEPED

Country **Colombia**

Partners

• FCDS • Ambiente y Sociedad • Mongabay



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

**goal 5 • goal 10 • goal 13 • goal 15 •
goal 16 • goal 17**



GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK TARGETS

**target 13 • target 14 • target 22 •
target 23**

GENDER DYNAMICS AND DEFORESTATION IN THE COLOMBIAN AMAZON

Deforestation affects all life in the Amazon rainforest, including people. Throughout the region, the way of life of Indigenous peoples and local communities is threatened by deforestation and degradation of ecosystems. Related (illegal) destructive activities, such as mining and growing illicit crops, affect women differently than men.



Colombian women at a small farm © FCDS

T Together with FCDS, Ambiente y Sociedad and news platform Mongabay, IUCN NL is committed to tackling forest crime in the Colombian Amazon. At the end of 2023, we conducted a study to understand gender dynamics in drivers of deforestation, as part of our Amazon rights in focus project.

INTERSECTIONAL APPROACH

Applying an intersectional approach, the study focused on power relationships affecting forested territories based on social inequalities related to gender, ethnicity and age. Central to the methodology was the notion that the body is the first territory impacted by environmental degradation and conflict.

RESULTS IN A NUTSHELL

Depending on the male members of their family, women in rural Colombia often have limited access to land for small-scale activities, lack sources of income and have restricted economic autonomy. In the cattle sector, women face a salary gap of 85 percent compared to men.

Because care labour is brunt on women, they have a close connection with their natural environment and its degradation affects them disproportionately. Polluted water may affect pregnancies, for example, and forces women to make extra effort to find clear water.

● [Read more about the study](#)

BREAKING THE CYCLE

Deforestation, nature degradation and environmental crime worsen women's position. The consequences: higher poverty rates, increased violence and less access to land, education and credit. 'Women find themselves in a vicious circle,' says Liliana Jauregui, senior expert environmental justice. 'Better understanding gender dynamics in deforestation, and raising awareness of the need for intersectional, effective policies, including gender and environment, will contribute to breaking this cycle.'

OBSERVATORIO AMAZONIA

In April 2023, FCDS launched the [Observatorio Amazonia](#). This platform, also a result of this project, aims to make visible socio-environmental conflicts that have gone unnoticed by the Colombian authorities and international community.



Mining activities in the Colombian Amazon © FCDS

International Symposium for Animal Protection

In August 2023, the International Symposium for Animal Protection – Deforestation and its impact on Fauna took place in Bogota, Colombia. Through the Amazon rights in focus project, we contributed to the event that was organised for police officers. Environmental rights expert Liliana Jauregui gave a presentation at the symposium, which was attended by 300 people at the location and 350 people online.

MORE INFORMATION

For more information about our work in the Colombian Amazon check our [website](#) or contact Liliana Jauregui.

E-mail: liliana.jauregui@iucn.nl



Understanding gender dynamics and deforestation in the Colombian Amazon

In the Colombian Amazon, deforestation and destructive (illegal) activities affect women differently than men. Water scarcity and pollution, for example, exacerbate the already existing power imbalances. Women find themselves in a vicious circle affecting their rights, security and well-being.



Understanding the dynamic of gender and deforestation contributes to breaking the cycle.

Country **Democratic Republic of Congo**

Partners

• FESCO • FECOPEILE • IDPE • FMMC • Musicians without Borders



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
goal 4 • goal 15 • goal 16



GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK TARGETS
target 4 • target 22 • target 23

ACTORS OF HOPE FOR VIRUNGA NATIONAL PARK

Virunga National Park is a place of great biodiversity and home to endemic and often threatened species, such as the mountain gorilla. Illegal activities, including poaching, and years of conflict have put serious pressure on Virunga's people and nature. With our partner organisations, we stimulate Congolese youngsters to become actors of hope for the Virunga area in the project Virunga Youth: Actors of Hope.



Youth dancing in Virunga © Musicians Without Borders

About 68 percent of the region's population is below the age of 25: the future of Virunga lies in their hands. Through the project, we work with young people to increase awareness about Virunga National Park and (re)connect them with the park rangers through cultural, sports and scouting activities.

FOOTBALL SCHOOL IN RUMANGABO

In previous years, we have (re)connected youth with park rangers through football tournaments in North Kivu. In 2023, we took a different approach. By supporting the establishment of a football school in Rumangabo, young people have the opportunity to practice several times a week, coached by three park rangers and managers who had the opportunity to participate in a workshop of Inter Campus Uganda. The frequent contact with their coaches should contribute to the youth' perceptions of the national park.

SAFEGUARDING INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE THROUGH MUSIC

Theatre has been part of the project since it started three years ago. In 2023, another cultural element was added: music. Together with Musicians without Borders and local partners, we engage youth in conservation efforts through their cultural heritage and the Indigenous knowledge it contains. A selected group of young people works on analysing and recording traditional songs about nature with their peers.

Paul Villaespesa, expert East Africa at IUCN NL: 'We hope that the younger generations will re-adopt the knowledge and skills of their elders. And for them to see that the nature surrounding them, the unique Virunga National Park, is part of their landscape and their history.'

MORE INFORMATION

Would you like to know more about **Virunga Youth: Actors of Hope?** Read more on our [website](#) or contact **Paul Villaespesa**.

Email: paul.villaespesa@iucn.nl



Theatre show in North Kivu © Patrick Melaine Denis



Theatre show in North Kivu © Patrick Melaine Denis



Value chains and investing in nature

All over the world, biodiversity is increasingly under pressure from mining and large-scale agriculture. Dutch companies and financial institutes are important actors in these extensive value chains. IUCN NL strives to reduce the footprint of the Dutch economy by making value chains greener and more sustainable. In doing so, we work with governments, companies and civil society organisations.

Countries **Ghana** • **Cameroon** • **Indonesia** •
Uganda • **Zambia**

Partners

• **WWF-NL** • **Tropenbos International** • **A Rocha Ghana** • **ECOTRUST Uganda** and four other locally-based NGOs

BOOSTING UP LOCALLY-LED ENTREPRENEUR- SHIP FOR CLIMATE AND BIODIVERSITY

Mobilising More for Climate (MoMo4C) ran its fourth year in 2023. The programme, funded by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, is implemented by IUCN NL, WWF-NL and Tropenbos International in six landscapes in Africa and Asia. Together with our local partners and communities, we support the design and implementation of nature-based solutions and climate resilient landscape governance. Eventually the aim is transformative change in the role that finance plays at the frontiers of ecosystem conversion in biodiversity-rich, climate-vulnerable landscapes.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
[goal 1](#) • [goal 5](#) • [goal 7](#) • [goal 12](#) •
[goal 13](#) • [goal 15](#) • [goal 17](#)



GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK TARGETS
[target 8](#) • [target 10](#) • [target 11](#) •
[target 15](#) • [target 19](#) • [target 23](#)



Grass briquette project in Mole landscape in Ghana
© Jules Koppen, IUCN NL

The MoMo4C landscapes face various threats to their biodiversity and climate resilience. Addressing these threats, our landscape partners have piloted business enterprise development, integrating landscape and value chain approaches. ‘Meaning that communities, government agencies, investors and civil society organisations sit together and join hands to improve conditions for local communities with help from entrepreneurs, start-ups and traders that prioritise conservation and climate action,’ says Jan Willem den Besten, coordinator of the MoMo4C programme.

‘Through calls for proposals, financial advisory and technical assistance, promising projects are assisted in taking their next step. Given the scale of the challenges and the local nature of the projects, attracting finance often means starting with public and philanthropic grants. Strong business propositions will start attracting private finance, ranging from (pre-) financing by companies that buy

organic produce, to payments for ecosystem services, corporate sustainability funds and, for the front-runners, private impact finance,' Den Besten explains.

EMERGING ORGANIC VALUE CHAINS

A Rocha Ghana and ECOTRUST Uganda, the MoMo4C landscape partners of IUCN NL, have invested in the development of forest-based value chains. Centres of excellence for honey producers and commercial tree nurseries were set up in Uganda, with investments from government enterprises and an international bee trading company. In Ghana, cooperatives produce forest products, such as shea for the cosmetics industry, organic cassava and bio-based energy briquettes. To decrease deforestation, waste-to-energy solutions as an alternative to charcoal are improved and replicated.

ENGAGING WOMEN AND YOUTH

ECOTRUST is a leader in restoring degraded forests in wildlife corridors and stepping stones in Uganda, and channelling carbon finance to the most local small-holder farmers. Through MoMo4C, ECOTRUST developed a unique programme for engaging women and youth. In 2023, this impactful tool was integrated in a state-of-the-art explorative programme to pilot with biodiversity credits for small-forest land owners. As in Ghana, these cooperatives are predominantly led by women.

● [Read how ECOTRUST applies the GALS approach](#)

MOBILISING PUBLIC AND PRIVATE FUNDS

Up to 2023, MoMo4C has attracted investments worth over 20 million euros, from private, public and social responsibility sources. 'Public and philanthropic funding is needed to strengthen local capacities to build business enterprises. We now see momentum and are set to broker commercial deals for innovative nature-based initiatives across the six

landscapes,' shares Den Besten. Public and private investments are expected to further grow in 2024.

To boost entrepreneurship in the landscapes, MoMo4C supports local communities and their organisations in market access for their premium, organic products that originate from local sustainable forest and land use. This contributes to increasing climate resilience and income. The livelihoods of 15,000 people are strengthened and 300,000 hectares land are restored or sustainably managed.

LOOKING AHEAD

In 2024, MoMo4C will intensify working with entrepreneurs and forest farm producer organisations to strengthen twelve business cases with fully-developed business canvases. Off-taker companies will be found and tailor-made finance attracted. 'We will finalise a deal book with all business cases to share with investors,' Den Besten continues. 'And we will work with financial experts to design an instrument to support early stage projects with public, private and philanthropic grants and loans that bridge the gap towards private investment.'

Last but not least, MoMo4C will document and share lessons learnt on how to move to the level of scaling up nature-based solutions and other types of projects focusing on nature and climate solutions. These lessons will help us reaching partners that can work with us to refine and strengthen our approach and bring projects of our local partners and entrepreneurs to scale.

MORE INFORMATION

Would you like to learn more about MoMo4C? Visit our [website](#) or contact Jan Willem den Besten.

Email: janwillem.denbesten@iucn.nl



Country **Colombia**

Partner

• **AidEnvironment**



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

goal 12 • goal 15



GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK TARGETS

**target 1 • target 7 • target 10 • target 14
• target 21**

INSIGHTS IN THE SUPPLY CHAIN: POTENTIAL RISKS FOR PALM OIL FROM COLOMBIA TO THE EU

Palm oil can make a positive impact in Colombia, but only with full transparency, landscape investments in ecosystems, a common environmental human rights vision and close collaboration among actors. To make sure EU regulations will achieve a genuine effect in biodiverse landscapes, it is essential to profoundly understand the supply chain.



Deforestation in the Colombia Amazon © FCDS

In 2023, AidEnvironment and IUCN NL published the report 'Insights in the supply chain: palm oil from Colombia to the EU'. We analysed trade flows from Colombian palm oil to the EU, and potential social and environmental risks in the supply chain by studying six case studies.

COLOMBIAN PALM OIL

Colombia is the fourth producer of palm oil worldwide. Annually, the country produces around 1,838,000 metric tons of palm oil; its cultivation has increased 116 percent in the past ten years. The EU is an important export market.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the findings, we developed recommendations for policy makers and the private sectors in Colombia and the EU. Below we have listed five recommendations for EU policy makers.

1. The EU and its member states must allocate sufficient resources for nature conservation and environmental human rights measures in high-risk productive landscapes.
2. It is imperative for the EU to maintain its support for and collaboration with independent civil society organisations and multi-stakeholder sustainable palm oil initiatives, and enhance the capacity of local authorities to implement the EU Deforestation Regulation and beyond.
3. Expand the scope of the EUDR to encompass additional ecosystems beyond forests.
4. Indirect Land Use Change (ILUC) risks in relation to the Colombian palm oil sector should be further studied to see whether there is a correlation between palm oil expansion and continued deforestation. We recommend the Colombian palm oil sector to adopt a ILUC strategy to mitigate these risks.

CONTRIBUTING TO KNOWLEDGE BASE

Because of a clear overview in trade data combined with case studies, the report with its recommendations are contributing to the knowledge base towards the implementation of the EUDR in Colombia in relation to palm oil. The report therefore gained interest from media platforms, such as Mongabay, researchers and NGOs, among others.

● [Download the report](#)



Oil palm plantation in Colombia © FCDS



Farmer in the Colombian Amazon region © FCDS

MORE INFORMATION

If you want to learn more about palm oil from Colombia, visit our [website](#) or contact Sander van Anandel.

Email: sander.vanandel@iucn.nl



Country **Argentina**

Partners

• **Fundación Vida Silvestre** • **Solidaridad**



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

[goal 11](#) • [goal 12](#) • [goal 15](#) • [goal 17](#)



GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK TARGETS

[target 7](#) • [target 10](#) • [target 15](#)

A PILOT PROJECT TO SUPPORT RESPONSIBLE PRODUCTION AND NATURE CONSERVATION IN THE ARGENTINE CHACO

In the past few years, Fundación Vida Silvestre, Solidaridad and IUCN NL have been working on a pilot project seeking to have positive impact on the ground in an important soy sourcing area: the Gran Chaco in Argentina. In the SoyChaco project, we have been stimulating investments in sustainable soy production and nature restoration.



Deforested land in the Argentine Chaco
© Fundacion Vida Silvestre

The Gran Chaco biome in Argentina, Bolivia and Paraguay is home to species such as the jaguar, the giant armadillo and other important biodiversity, but has been threatened heavily by deforestation and conversion.

DEFORESTATION IN THE GRAN CHACO

Nearly 8 million hectares have been lost in the Gran Chaco region in the last 30 years, mostly caused by cattle and soy production. In Argentina, one of the world's most important soy and cattle producing countries, around 21,500 hectares of Chaco is deforested every year. Approximately 4,000 hectares of this biodiversity loss is related to soy, of which part is illegal.

‘There are economic, social and environmental reasons to invest in sustainable production and nature conservation in the Argentine Chaco,’ says Heleen van den Hombergh, senior expert agro-commodities at IUCN NL. ‘SoyChaco therefore promotes responsible production, conservation and the regeneration of nature.’

RESPONSIBLE FARMING

To support positive solutions, we collaborate with soy producers, companies in the EU and NGOs. According to Van den Hombergh, ‘In the past few years, the project has been taking small steps towards increasing responsible farming and nature restoration in the area, and has contributed to the global collective learning journey towards conversion free responsible production with landscape impact.’

RESTORING FOREST

In 2023, Fundación Vida Silvestre has worked together with a landowner in Juan José Castelli to restore forest that at the same time allows agricultural activities, in his case cattle grazing. ‘It is an exemplary project of how biodiversity protection and sustainable agriculture go hand in hand,’ concluded Van den Hombergh.



Soy plantation in the Argentine Chaco
© Fundación Vida Silvestre


● Watch the video

MORE INFORMATION

Learn more about SoyChaco on our [website](#) or contact Heleen van den Hombergh.

Email: heleen.vandenhombergh@iucn.nl



A close-up photograph of a soybean pod, partially open, revealing three bright yellow seeds. The pod is attached to a dark, woody stem. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green, suggesting a natural field setting. The lighting is natural, highlighting the texture of the pod and the smooth surface of the seeds.

There are economic, social and environmental reasons to invest in sustainable production and nature conservation in the Argentine Chaco.

ABOUT US



IUCN NL team © Bettina Traas

WHO WE ARE

In 2023, 31 passionate employees (26.33 FTEs) worked in our office in the centre of Amsterdam. Our experts are trained in various disciplines, ranging from ecology to human rights and from communication to finance. They have a wide range of work experience, from fieldwork to scientific research, and from NGOs to businesses. All these different backgrounds provide diverse perspectives on solutions to the challenges of our time. We value this diversity of views, just as we embrace the different opinions among our Dutch member organisations and in the global union.

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSIVENESS

We see diversity and inclusiveness as a great good. We are proud of the diversity of our workforce. The age range of our employees spans over 40 years: with ages from 24 to 65. We have policies to promote and monitor gender equality, for example, in the areas of performance management and recruitment and selection. In 2023, we also set up guidelines for inclusive communications.

We strive for an equal gender balance in all layers of the organisation. In 2023, we employed nineteen women and twelve men. Thanks to targeted HR policies and more awareness, we improved the gender balance in leadership positions. The

management team now consists of one woman and two men, of which one is the director. The other two remaining management team members (one female, one male) have equally divided team and project responsibilities. In 2023, the supervisory board consisted of two women, including the chair, and four men.

Do you want to know more about our approach to gender equality?

● [Download our gender strategy](#)

INTEGRITY

Integrity is essential for achieving our goals and maintaining professional relationships with civil society organisations. This means we take strong action against breaches of integrity, and actively work to reduce the likelihood of such breaches. Our integrity officer and two confidential counsellors, one internal and one external, play an important role in this matter. In 2023, they received no reports of integrity violations.

Following the abuses in various sectors, the group discussions on social safety at the office were continued in 2023. We have found that being in regular conversation with each other on integrity issues makes it easier to state one's own boundaries and be considerate of each other.

We strive for an equal gender balance in all layers of the organisation.

CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Travel

Our office is within walking distance of metro and tram stops. In principle, it is not allowed to use own motorised transport for commuting, for which no reimbursement is provided either. Commuting expenses by public transport, on the other hand, are reimbursed 100 percent and there is an allowance for cyclists.

Part of our work involves travelling to our partners in the Global South with whom we work on project implementation. While we keep this to a minimum, it cannot be completely eliminated. To minimise our footprint here too, our travel policy is clear on this: wherever possible, we travel by train, especially within Europe. Our travel agency Diversity Travel has been a carbon-neutral company since 2011, having achieved the Carbon Neutral PA 2060 Standard. They achieved the ISO 14001 Environmental Management Standard in 2008, and have maintained this certification ever since.

Through the British organisation World Land Trust, we offset our travel, including commuting, energy consumption and other emissions, including working from home. The Conservation Coast project we are currently supporting is a REDD+ project in Guatemala by FUNDAECO which contributes to economic and social development in one of Guatemala's economically disadvantaged regions. Importantly, this project prevents deforestation by addressing the drivers of deforestation in the project area. By supporting this project, we are helping to ensure the local communities of Izabal thrive alongside the nature they are part of. The project is not only protecting forest habitats, but also helping mitigate the climate crisis, acting against biodiversity loss, and increasing resilience to already-existing climate-related hazards. For the year 2023, World Land Trust offset 57.87K CO₂ emissions for our travel and 15K for our energy consumption and other emissions (scope 1 and 2).

Office

The building in which we are housed is listed as a monument. Our landlord, also a green organisation, is making all kinds of efforts to make the building more sustainable within the laws and regulations for monuments. This need to be done gradually and requires some patience.

Within our organisation, we have started corporate responsibility years ago and improve it wherever possible. For office catering, we order only vegetarian and increasingly vegan. We choose organic and/or locally produced products. Coffee beans are supplied by Café del Mar, working in cooperation with NGO Solidaridad. When renting meeting rooms with catering, we opt for organic and/or local products.

Procurement

The procurement of office supplies is focusing at circular and sustainably produced products. Our supplier is Product for Product. Our copier is a refurbished machine. This Ricoh machine meets our environmental requirements: energy-efficient, low toner use, reduced emissions and built where possible by reusing materials for plastic parts, metal and electronics. An additional positive aspect is that Green Netherlands is a sponsor of two charities: Trees for all and Save the Children. The toner is collected and retrieved by Eeko. They donate to Opkikker, a foundation that organises activities for long-term sick children. Old mobile phones go to Stichting Aap.

Waste

Waste separation is partially successful. We have too little VGF waste and residual waste to be attractive to suppliers who collect them separately. Waste paper is collected separately, bottles go in the bottle bank and batteries in special bins. In 2023, we will continue to find out whether we can separate our plastic waste from VGF waste. To reduce the number of waste bags, we have reduced the number of bins.

Our office is cleaned by cleaning company Dictum that uses only biodegradable products.

All our Ahrend A230 office chairs have Cradle to Cradle certification. When we need a new chair, it is purchased second-hand from Welltrade or the upholstery is renewed. Lighting in the office has almost all been replaced by LED lamps. The fire extinguishers are filled with an ecological extinguishing agent, although we hope never to need it.

We have set the following targets for 2024:

- 1** Climate-neutral office: do circular scan of the office footprint and look at our digital emissions.
- 2** Improve waste streams.
- 3** Paper processing will be done by Beelen, a partner of Product for Product. The paper will then be processed in a factory from which circular products can again be made and sold on Product for Product's website.
- 4** List our suppliers and see how they deal with their footprint and what actions they take.

OUR STRATEGY

OUR GOAL:

To safeguard nature as the basis for all life on Earth

OUR MISSION:

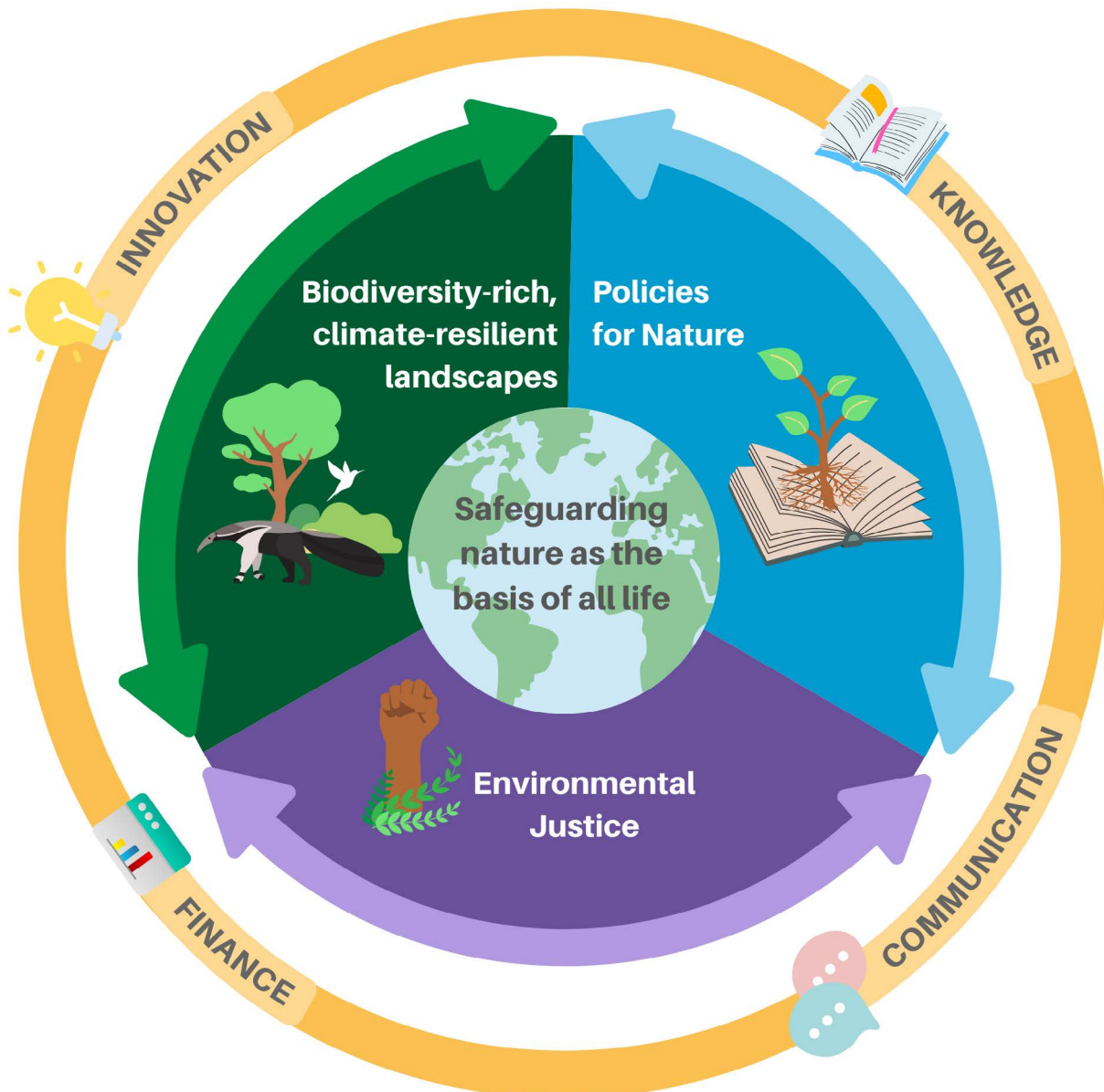
To collaborate with and support organisations and societies throughout the world to conserve the integrity and diversity of nature and to ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable.

To achieve our mission we are focusing on three pathways:

- A** Biodiversity-rich, climate-resilient landscapes
- B** Policies for nature
- C** Environmental justice

And four key enablers for change:

- Finance
- Innovation
- Communication
- Knowledge



A GLOBAL UNION

The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) is a membership Union uniquely composed of both government and civil society organisations. By harnessing the experience, resources and reach of its more than 1,400 Member organisations in 160 countries and the input of some 16,000 experts, IUCN is the global authority on the status of the natural world and the measures needed to safeguard it.

Thanks to its unique composition, IUCN provides a trusted platform for working on solutions to the most pressing global problems such as the loss of biodiversity and ecosystems, climate change and poverty. The latest scientific insights and practical experience form the basis for these activities. IUCN's international headquarters are based in Gland, Switzerland.

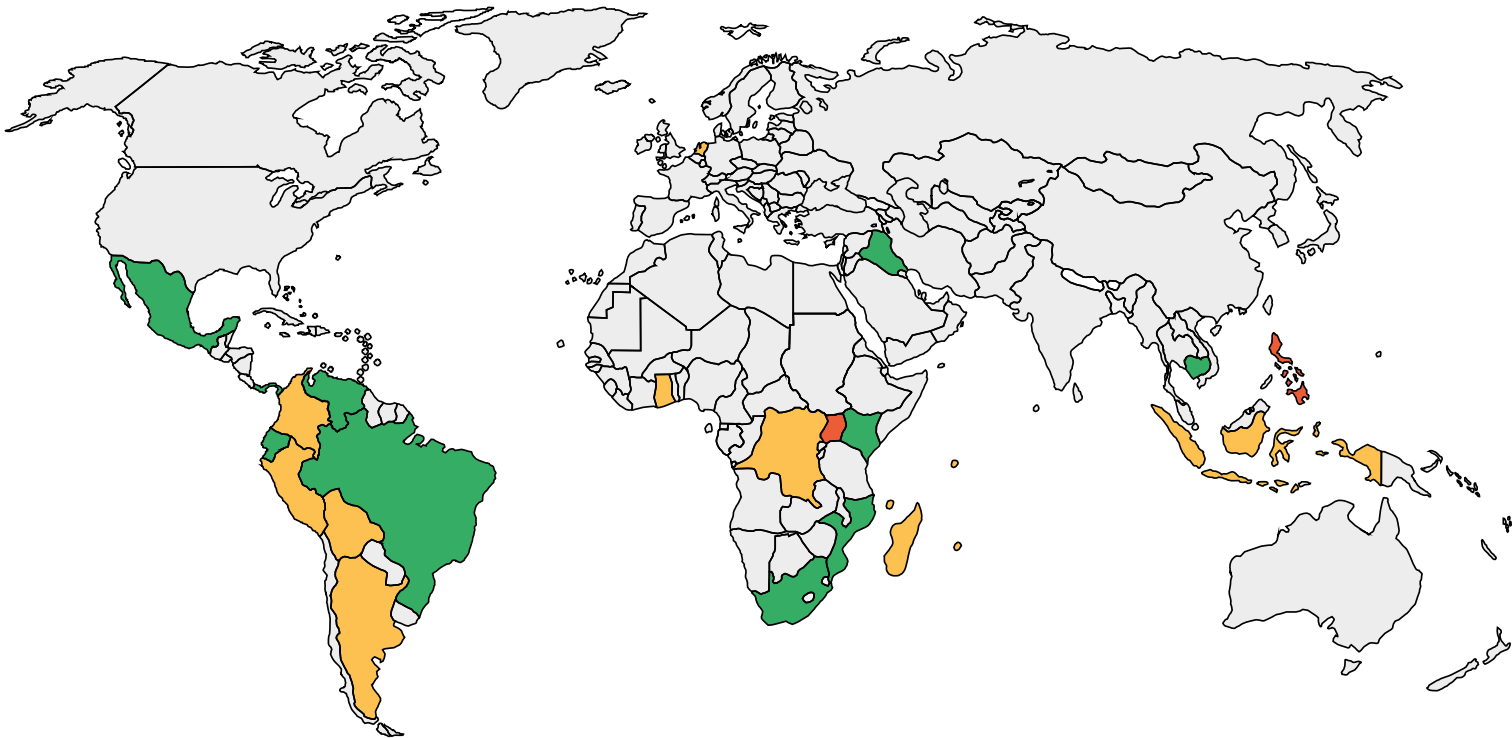
Over 16,000 scientists and experts from around the world and across a wide range of disciplines volunteer their expertise as members of an [IUCN Commission](#). In 2023, this included 133 scientists and experts from the Netherlands.

In the Netherlands, IUCN NL serves as the platform for 39 IUCN member organisations, which form the National Committee of the Netherlands, including large and small-scale nature organisations, the Dutch government and knowledge institutions.

IUCN NL actively cooperates with local organisations in Africa, Asia and Latin America, Dutch member organisations and other parts of IUCN to safeguard important nature and biodiversity in those regions. Together, we develop international cooperation programmes and attract funding from various donors.

In 2023, we worked with our partners in eleven countries in Africa, three in Asia, eight in Latin America and one in Europe.

In 2023, we supported organisations in **10** countries in Africa, **4** in Asia, **9** in Latin America and **1** in Europe.



LATIN AMERICA

Argentina
Bolivia
Brazil
Colombia
Ecuador
Mexico
Panama
Peru
Venezuela

AFRICA

Comoros
Congo (D. Rep.)
Ghana
Kenya
Madagascar
Mauritius
Mozambique
Uganda
Seychelles
South Africa

EUROPE

The Netherlands

ASIA

Cambodia
Philippines
Indonesia
Irak

LEGENDE

- Country in which IUCN NL runs projects
- Country in which IUCN NL supports Land Acquisition Fund projects
- Country in which IUCN NL runs projects and supports Land Acquisition Fund projects

COLOPHON

Realisation: IUCN NL

Design: Margo Vlamings

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