





2021 IMPACT REPORT



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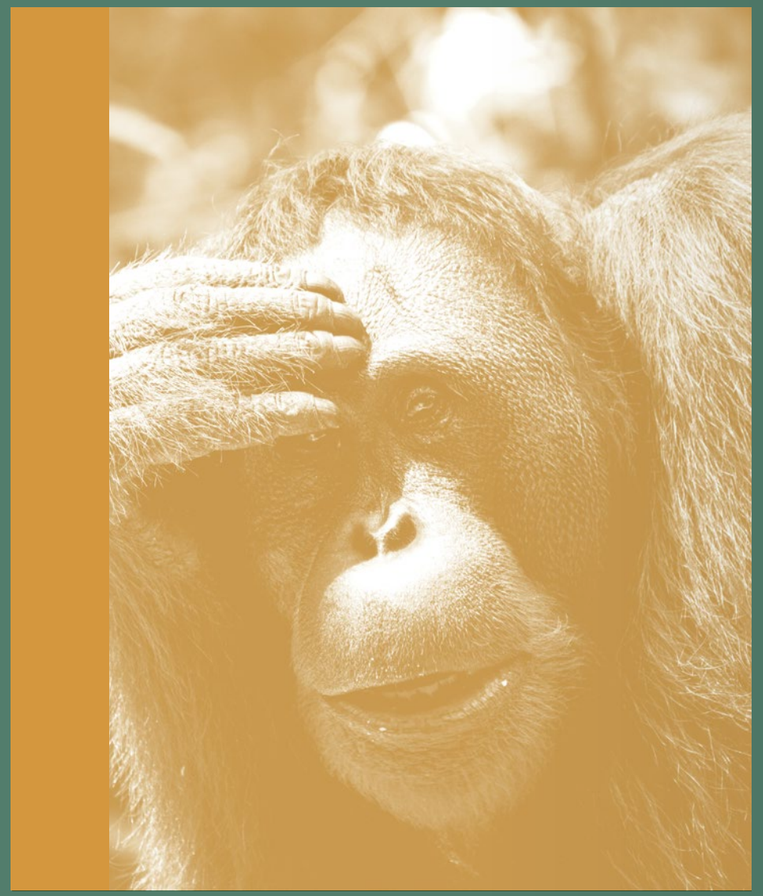
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OUR MISSION

Protecting the Environment with Intelligence and Advocacy

EIA's mission is to develop and implement systemic solutions to the biggest global challenges of our time. For over thirty years EIA has utilized innovative techniques including digital analysis of data, investigations, and cutting edge communications to create positive, lasting change. We promote indigenous and local communities' ability to expose environmental crime, protect their land, and increase protection for climate and biodiversity.

Our campaigns to protect forests, wildlife, and the climate persevere in the face of increasing global demand and trade and the hastening loss of natural resources and species. Our independent and nimble approach produces factual and actionable intelligence; we provide strategic solutions that yield lasting and far-reaching impacts.

As a non-profit organization with IRS 501(c)(3) designation, EIA relies on financial support from individual donors and charitable foundations. Donations to EIA are U.S. tax-deductible to the full extent of applicable law.

This report focuses on the activities of EIA's Washington, D.C. office during 2021.

Cover: Indigenous Activist
Photo Credit: Giulianne Martins

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND PRESIDENT

To adapt to a changing environment in the wake of the COVID pandemic, the Environmental Investigation Agency mobilized and leveraged governments and policies, conducted innovative and groundbreaking investigations amid operational and logistical challenges, delivered detailed evidence bringing major environmental crime violators to justice, and advocated for earth defenders across the planet.

Our Wildlife campaign made great strides in tackling and preventing new forms of online sales and cybercrime trafficking of ivory, and increased pressure on Japan's Prime Minister and Tokyo's government to close ivory markets. We also released critical investigative materials for our orangutan and beluga campaigns.

Breakthrough actions from the Climate Campaign resulted in exposing super-pollutant leaks in major U.S. supermarkets using industry-accepted technology, and exposing the NHL's greenwashing and promotion of climate misinformation on HFC usage in ice rink stadium maintenance. We also celebrated a landmark new climate regulation from the EPA to begin phasing down hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), the American Innovation and Manufacturing (AIM) Act.

The Forest Campaign released several reports exposing the origins of tainted beef from the Amazon, and the dirty origins of wood from the Solomon Islands processed into plywood, in addition to ongoing investigative work on the rosewood trafficking crisis in Africa from Mozambique to Zambia. The FOREST Act, a groundbreaking piece of legislation, which would prohibit imports of agricultural commodities sourced from illegally deforested land, was also introduced with significant input from EIA and the support of over 40 organizations participating in a coalition that EIA established and coordinates.

As we analyze and adapt to a new normal, we continue to evaluate our approach as environmentalists, existing at the nexus of environmental protection, justice, and human rights. After a thirty-year track record of supporting local governance with investigative field work and partnership with local communities and civil society organizations, we understand that we have been most effective when we have gained knowledge from, been led by, and allied with those on the frontlines being impacted the most. We now believe that never before in history has there been more opportunity to learn from and include marginalized, historically misrepresented, and excluded sectors of society based on gender, race, disability, or age.

Our commitment to earth defenders and local communities remains steadfast. Knowledge, perspective and attitudes of our historical relationship with nature, an official seat at the decision and policy making table, and increased protection and advocacy for land rights and the rights of indigenous people and local communities are all vital in the struggle to safeguard our planet and the natural resources we depend on for our continued livelihood and existence.

This paradigm shift in conservation must be understood at every level, as we chart new pathways in a new normal, to formulate a mutual understanding of how we as humans can adapt, modify and overcome the ever-changing threats of a volatile planetary existence. Without our partners, donors and general support, this shift cannot take place effectively. We treasure the opportunity to commit ourselves to protect and conserve our natural world and look to the horizon for the change needed to decolonize environmentalism and move forward toward an era of inclusive natural resource governance.



Allan Thornton,
President



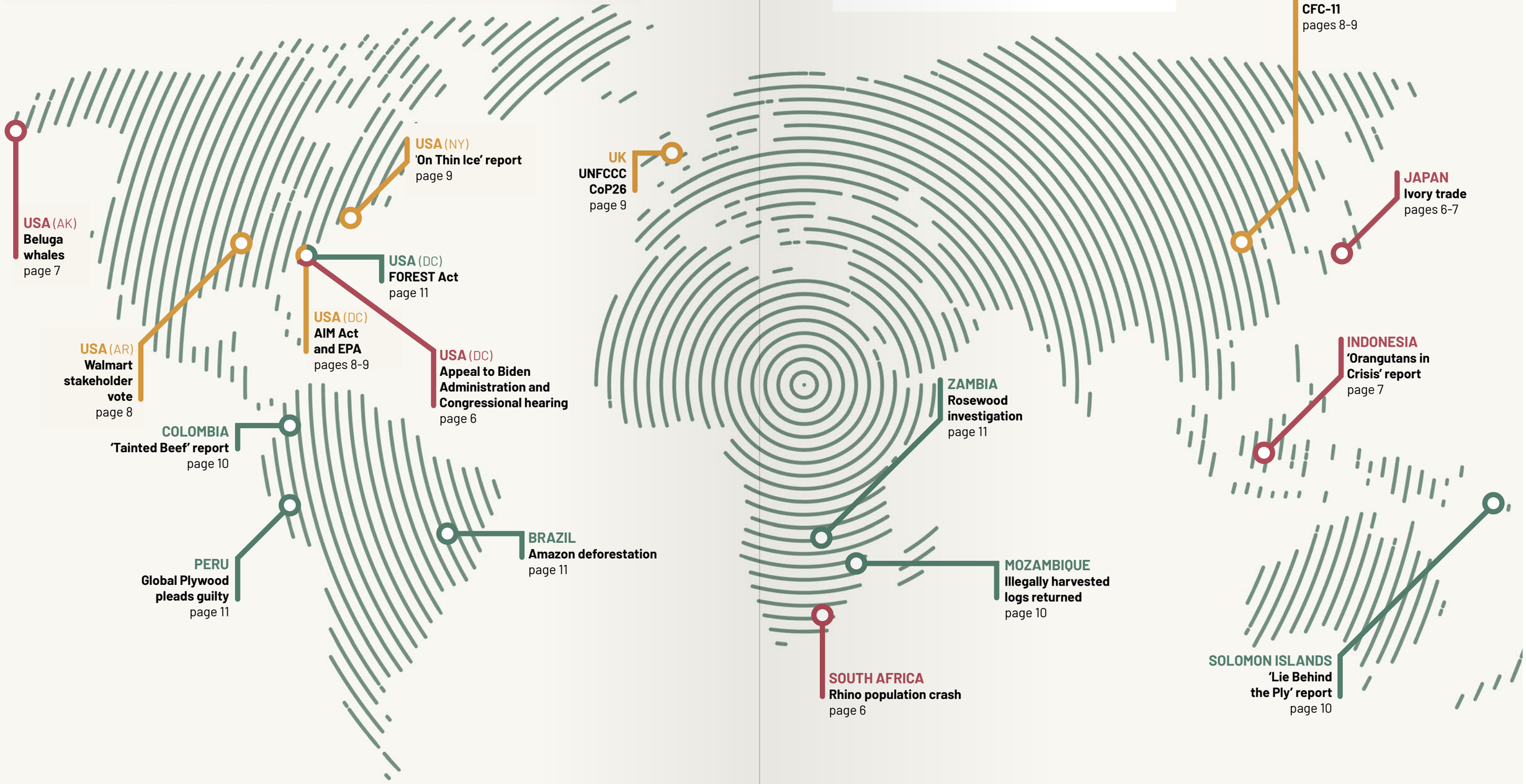
Alexander von Bismarck,
Executive Director

GLOBAL HIGHLIGHTS

EIA WORKS AROUND THE WORLD TO SECURE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTIONS. THIS IS A SNAPSHOT OF OUR ON-THE-GROUND WORK IN 2021.

KEY

WILDLIFE | CLIMATE | FOREST



WILDLIFE



EIA'S WILDLIFE TEAM DELIVERS LASTING PROTECTIONS FOR SOME OF THE WORLD'S MOST ICONIC SPECIES THREATENED BY ILLEGAL TRADE AND HABITAT LOSS.

Since its inception in 1984, EIA has been dedicated to protecting our world's wildlife, relying on the best available scientific and trade data and intelligence from investigations, to support policies and actions that protect threatened and endangered species. EIA's work focuses on stopping the illegal and unsustainable killing of, and trade in, threatened and endangered species like elephants and rhinos, and protecting the Arctic home of belugas and other whales and the forest habitats of great apes like orangutans.

OUR WILDLIFE TEAM SEEKS TO:

- Restore healthy populations of elephants, rhinos, orangutan and beluga whales across their natural ranges;
- Cease the illegal and unsustainable killing of threatened and endangered species and unsustainable commercial trade in their parts; and
- Prevent and reverse habitat destruction and degradation to support the restoration of vibrant ecosystems for threatened species.





2021 HIGHLIGHTS

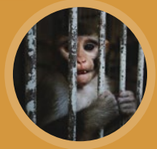
JANUARY

EIA wrote about the rhino population crash in Kruger National Park underscoring how continued poaching is threatening the world's rhinos. Our blog post explained that in spite of some improved enforcement efforts, the illegal rhino horn trade continues to pose an existential threat to wild rhinos.



FEBRUARY

Together with more than 60 other environmental and conservation organizations, EIA called upon the Biden Administration to adopt strategies and policies critical to addressing the increasing threat of zoonotic disease spillover into human populations.



MARCH

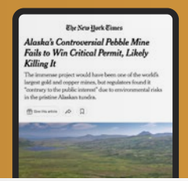
EIA led an NGO sign-on letter with 26 allies appealing for Tokyo to close its ivory market and initiate urgent measures ahead of the rescheduled 2020 Olympics. In this follow-up on a previous appeal, EIA and other organizations also recommended actions the Tokyo Metropolitan Government should take before the ivory market can be closed.

APRIL

EIA's Executive Director, Alexander von Bismarck, testified at a Congressional Subcommittee hearing on "Wildlife Trafficking and the Growing Online Marketplace." We supplied information on efforts EIA is taking to counter wildlife trafficking online and recommendations for actions the U.S. Government can take to be a world leader in preventing wildlife cybercrime.

SEPTEMBER

EIA celebrated an announcement in early September that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will resume work on permanent protections for Alaska's Bristol Bay watershed that could protect the area from mines like Pebble.


The New York Times

Alaska's Controversial Pebble Mine Fails to Win Critical Permit, Likely Killing It

The immense project would have been one of the world's largest gold and copper mines, but regulators found it "contrary to the public interest" due to environmental risks to the pristine Alaskan tundra.

OCTOBER

We launched a new report, 'Orangutans in Crisis', detailing how Asia's only species of great ape are declining rapidly due to habitat loss, illegal killing, and wildfires. The report generated a subsequent story in *National Geographic* about orangutan killings in Indonesia and the government's poor enforcement of laws designed to protect orangutans.

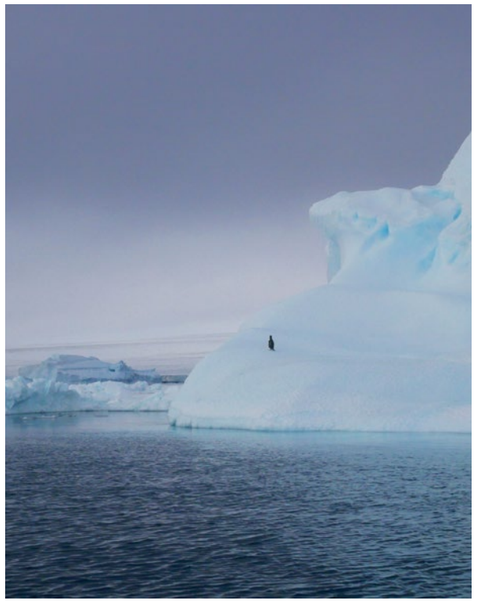


EIA supported the development of a Congressional letter, led by Rep. Madeleine Dean (D-PA) and signed by 22 members of Congress, sent to Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida on October 29 calling for the closure of Japan's ivory market to protect elephants from poaching and ivory trafficking.

DECEMBER

EIA organized a two-day strategy workshop in Anchorage, Alaska with both local and national NGOs to advance proactive science-based advocacy efforts for critically endangered beluga whales in Cook Inlet, Alaska.









CLIMATE

EIA'S CLIMATE TEAM SEEKS TO ELIMINATE HYDROFLUOROCARBONS (HFCS) AND OTHER POTENT GREENHOUSE GASES (GHGS) USED PRIMARILY IN COOLING AND HEATING.

Preventing runaway climate change requires a rapid reduction in potent short-lived climate pollutants, such as HFCs and other fluorinated chemicals. To maximize the immediate climate benefits that can be achieved by eliminating these gases, we seek to:

- Ensure robust implementation and enforcement of the Kigali Amendment to avoid up to 0.4°C by the end of this century;
- Accelerate the HFC phase-down under the Montreal Protocol and maximize energy efficiency co-benefits;
- Prevent lifecycle emissions of all existing fluorinated refrigerants, mitigating up to an additional 100Gt CO_2e in direct emissions by 2100; and
- Unlock U.S. leadership through comprehensive policies to implement the American Innovation and Manufacturing (AIM) Act and pilot innovative policy solutions.

2021 HIGHLIGHTS

FEBRUARY
EIA released a report, 'Leaking Havoc', which exposed super pollutant leaks in major U.S. supermarkets using industry-accepted technology. Our undercover investigation found most stores to be leaking, and even caught a leak on camera.



APRIL
We celebrated the findings of a new study showing global atmospheric levels of CFC-11 declining in the atmosphere, a result of a concerted global response following EIA's on-the-ground investigation in China in 2018.

JUNE
EIA, joined by several other organizations, petitioned the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to restrict the use of super-pollutant hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) in key cooling sectors, under new authority from the American Innovation and Manufacturing (AIM) Act.

JULY
After decades of pressure by EIA, Walmart investors voted on their first-ever shareholder resolution on refrigerants and their related climate impacts. Walmart currently emits over three million metric tons of HFCs equating to more than half a million cars on the road each year. EIA briefed investors and the vote ultimately passed the critical threshold to be reintroduced next year, putting considerable pressure on Walmart to take action on HFCs.

SEPTEMBER
EIA prepared a brief to the Open Ended Working Group to the Montreal Protocol that consolidated information regarding the unexpected emissions of CFC-11, and reveals the critical knowledge gaps that remain unanswered.



NOVEMBER
Following years of EIA campaigning, the Environmental Protection Agency published a landmark new climate regulation to establish an allocation system to cap and begin phasing down hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), the super-pollutant greenhouse gases used in cooling. This announcement marks the first in a series of anticipated HFC actions.

We shed light on how the National Hockey League is putting us all "On Thin Ice" through a deal with Chemours Company to promote climate misinformation and greenwash super-pollutant HFC products as "environmentally sustainable," despite having global warming potentials (GWPs) thousands of times higher than the other commonly available alternatives.

We presented at an EPA side event at the UNFCCC CoP26 in Glasgow hosted by Administrator Michael Regan. The event focused on preventing illegal trade in HFCs, with EIA sharing experience from investigations over the years and calling for enhanced international cooperation and intelligence sharing between countries to ensure effective enforcement.

FOREST



FORESTS ARE BEING LOST AT AN ALARMING RATE AROUND THE GLOBE, MUCH OF IT DUE TO ILLEGAL LOGGING AND FOREST CONVERSION FOR AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES, OFTEN FUELED BY INTERNATIONAL DEMAND AND GLOBAL MARKETS.

EIA conducts groundbreaking investigations to document and expose forest crimes and works in alliance with local partners to support environmental defenders and to strengthen the rights of forest communities. We focus on evidence-based campaigns to achieve policy and regulatory reforms that transform entire sectors, and work to increase transparency in global supply chains through the deployment of innovative technology.

We aim to secure a future in which forests around the world are governed more equitably, transparently, and responsibly. To work towards this future, we:

- Instigate reform and law enforcement in forest countries to establish forest governance based on the rights and self determination of indigenous peoples and local communities;
- Transform global trade and consumption patterns to eliminate deforestation and human rights violations from international supply chains; and
- Increase accountability and deter environmental crimes through transparency and traceability in commodity supply chains and transparent trade data.



Photo Credit: Giuliane Martins



2021 HIGHLIGHTS

APRIL
EIA joined as a panelist for an event on Greening U.S. Trade Policy, which was hosted by the Center for American Progress and featured remarks by the U.S. Trade Representative, Ambassador Katherine Tai, who outlined the Biden Administration's approach to trade and the environment for the first time.

MAY

Thanks in part to EIA's work with local enforcement and engagement with key shipping lines, 66 containers of logs that had been illegally harvested and shipped out of Mozambique were returned to Pemba, some having sailed home on a journey of 20,000 kilometers.

JUNE
EIA's report 'Tainted Beef' detailed our groundbreaking investigation tracing beef originating from illegally deforested areas in the Colombian Amazon to major supermarket chains, and garnered widespread media attention. In response, the relevant Colombian Agency (ICA) immediately committed to expeditiously putting in place a cattle traceability system.

In an unprecedented investigation that connected threatened forests of Solomon Islands, China's timber manufacturing hubs, and European importers, The Lie Behind the Ply report revealed how European consumers of tropical plywood have been the unwitting drivers of forest degradation, and revealed how European companies are in apparent violation of European law.

SEPTEMBER
A U.S. timber importer, Global Plywood and Lumber Trading LLC, pleaded guilty to importing illegal timber from Peru in violation of the U.S. Lacey Act, which prohibits trade of illegal timber products into the country. The preceding investigation proved that at least 92% of the Global Plywood timber in this shipment had been illegally logged in the Amazon rainforest.

OCTOBER
EIA's follow-up investigation into corrupt rosewood exploitation in Zambia revealed that illegal trade in mukula persists unabated. In the months following the publication, Zambia issued a mukula export ban and carried out enforcement operations resulting in the arrests of multiple high-level officials.



Senator Schatz (D-HI), and Representatives Blumenauer (D-OR) and Fitzpatrick (R-PA) announced the introduction of the FOREST Act, which would prohibit imports of agricultural commodities sourced from illegally deforested land, for which EIA provided significant input.

NOVEMBER
The New York Times published a front-page story, based significantly on EIA's investigative work, showing how leather from cattle raised on illegally deforested land in the Brazilian Amazon can end up in U.S. car seats. The findings clearly demonstrate the need for legislation like the FOREST Act to ensure that U.S. companies and consumers are not responsible for driving such illicit deforestation.

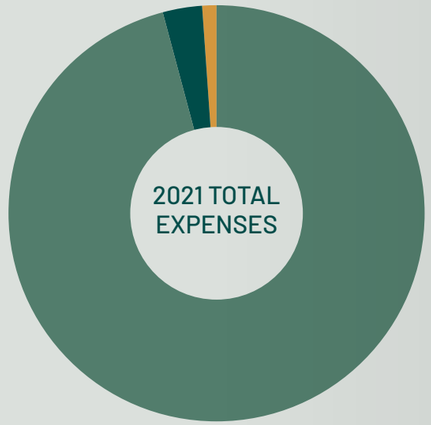
FINANCIALS

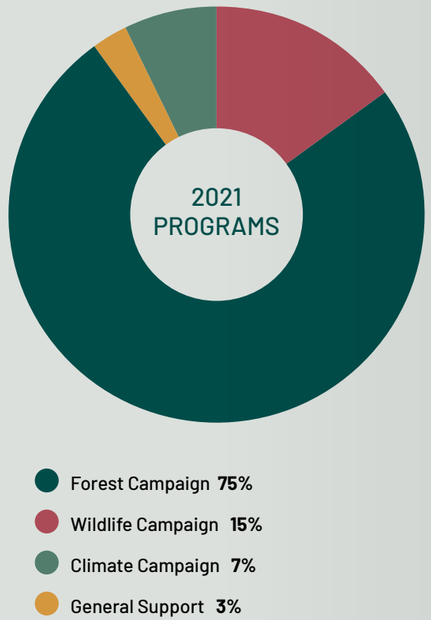
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
DECEMBER 31, 2021

ASSETS	2021
Cash & Cash Equivalents	$3,965,318
Investments	$675,012
Grants & Other Receivables	$576,478
Prepaid Expenses	$98,857
Right of Use Asset & Other Assets	$1,656,459
Net Fixed Assets	$258,684
Total assets	**$7,230,808**

LIABILITIES	
Accounts Payable	$452,731
Grants Payable and Refundable Advance	$814,359
Lease Liability	$2,062,730
Total liabilities	**$3,329,820**

NET ASSETS	
With Donor Restrictions	$2,437,859
Without Donor Restrictions	$1,463,129
Total net assets	**$3,900,988**
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	**$7,230,808**





STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGE IN ASSETS
DECEMBER 31, 2021

REVENUE	WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS	WITH DONOR RESTRICTIONS	TOTAL 2021
Contributions & Grants	$720,715	$6,258,443	$6,979,158
Investment Income, Net	$55,932	$1,646	$57,578
In-kind Contributions	$6,221		$6,221
Release from Donor Restrictions	$5,938,315	(5,938,315)	
TOTAL REVENUE	**$6,721,183**	**$321,774**	**$7,042,957**

EXPENSES			
Program Services			
Climate Campaign	$467,055		$467,055
Wildlife Campaign	$1,005,959		$1,005,959
Forest Campaign	$5,117,931		$5,117,931
Total Program Services	**$6,590,945**		**$6,590,945**
Management & General	$192,317		$192,317
Fundraising	$52,163		$52,163
Total Expenses	**$6,835,425**		**$6,835,425**

NET ASSETS			
Change in Net Assets	-$114,242	$321,774	$207,532
Net Assets - Beginning of the Year	$1,577,371	$2,116,085	$3,693,456
NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR	**$1,463,129**	**$2,437,859**	**$3,900,988**

GROWTH
AND DEVELOPMENT



"EIA HAS BEEN AN EXCEPTIONAL PARTNER IN OUR COLLECTIVE EFFORTS TO RECOVER CRITICALLY ENDANGERED COOK INLET BELUGA WHALES. THE EIA TEAM PROMOTES COLLABORATION, HONORS LOCAL KNOWLEDGE, AND BRINGS SOPHISTICATION AND EXPERTISE TO NATIONAL CAMPAIGNS"

Nicole Schmitt,
Executive Director,
Alaska Wildlife Alliance

EIA SPENDS A MINIMUM OF OUR RESOURCES ON DEVELOPMENT AND FUNDRAISING, AND RELIES LARGELY ON WORD OF MOUTH AND OUR REPUTATION TO INSPIRE POTENTIAL FUNDERS. WE LET OUR ACTIONS SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES SO THAT DONORS RIGHTLY FEEL LIKE THEY'VE DISCOVERED SOMETHING RADICAL AND UNIQUE.

EIA, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization based in Washington, D.C. Our small but dedicated staff works tirelessly to protect our natural world and its inhabitants.



INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORTERS

ClimateWorks Foundation

The Cox Family Fund

The David and Lucile Packard Foundation

Fern's Fund

Good Energies Foundation

M. Piuze Foundation

The Max and Victoria Dreyfus Foundation, Inc.

The Moses Feldman Family Foundation

Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad)

The Overbrook Foundation

Shared Earth Foundation

The Tilia Fund

Weeden Foundation

The Whitehead Foundation

During 2021 EIA also received the support of a number of generous individuals, charitable foundations, and non-profit institutions that wish to remain anonymous.

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL

Allan Thornton, President
Alexander von Bismarck, Executive Director
Ghaya Hassairi, Director of Finance and Operations/CFO

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Allan Thornton
Environmental Investigation Agency, President (Founder)

John Fitzgerald
Society for Conservation Biology, Former Policy Director
Defenders of Wildlife, Former General Counsel
Michael Brintnall
American Political Science Association (APSA), Former Executive Director
Brian B. Cox
MFX Solutions, President and CEO
Janine Ferretti
World Bank Group, Vice President, Compliance Advisor Ombudsman
Kristin Rechberger
Dynamic Planet, CEO

"IT'S BEEN GREAT PARTNERING WITH EIA ON OUR SHARED WORK TO GET THE SUPERMARKET SECTOR TO SWITCH TO CLIMATE FRIENDLY REFRIGERANTS. TOGETHER, WE'RE MAKING REAL PROGRESS ON A MAJOR DRIVER OF THE CLIMATE CRISIS."

Todd Larsen,
Executive Co-Director,
Green America









environmental investigation agency

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