



2022 IMPACT REPORT







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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 2022.

A LETTER

FROM THE PRESIDENT & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Emerging into a post-COVID world this past year required numerous adaptations. Governments, businesses, institutions, civil society and the public shifted in response to the COVID pandemic and its rippling effects. The industries and trade that affect the earth's environment were no exception: reduction of some demand alleviated pressures, while other breakdowns of governing institutions increased them.

This time brought into even more focus the necessity of EIA's core objective of increasing transparency of environmental crimes, and while we undertook many adaptations ourselves, we did not waver from this path and achieved tangible impacts as a result.

Increasing global demand for natural resources, and the human and environmental atrocities that result, are becoming more transparent through breakthrough systems of traceability, in many cases instigated, or built and implemented, by the EIA team. The idea is to leverage our hallmark on-the-ground investigations to shed ever more consistent light on the violence inflicted on local people and nature, and thereby drive lasting shifts in businesses, consumers, enforcement and legislation.

This comes at a time when inclusive local governance is thankfully increasingly in focus at the frontline of environmental defense, as Indigenous and local communities gain traction in critical spheres of governance. EIA has operated at the frontlines supporting local environmental defenders for over thirty years, and the fact that inclusive approaches are becoming mainstream and intentionally nested into wider systems give us optimism for the future across our different campaigns.

Our Climate Campaign celebrated more than a decade of campaigning with the U.S. ratification of the Kigali Amendment this year, joining 148 other countries in the global phasedown of harmful HFC emissions. We released our second supermarket scorecard on top U.S. supermarket chains and their actions to reduce HFCs; along with releasing two joint reports laying out a path to capture fluorocarbons, and new details on a dangerous global chemical cocktail of emissions.

EIA's Wildlife Campaign maintained pressure on Japan to close its domestic market for ivory, while at CITES CoP19 we released a situational analysis on rhinoceros poaching in Botswana. A report on the U.S. government's failure to protect Alaska's Cook Inlet beluga whales kicked off our efforts to increase real protections. We also continue to advocate for high-level action to protect orangutans in Indonesia while we support partners working on the ground.

Our Forest Campaign celebrated a major victory after years of EIA investigations and advocacy with CITES proposing an historic complete trade ban on rosewood species. With the help of local European news outlet investigations, a report on EU biomass wood pellets and deforestation in Romania helped yield action toward an EU law on renewable energy and biomass energy sourcing. Following the invasion of Ukraine, we released an investigation on sanctioned Russian conflict birch ending up as plywood on consumer shelves in the U.S; and rounded off the year with an explosive investigation on the automotive industry linkages to deforestation in the Amazon.

Overall we remain focused on the reality that climate change, biodiversity loss, and human rights abuses driven by resource extraction are a tangible threat to all of our security around the globe. Our investigations provide evidence and instigation for a tipping point toward action and change, often to leverage support to secure people's right to govern their own land and ancestral territories.

Without our generous donors, courageous local partners and the general public's support, we could not remain at the forefront of investigating and exposing the most pressing environmental and human rights violations. Please join us in our effort to bring justice to local people and the natural environment they are trying to protect.



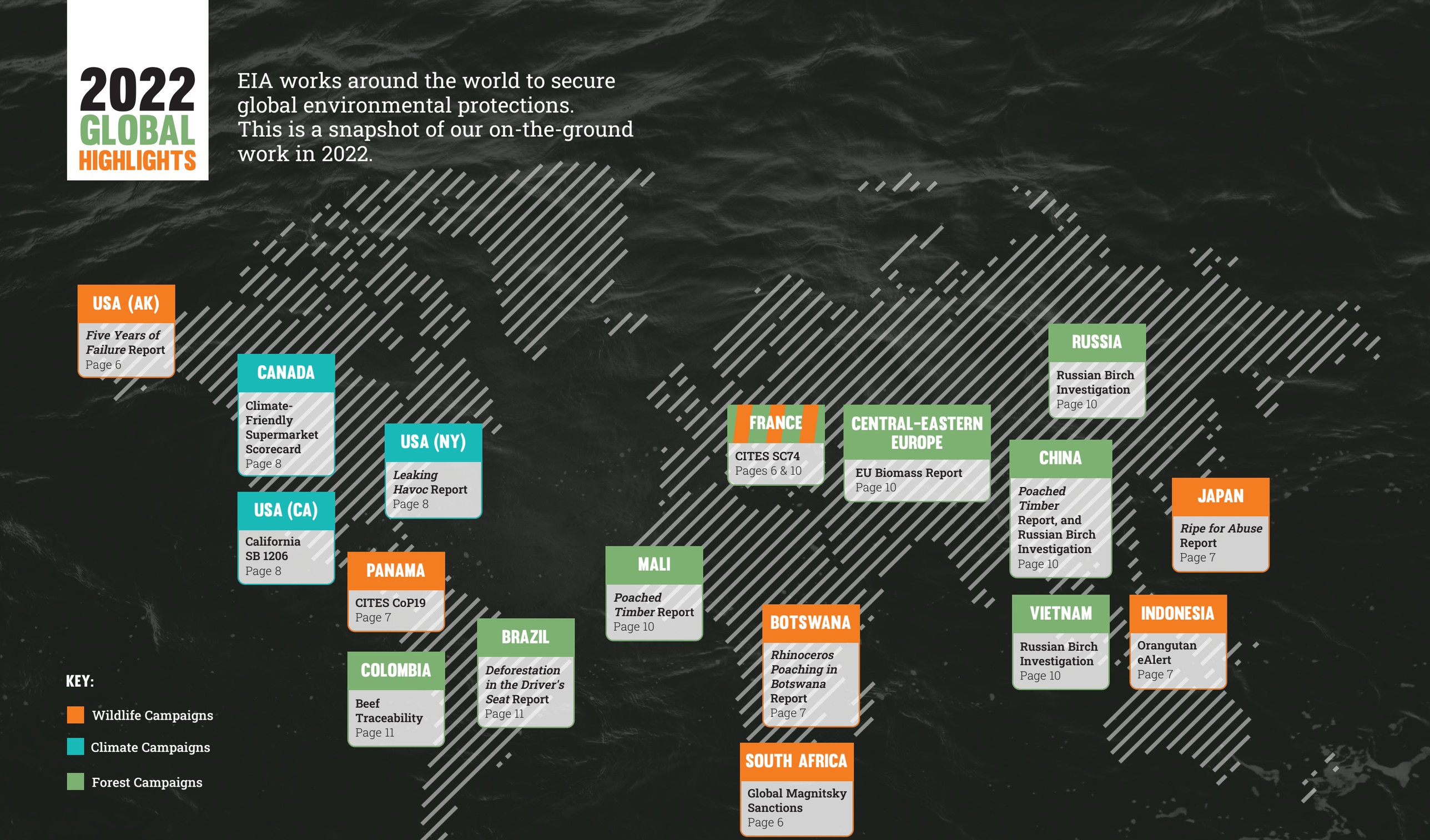
Allan Thornton, President



Alexander von Bismarck, Executive Director

2022 GLOBAL HIGHLIGHTS

EIA works around the world to secure global environmental protections. This is a snapshot of our on-the-ground work in 2022.



WILDLIFE

EIA 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.

Through our work, we seek to:

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

2022 HIGHLIGHTS

EIA released a report entitled *Five Years of Failure* detailing the dire situation of Alaska's Cook Inlet beluga whale population. Only about 279 individuals remain and at their current rate of decline, the population faces a serious risk of functional extinction within our lifetime.

At CITES SC74, EIA campaigned for enhanced safeguards for elephants, rhinos, and other endangered species. The meeting resulted in significant recommendations, including for the closure of domestic ivory markets in countries like Japan, which is frequently linked to illegal ivory exports. Additionally, there was a call to revive the CITES Rhino Enforcement Task Force to enhance global cooperation against rhino poaching and illegal trade in rhino horn.

EIA released a statement welcoming the long-awaited recommendations from the Tokyo Advisory Council on Ivory Trade Regulation, supporting legal measures and urging strong action from Japan's national government. We will persist in urging the Tokyo Metropolitan Government to follow the Council's advice. EIA also expressed its concerns about Japan's stance on ivory trade in an OpEd published in Asia Times, gaining international attention.

In May 2022, EIA submitted a formal sanctions recommendation package to the U.S. Department of the Treasury and the Department of State against a senior member of the South African judiciary for involvement in corruption. The sanctions recommendation package was submitted under the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act, as implemented by Executive Order 13818, and Section 7013(c) of the Annual Department of State Appropriations Act.

EIA, with partner NGOs, participated in a special joint meeting with National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) leadership to emphasize the significance of advancing the U.S. Federal Government's Ocean Noise Strategy. The goal is to mitigate ocean noise effects on marine species and ecosystems. NOAA was urged to prioritize mandatory vessel slowdown regulations domestically and take a leadership role at the International Maritime Organization (IMO) to reduce harmful underwater noise impacts from the global commercial shipping industry.

In collaboration with conservation partners, we publically released a series of "Cumulative Effects" GIS maps that depict the numerous man-made threats that Cook Inlet beluga whales continually encounter every day within their federally designated critical habitat. The maps are being used as a messaging tool for engagement with federal regulators, key Congressional offices, and other relevant stakeholders as well as media/public outreach.

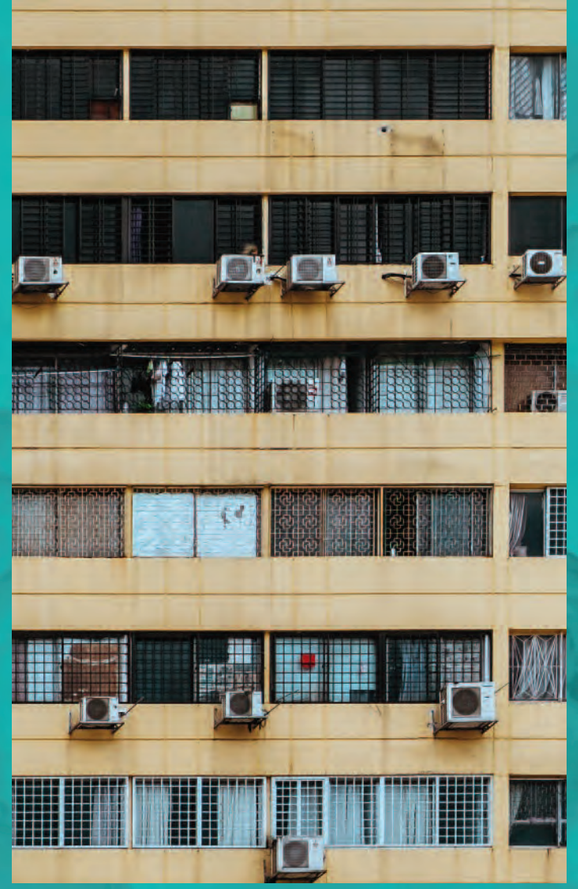
For World Orangutan Day on August 19th, EIA partnered with the Animal Welfare Institute (AWI) to produce an eAlert that was circulated to AWI's membership urging the submission of letters to the President of Indonesia calling for urgent action to protect orangutans. More than 7,600 letters were submitted.

EIA published two reports ahead of CoP19 in Panama in November. *Ripe for Abuse: Japan's Ivory Market* exposed Japan's domestic ivory market's contribution to illegal trade. The *Rhinoceros Poaching in Botswana* situational analysis assessed rhinoceros conservation and the rise in poaching in Botswana's Okavango Delta region since 2017, highlighting the challenges associated with anti-poaching efforts. At CoP19, there were positive developments for rhinos and elephants, including the reinstatement of the CITES Rhinoceros Enforcement Task Force and agreements on various actions to strengthen the closure of domestic ivory markets.

CLIMATE

Preventing runaway climate change and warming of more than 1.5°C requires accelerating emission reductions of potent short-lived climate pollutants, such as hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) and other fluorinated chemicals. EIA's Climate Campaign seeks to eliminate emissions of HFCs and other potent greenhouse gases used primarily in cooling and heating.







To maximize the immediate climate benefits that can be achieved by eliminating super-pollutant HFCs, 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 schedule under the Montreal Protocol and maximize energy efficiency co-benefits.
- Prevent lifecycle emissions of all existing HFCs and other fluorinated refrigerants, mitigating up to an additional 100Gt CO_2e in direct emissions by 2100.
- Unlock U.S. leadership through innovative policy solutions and comprehensive implementation of the American Innovation and Manufacturing (AIM) Act.

2022 HIGHLIGHTS

EIA testified in support of California SB 1206, legislation led by Senator Skinner that further restricts the sale of newly produced HFCs in the state and encourages reclamation and reuse. The law also mandates the California Air Resources Board and the Public Utilities Commission to develop a plan to increase adoption of alternative refrigerants with ultra-low global warming potentials through regulations and incentives. We continue to advise legislative staff and engage with other stakeholders to support its implementation.

EIA partnered with 350NYC to detect refrigerant leaks in supermarkets. Our Climate team trained volunteers to use a detection device, and we conducted visits to several supermarkets to search for refrigerant leaks. EIA and 350NYC used the device throughout Earth Week to gather leak data on stores across the city and uncover what appear to be significant emissions of super-pollutant greenhouse gases from the local NYC supermarket chain Gristedes.

Green America and EIA launched a new action calling on consumers to sign a letter to Kroger CEO Rodney McMullen demanding the company adopt ultra-low global warming potential (GWP) refrigerants in all of its stores by 2030. The action received over 12,000 signatures in advance of Kroger's Annual General Meeting. At the meeting 35% of voting shareholders supported a resolution that the company issue a report on how it plans to meet its climate goals.

EIA released its second Climate-Friendly Supermarket Scorecard assessing the largest U.S. and Canadian supermarket chains on actions to reduce HFCs. Only ALDI and Whole Foods received passing scores, while most U.S. supermarket retailers have made insufficient progress in phasing out hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs). Supermarkets must commit to climate-friendly options now, not lock themselves into costly and outdated HFC-based systems for years to come.

On September 21, 2022, the U.S. Senate voted to ratify the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol, joining other countries in the global phase down of harmful HFCs. EIA has campaigned in support of HFC phase down at the Montreal Protocol for more than a decade which has been essential in phasing out the use of ozone depleting substances such as hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs). However, significant improvements are still needed to ensure the sustained phase out of substances controlled by the Protocol.

EIA launched a joint report with the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) and the Institute for Governance & Sustainable Development (IGSD) laying out a path to capture planet warming fluorocarbon gases from inside old air conditioners and refrigerators; an effort that in the U.S. could stave off as much climate pollution as two years of President Biden's 2030 emissions target through the end of this century.

EIA published an AIM Act Fact Sheet, which examines the unique compliance and enforcement features of the 2021 allowance system developed to implement the Kigali Amendment in the United States. This serves as just one example for countries to consider as they improve and modernize previous domestic licensing and allowance systems designed for ODS, to ensure the successful phase down of HFCs.

A dangerous cocktail of unexplained chemical gases harmful to the Earth's ozone layer and climate is building up in the atmosphere, EIA report warns. A review of the latest scientific findings reveals how a shocking array of new chemical emissions, including HFC-23, CTC, and various CFCs, looms large over the Montreal Protocol, challenging its reputation as the most successful environmental treaty.

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.

2022 HIGHLIGHTS

EIA released the investigative report *Poached Timber* showing how the equivalent of half a million kosso trees – worth approximately US$220 million - were shipped from Mali to China between 2017 and 2020. The relentless timber poaching has resulted in a significant decline of the species *Pterocarpus erinaceus* ("kosso") across West Africa. EIA has investigated the illegal rosewood trade over the past seven years, documenting how timber mafias continued the plunder in different countries despite the tree being protected by CITES Appendix II.

EIA campaigners attended the 74th CITES Standing Committee (SC74) meeting in Lyon and were able to leave with a huge success. After years of EIA investigations and campaigning (5+ reports in total), and in response to resulting petitions from range States, CITES took an unprecedented decision, proposing a complete trade ban on one of Africa's most exploited tree species, *Ptercarpus erinaceus* ("kosso"), to stop the illegal and unsustainable multi-billion dollar trade in rosewood from West Africa to China.

A report by EIA and partners incorporated extensive data analyses and on-the-ground investigations to track log trucks from protected forests in Central and Eastern Europe to over a dozen major pellet and biomass plants, confirming that pillaging protected forests to make heating pellets and burning them for energy in Western Europe has become a widespread practice. The investigation was prominently reported in news outlets across the globe, including the New York Times and local newspapers in Europe, and led to a change in the European regulations subsidizing such practices.

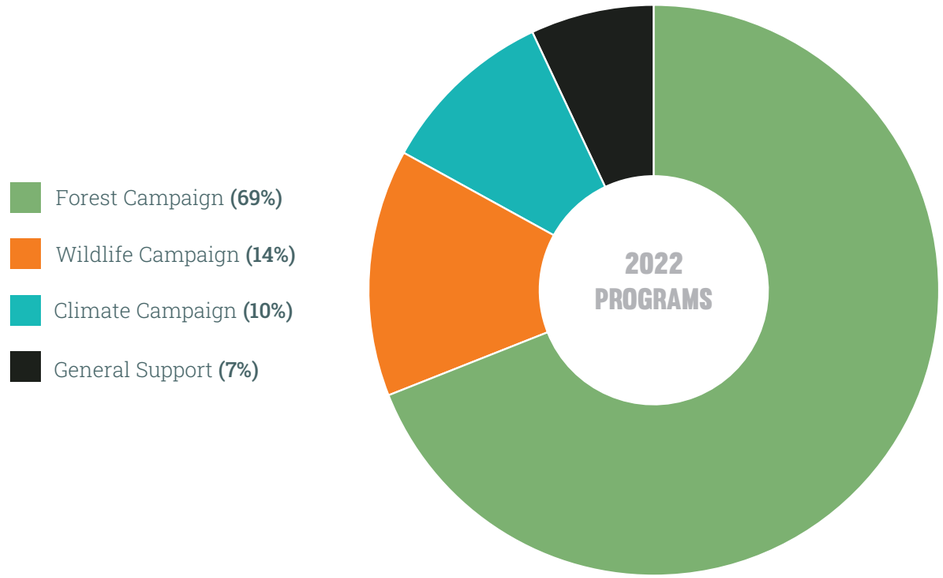
Russian birch has been the choice wood of many carpenters and manufacturers in the United States. In the investigation, reported on by the Washington Post, EIA uncovered how large quantities of Russian birch plywood continue to be imported into the United States via China and Vietnam, evading the 50% tariffs imposed on Russian timber after its invasion of Ukraine. The investigation reveals that the continued import of this conflict timber is likely being misdeclared, in violation of the U.S. Lacey Act.

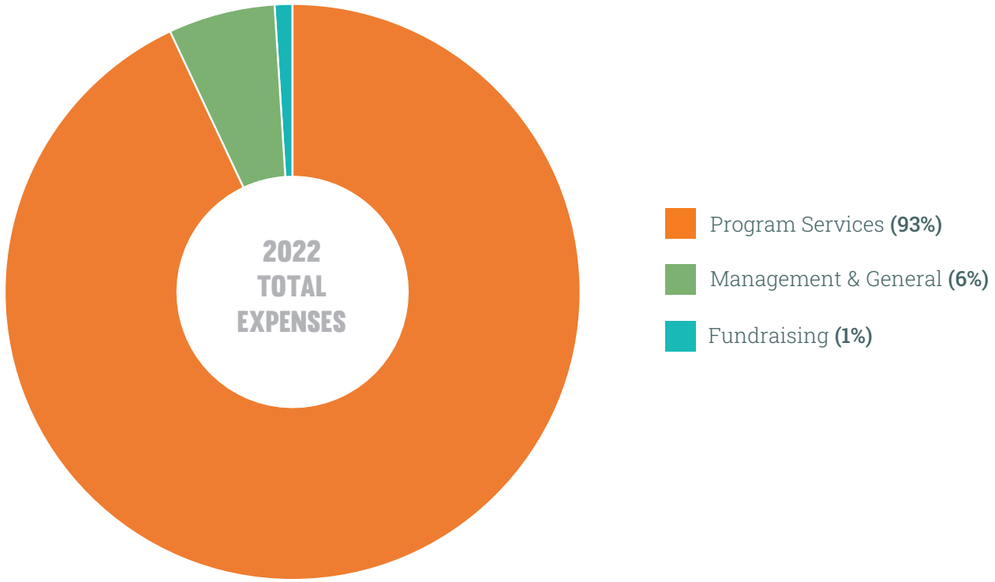
Following our 2021 investigative report, *Tainted Beef*, in 2022 Colombian government, civil society and lawmakers took important steps to stop illegal deforestation through cattle ranching. With EIA support, our partner Dejusticia published a comprehensive analysis of the challenges and roadblocks that prevent accountability and transparency in the Colombian cattle sector, with hands-on recommendations for much needed reforms. In addition, congressman Juan Carlos Lozada, introduced a bill to make beef traceability mandatory in Colombia, citing our report among the evidence.

Building on EIA's work that instigated this NYTimes piece, EIA released a multi-year investigative report, *Deforestation in the Driver's Seat*, which reveals how leather seats used in many of the most iconic car brands are linked to illegal deforestation in the Brazilian Amazon. The report shows how crucial it is for Brazil to mandate transparent traceability mechanisms, and for major importing countries to pass effective due diligence laws in order to keep goods associated with deforestation and forest crimes out of the international market. Read additional coverage from the Daily Mail here.

EIA's Executive Director, Alexander von Bismarck testified at a House Ways and Means Subcommittee on Trade hearing focused on *Promoting Sustainable Environmental Practices Through Trade Policy*. He advocated for urgently addressing the U.S. role in imports of commodities driving deforestation around the globe and passing the U.S. FOREST Act to tackle this. He also emphasized the need for improved enforcement of the Lacey Act and environmental commitments in U.S. trade agreements.

2022 AUDITED FINANCIALS





Statement of Activities and Change in Assets - December 31, 2022

REVENUE	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	TOTAL 2022
Contributions & Grants	$1,163,529	$6,111,460	$7,274,989
Investment Income, net	-$80,938	$1,437	-$79,501
In-kind Contributions	$23,940		$23,940
Release from donor restrictions	$5,757,875	(5,757,875)	
Total Revenue	**$6,864,406**	**$355,022**	**$7,219,428**
EXPENSES			
Program Services			
Climate Campaign	$693,444		$693,444
Wildlife Campaign	$976,830		$976,830
Forest Campaign	$4,951,779		$4,951,779
Total Program Services	**$6,622,053**		**$6,622,053**
Management & General	$434,613		$434,613
Fundraising	$102,069		$102,069
Total Expenses	**$7,158,735**		**$7,158,735**
NET ASSETS			
Change in Net Assets	-$294,329	$355,022	$60,693
Net Assets - Beginning of the Year	$1,463,129	$2,437,859	$3,900,988
NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR	**$1,168,800**	**$2,792,881**	**$3,961,681**

GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

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.



> The illegal exploitation of *Pterocarpus* wood has negatively affected the socio-economic life of the populations who live in the south of Senegal. The CITES decision means that all countries from West Africa to Cameroon are no longer allowed to trade in *Pterocarpus* wood. We hope our future work will continue with our partners to support the range states to really undertake sustainable forest management.
>
> - Abba Sonko, Forest and Water Engineer, Former CITES Focal Point of Senegal

> EIA has been a significant ally in pushing structural issues in Colombian Amazon deforestation, allowing us to identify bottlenecks in the meat chain's traceability process, the lack of access to environmental public information, and the role the state must play for the community to effectively and sustainably influence the reduction of Amazon forest deforestation.
>
> - Laura Santacoloma, Director of Environmental Justice Research Line, Dejusticia

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL

Allan Thornton
President

Alexander von Bismarck
Executive Director

Ghaya Hassairi
Chief Operations and Finance Officer, COO/CFO

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John Fitzgerald
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Defenders of Wildlife, Former General Counsel

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Janine Ferretti
World Bank Group, Vice President, Compliance Advisor Ombudsman

Kristin Rechberger
Dynamic Planet, CEO

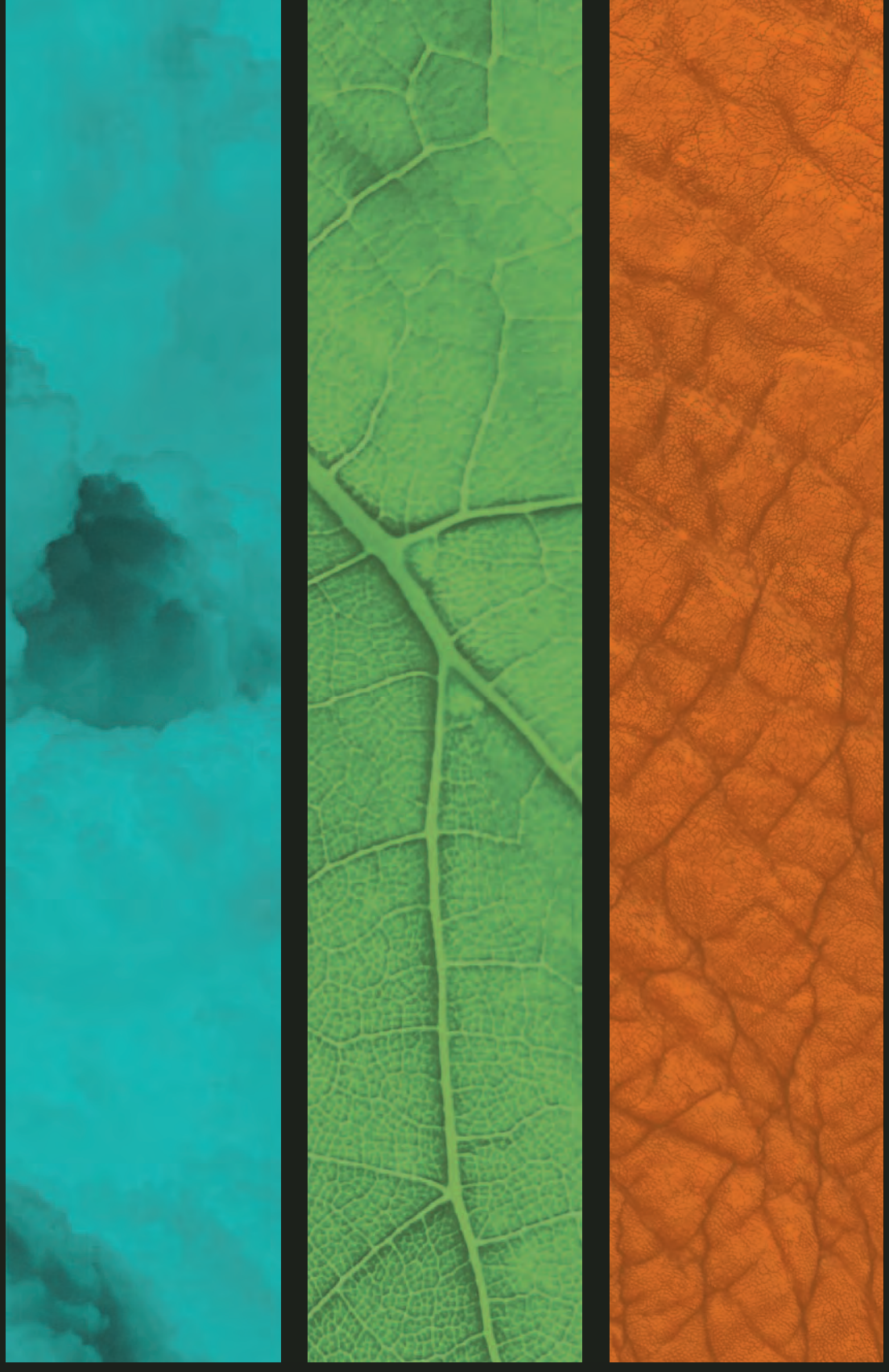
INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORTERS

ClimateWorks Foundation
The Cox Family Fund
Good Energies Foundation
Hampshire Foundation
The JEM Project
M. Piuze Foundation
McPike-Zima Foundation
The Moses Feldman Family Foundation
Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD)
The Overbrook Foundation
Shared Earth Foundation
The Tilia Fund
Dr. Victoria Sujata
Weeden Foundation
The Whitehead Foundation

During 2022 EIA also received the support of a number of generous individuals, charitable foundations, and non-profit institutions that wish to remain anonymous.

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.

Photo: Vanessa Peña



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