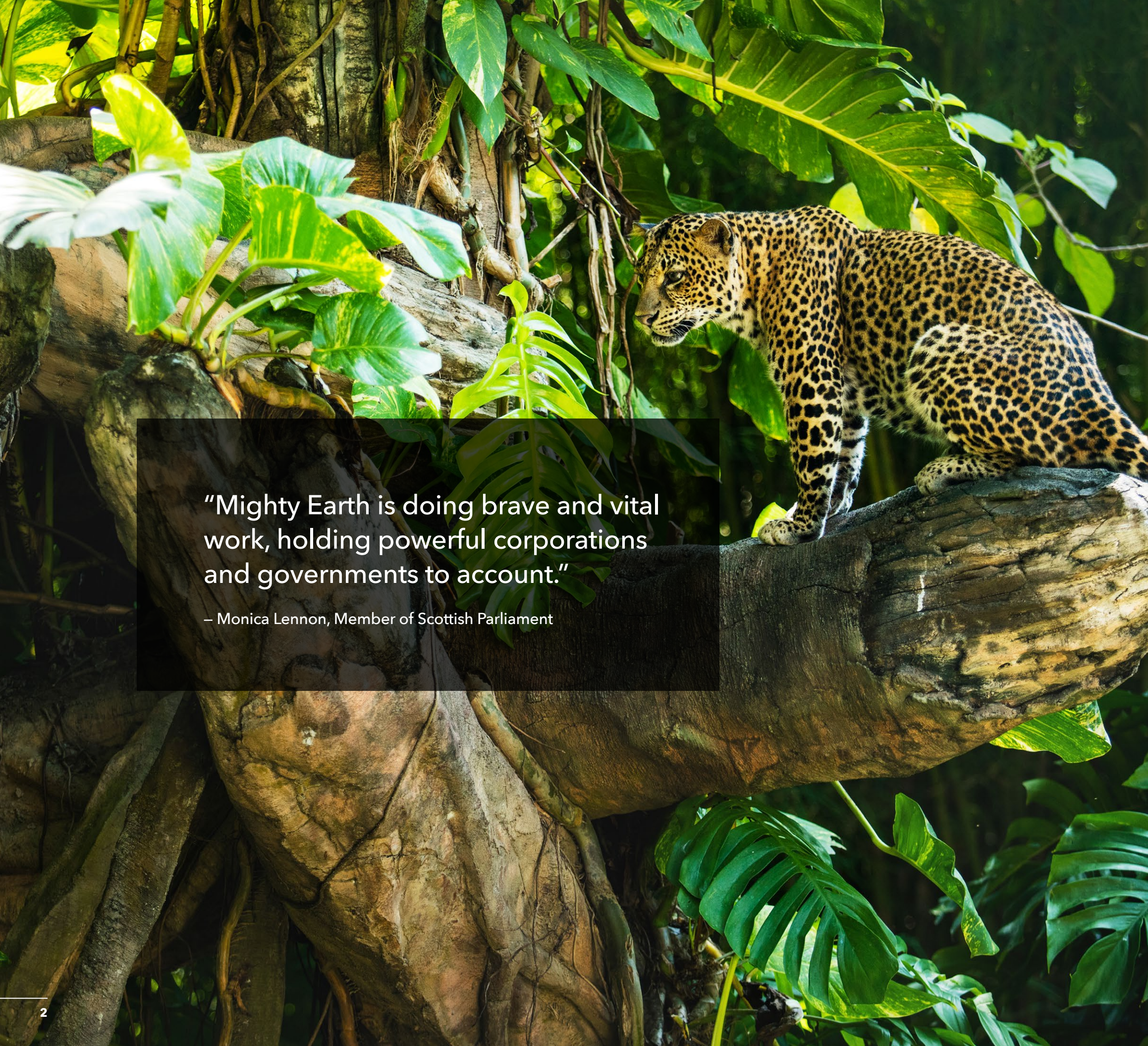




MIGHTY EARTH

TRANSFORMING OUR WORLD

2023 ANNUAL REPORT



“Mighty Earth is doing brave and vital work, holding powerful corporations and governments to account.”

– Monica Lennon, Member of Scottish Parliament

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LETTER FROM THE CEO & BOARD CHAIR

Dear Friend of Mighty Earth,

At a time when our planet sometimes feels on the brink of collapse, we write to you with a message of hope. Even with a modest budget and staff size, Mighty Earth is transforming our world for the better. Through a focused strategy that sets Mighty Earth apart—what we call our “perfect storm”—we’re driving landmark policies and changing the ways corporations do business so that nature and the communities that rely on it can again thrive, and we can restore balance to our climate.

In the pages that follow, we share the stories of a handful of our notable successes from 2023.

We worked to transform the protein industry, exposing forest destruction linked to the supply chains of giant beef companies and commodity traders like JBS and Cargill - and won significant new policy changes to help protect South American ecosystems.

In collaboration with our partners, we brought global attention to the “methane blind spot” and pushed for urgent corporate actions to tackle this superheater greenhouse gas.

In the US, Mighty Earth is preparing to launch a new campaign to rewild the northeast, bringing back balance to a revived ecosystem through the reintroduction of its missing apex predator - the puma.

We also continued our advocacy around the European Union Deforestation Regulation (EUDR), a landmark policy to protect global forests that we helped shape and pass. We’ve been fighting on two fronts during the critical period between passage and implementation to ensure the EUDR fulfills its promise.

Every single one of these wins has required the tenacity that has become our stock in trade. While some would be inclined to declare victory and move on, at Mighty Earth we understand that real, transformative change requires a single-minded focus to see the work through until it’s complete.

Because success requires that we stay the course for the long haul, we’re grateful for our wonderful supporters whose commitment is as unflagging as that of our staff, who we affectionately call our “Dream Team.” At the same time, the needs are great, and we must continue to grow if we are to achieve the 250 million acres of conservation and 13.6 gigatons of climate pollution reduction we’re aiming for by 2030. Just as with other aspects of our work, we cannot let up on our fundraising efforts until we have the resources required to meet the extraordinary demand we are hearing from our partners around the world.

For now, let’s celebrate the tremendous impact that, together, we are creating. Thank you for helping Mighty Earth transform our world for the better.

Sincerely,




Glenn Hurowitz
CEO



Tom Kuo
Board Chair



2023 A YEAR OF TRANSFORMATIVE IMPACT

Transforming  Automotive Supply Chains

STORY ON PAGE 16

Transforming  North American Landscapes

STORY ON PAGE 8

Transforming  Beef and Soy in Latin America

STORY ON PAGE 10

Transforming  Agricultural Methane Emissions

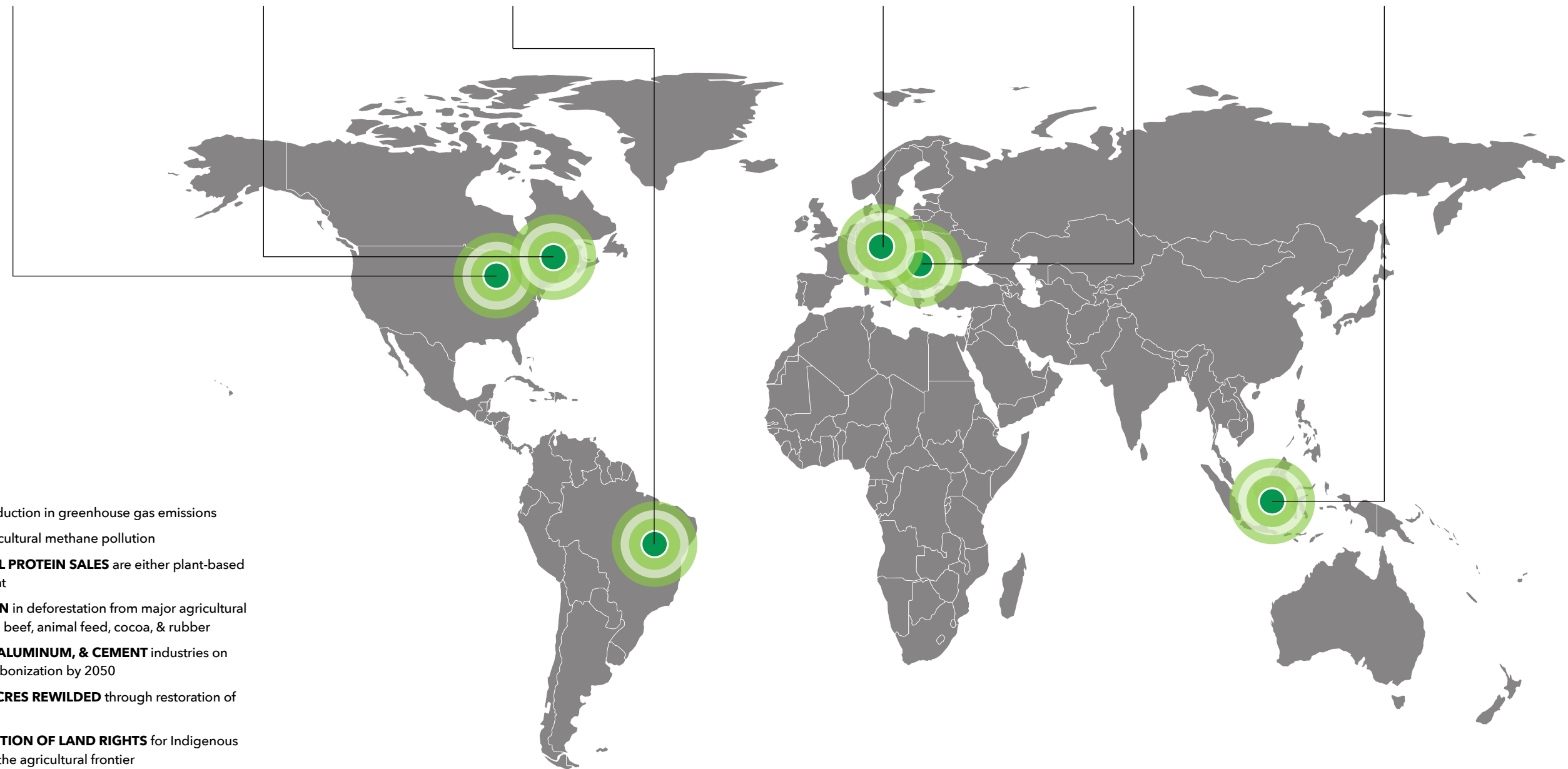
STORY ON PAGE 12

Transforming  European Union Forest Policy








STORY ON PAGE 18

Transforming  Indonesia's Forests

STORY ON PAGE 14



2030 GOALS

-  **10 GIGATON** reduction in greenhouse gas emissions
-  **30% CUT** in agricultural methane pollution
-  **10% OF GLOBAL PROTEIN SALES** are either plant-based or cultivated meat
-  **85% REDUCTION** in deforestation from major agricultural commodities like beef, animal feed, cocoa, & rubber
-  **80% OF STEEL, ALUMINUM, & CEMENT** industries on path to full decarbonization by 2050
-  **250 MILLION ACRES REWILDED** through restoration of keystone species
-  **100% RECOGNITION OF LAND RIGHTS** for Indigenous communities on the agricultural frontier

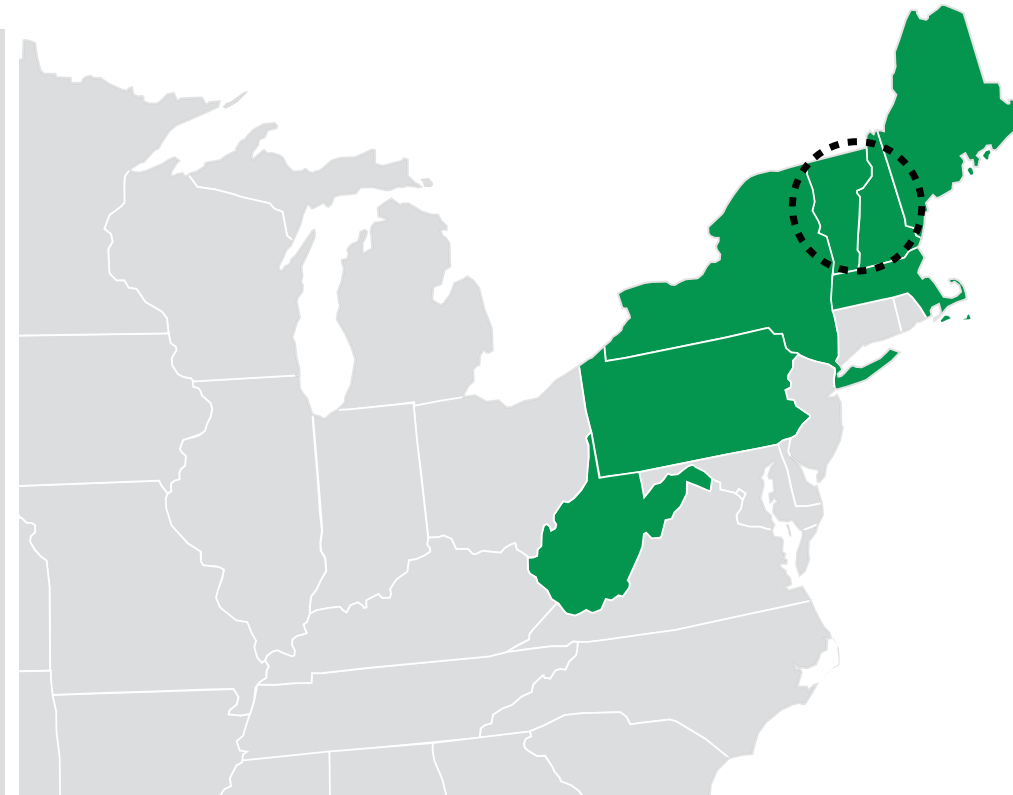
TRANSFORMING NORTH AMERICAN LANDSCAPES

A great rewilding movement is underway around the world, harnessing the power of native species to both restore balance to degraded ecosystems and mitigate the effects of climate change. Recent research demonstrates the power of Nature to secure our climate, showing that the restoration of wildlife populations to historic levels can achieve 95% of the carbon removal needed to hit our 1.5°C carbon goal and mitigate some effects of a warming climate, such as wildfires.



Embracing this opportunity, Mighty Earth is partnering with conservation groups to catalyze current grassroots rewilding efforts in North America to ensure they achieve the scale and structure needed for success. We are bringing our hallmark “perfect storm” of campaigns, communications, and practical engagement with decision-makers to targeted rewilding efforts, coupling the power of advocacy and partnerships with conservation experts who play a vital role in these initiatives.

Our first area of focus is a campaign to reintroduce puma to the Northeastern United States, one of the most pro-conservation regions of the country with extensive forest suitable for reintroduction. Working with local conservation groups, state decision-makers, and grassroots advocates, we are developing plans to get these big cats back into forests where they used to roam.



“While the forests of the Northeast have largely regrown, they remain out of balance without large predators. We are working with local advocates to determine when, where, and how we can correct a historic injustice and return puma to their woodland habitat.”

– ALEX ARMSTRONG, VICE PRESIDENT OF PROGRAMS

TRANSFORMING BEEF & SOY IN LATIN AMERICA

While the Amazon is the most recognized of the important forested ecosystems of Latin America, it is just one of several critical biomes—including the Cerrado and Pantanal—where soy and cattle production are wreaking havoc. In fact, almost half of the world’s primary tropical forest loss is driven by the meat industry in Brazil, where agriculture and deforestation account for 70% of the country’s greenhouse gas emissions. Globally, the meat industry accounts for more climate pollution than cars, trucks, ships, and trains. Mighty Earth has long worked to transform the way that agribusiness giant Cargill, a leading driver of deforestation in Latin America, and JBS, the world’s largest meat company, do business. We seek to put an end to their rampant deforestation and channel soy and cattle production onto already-degraded land.



In partnership with local communities throughout Latin America, Mighty Earth has been documenting the deforestation activities of companies like Cargill and JBS and bringing them to account. In October 2023, Mighty Earth published the findings of a months-long investigation about Cargill’s efforts to undermine collaborative progress on climate goals by the soy sector at COP27 in a report called “Cargill: Still the Worst.” In November, following the release of the report, Cargill announced a commitment to end ecosystem destruction linked to soy, corn, wheat, and cotton in Brazil, Argentina, and Uruguay by 2025. At the same time as we were taking on Cargill, Mighty Earth launched a campaign against Carrefour, a major JBS customer and the largest supermarket chain in Brazil, calling attention to Carrefour’s link to JBS, deforestation, and climate pollution. As a result of our pressure on Carrefour, JBS banned sales from 177 farms in the Indigenous reserve of Rondônia linked to illegal deforestation and land-grabbing, sending a powerful signal to deforesters and the rest of the meat industry.

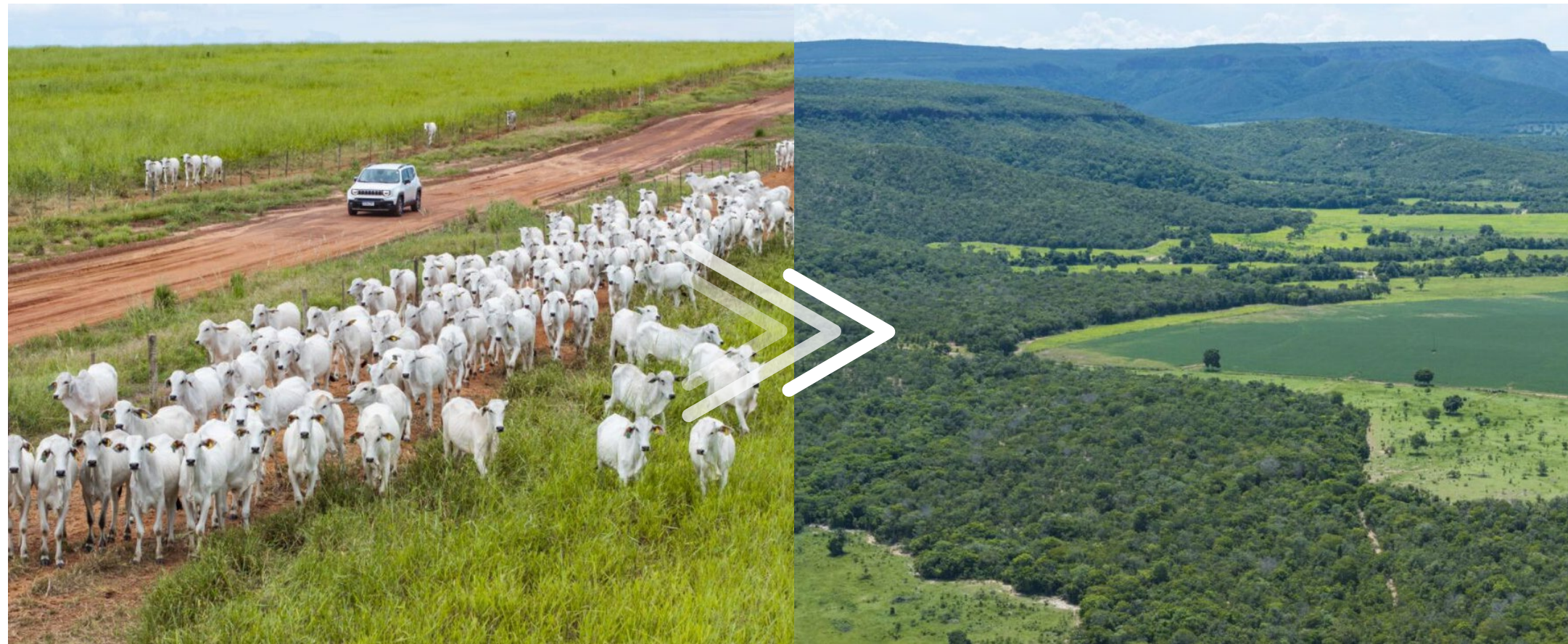


“These are important but incomplete steps by both Cargill and JBS. As top drivers of ecosystem destruction in Latin America, their commitments can make a big difference. But they need to do more—and faster—if we are to save these important forest ecosystems.”

– JOÃO GONÇALVES, SENIOR DIRECTOR, BRAZIL

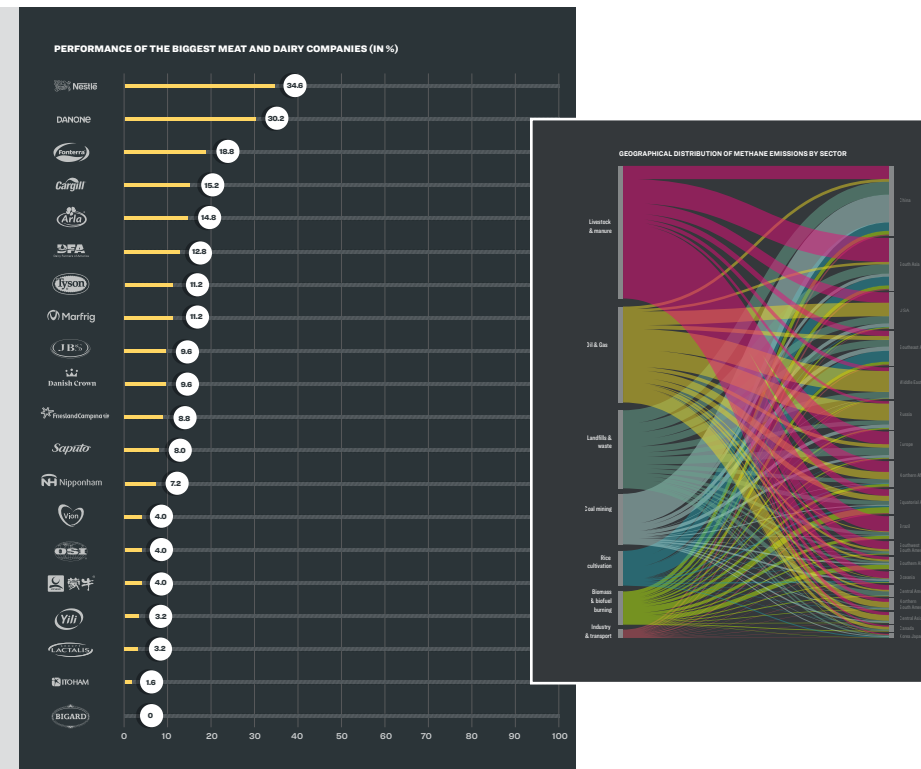
TRANSFORMING AGRICULTURAL METHANE EMISSIONS

Methane is a superheater greenhouse gas—up to 80 times more potent than CO₂ over the short term. Given both its ubiquity and shorter half-life than carbon, reducing methane emissions is one of the most cost-effective and urgent issues we can tackle for outsized near-term climate impact. By far the largest share of the world’s methane pollution is created by agricultural activity, with livestock alone accounting for one third. Without rapid action on livestock, especially within the meat and dairy industries, food production alone will shatter our 1.5°C warming target, with methane accounting for 73% of all warming by 2050.



In response, Mighty Earth and our partner, Changing Markets Foundation, issued a 2021 report—released to coincide with the Global Methane Pledge which was launched at COP26—on the “methane blind spot,” calling out meat and dairy industry, and government, actors for ignoring this climate emergency and offering recommendations for reporting on, and reducing, agricultural methane emissions. Since the report’s release, we have continued to include these demands in our conversations with retailers, governments, and meat and dairy companies. In early 2023, dairy giant Danone became the first dairy company to set a specific methane reduction goal, pledging to reduce its absolute methane emissions by 30% by 2030, in line with the Global Methane Pledge.

With Danone setting an example for its peers and competitors, Mighty Earth is pushing other meat and dairy industry leaders to follow suit and commit to reporting and reducing their methane emissions.



“Reducing methane emissions is crucial in combating climate change yet, despite its magnitude, the livestock sector’s contribution to methane emissions has not received the attention it deserves. Mighty Earth is leveraging the current momentum of the Global Methane Pledge to work with partners to expose this blind spot and drive impactful change in this sector.”

– JURJEN DE WAAL, SENIOR DIRECTOR, THE NETHERLANDS

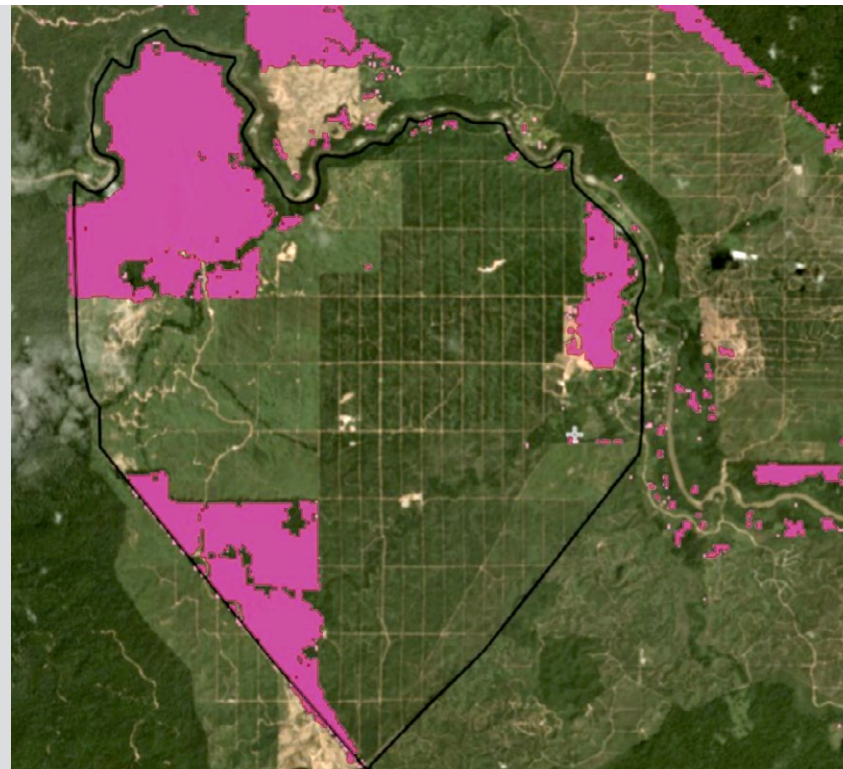
TRANSFORMING INDONESIA'S FORESTS

Indonesia is home to some of the world's most important tropical forests and key biodiversity hotspots. Unfortunately, these forests are also prime targets for industry, from rubber and palm oil plantations to logging and mining interests. In 2022 alone, Indonesia lost 568,000 acres of forest. Since 2017, Mighty Earth has been using satellite monitoring to detect deforestation in Indonesia and rapidly filing alerts with companies to investigate and stop the destruction. This is of special importance in High Carbon Stock (HCS) forests, which absorb and store huge volumes of CO₂.



One company we have been monitoring is Widya Corporation, a palm oil company. Between May 2018 and July 2020, Mighty Earth published repeated cases of Widya clearing forests on the island of Borneo. While many traders refused to address this case, claiming that the areas being cleared were not classified as HCS forests—and thus not of special importance—we argued that Widya's assessor wrongly classified large areas of high-quality forests as treeless shrub areas, and that traders should push for a moratorium and insist that Widya get their assessment peer reviewed. Our tenacity paid off and the peer review process was completed in 2023, concluding that Widya had cleared nearly 6,700 acres of high-value forest. Widya has since agreed to a recovery plan covering nearly 14,000 acres.

Mighty Earth is now monitoring how this case is resolved because across Southeast Asia, hundreds of thousands of acres of degraded land are ripe for restoration, conservation, and rewilding. Agreements like this set an important precedent and an expectation that companies need to pay for past damage—especially in these climate-critical ecosystems.



“Zero deforestation is the goal; what that means in practice is responding to and addressing violations like these when they occur. The company was able to clear really high-quality forest and we challenged it right down to the bitter end. Now they’ve agreed to compensate for it.”

– THEA PARSON, SENIOR ASSOCIATE, FORESTS AND CLIMATE

TRANSFORMING AUTOMOTIVE SUPPLY CHAINS

Most people know that gasoline-powered automobiles contribute to global warming, so tremendous effort has been invested in shifting away from fossil fuel use in cars. Much less well-known is that producing steel and aluminum—materials found in all cars whether gas or electric—accounts for 10% of global carbon emissions. Mighty Earth has been pushing automakers to clean up their steel and aluminum supply chains, ensuring that the materials that go into vehicles get as much attention as the emissions that come out.



As part of this effort, Mighty Earth mounted a campaign against automotive giant General Motors that is pushing the company to develop a realistic plan to achieve its 2040 net-zero goal. In 2023, we expanded the campaign to ensure GM lives up to its human rights commitments as well, from reducing pollution in communities of color near manufacturing plants to divesting from mining operations that violate Indigenous people’s rights to removing forced labor from its supply chains in Asia.

In June 2023, days ahead of GM’s Annual General Meeting, Mighty Earth and our partners released a report on GM’s greenwashing, highlighting the contradictions between their environmental and human rights policies and ongoing issues of pollution and human rights abuses in their steel and aluminum supply chains. The week before the meeting, we organized a candlelight vigil in front of GM’s headquarters and ran print and digital ads in the Detroit Free Press and Detroit News highlighting the report and calling on GM to come clean. These tactics worked, because at GM’s 2023 Annual General Meeting, CEO Mary Barra acknowledged that investing in clean steel and aluminum are priorities for GM.

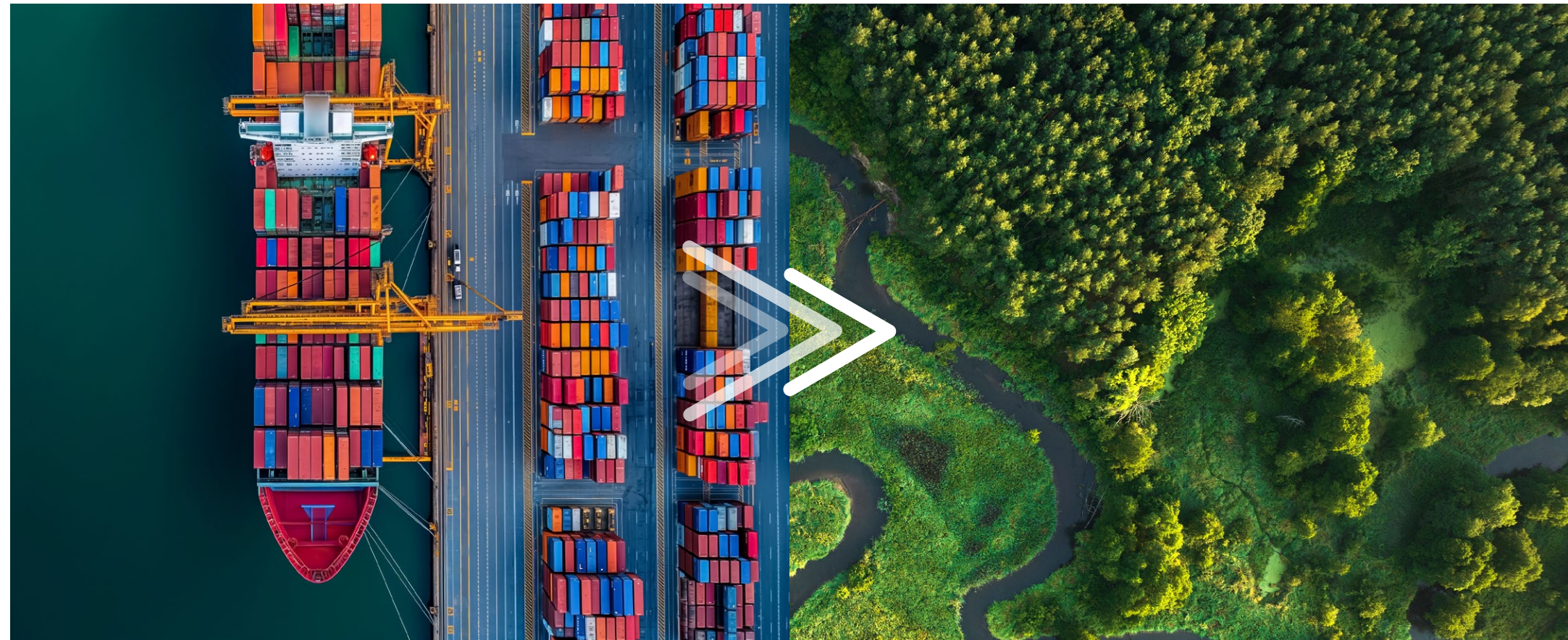


“Mighty Earth applauds the progress GM has made to decarbonize its steel supply chain—but much more is needed, and we will not let up. Ultimately, other automakers need to follow GM’s lead and join industry coalitions and purchasing platforms to drive a major shift toward green steel and green aluminum.”

– MATTHEW GROCH, SENIOR DIRECTOR, HEAVY INDUSTRY

TRANSFORMING EUROPEAN UNION FOREST POLICY

The European Union Deforestation Regulation (EUDR) is the most significant policy to protect global forests in more than a decade. By banning imports of deforestation-linked commodities like meat, soy, cocoa, cashew, palm oil, and rubber, the EUDR limits market access for producers who destroy forests and provides a strong incentive for companies to improve both traceability and transparency and eliminate deforestation from their supply chains. Over the next decade, this law is expected to prevent 26 million acres of deforestation and 320 million tons of climate pollution.



Mighty Earth fought to make the EUDR a reality, leading a coalition of civil society organizations in Brussels and pushing to include additional commodities and strong enforcement mechanisms. It was thanks to Mighty Earth's last-minute intervention that the EUDR applies to rubber, which has been a major driver of deforestation in Africa and Southeast Asia. While the law entered into force in June 2023, we continue to work in countries across Europe and with the European Commission to shape its implementation before it becomes applicable. We are fighting especially hard to expand the law to cover Other Wooded Lands—critical ecosystems that are not technically forests, such as the tropical savannah of Brazil and the wooded savannahs of West Africa—and fighting back against industry actors who are trying to water down the law's protections for forests.



“We need to keep feeding evidence to the European Commission to show that the case for extending the EUDR to cover precious ecosystems like the Brazilian Cerrado and African Miombo Woodlands is irrefutable. Since the decision could end up being a political one, we’re also working alongside our partners to build support amongst key EU policymakers for strengthening the law.”

– JULIAM ORAM, SENIOR DIRECTOR, PUBLIC POLICY

MIGHTY EARTH'S DREAM TEAM

STAFF:

Glenn Hurowitz
CEO and Founder

Phil Aikman
Senior Advisor, Forests

Alex Armstrong
Vice President, Programs

Carlos Bravo Villa
Senior Advisor, Spain

Molly Dorozenski
Vice President,
Strategic Communications

Mariana B. Perozzi Gameiro
Advisor, Brazil

João Gonçalves
Senior Director, Brazil

Matthew Groch
Senior Director,
Heavy Industry

Jon Haddad
Senior Associate,
Heavy Industry

Jackson Harris
Rapid Response and
Remote Sensing Analyst

Mackenzie Harris
Digital Content Strategist

Gemma Hoskins
Senior Director,
United Kingdom

Tim Hudspeth
Senior Associate,
Finance and Grants

Amanda Hurowitz
Senior Director, Asia

Sydney Jones
Press Secretary

Deborah Lapidus
Senior Advisor

Jordan McDonald
Associate,
Global Protein Campaign

Carole Mitchell
Senior Director,
Communications

Casey Nitsch
Director of Development

Julian Oram
Senior Director,
Africa and Rubber

Thea Parson
Senior Associate,
Forests and Climate

Boris Patentreger
Senior Director, France

Samuel Mawutor
Senior Advisor

Roger Smith
Japan Director

Amourlaye Toure
Senior Advisor

Jurjen de Waal
Senior Director,
Netherlands

Alex Wijeratna
Senior Director,
Global Protein Campaign

Justin Williams
Major Gifts Officer

Katie Yared
Associate,
Forests and Climate

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Glenn Hurowitz, CEO

2023 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

In 2023, Mighty Earth continued to transform industries around the world to protect Nature and climate. We made significant progress toward our ultimate goal: to be the most effective environmental organization in the world. Continued growth and stable finances are essential to ensure Mighty Earth's future. In 2023 we grew from a \$4 million organization to a \$6.6 million organization, and continued to invest in our long-term impact and the staffing and structures needed to scale our campaigns. We are deeply grateful for the partnership of our institutional and individual donors, and we thank each of you for keeping us mighty.

TOTAL EXPENSES:
\$6,611,256

FUNDRAISING:
\$431,000 (7%)



PROGRAMS AND OPERATIONS:
\$6,179,956 (93%)

*NOTE: These numbers reflect unaudited financials. They will be updated when audited numbers are available.



WAYS TO GIVE

Everything we do is powered by the generous support of our donors. Thank you for your continued belief that together we can make the impossible real.

Ways to Make a Difference

There are many ways to support Mighty Earth and defend a living planet. To learn more or make a donation, please contact donate@mightyearth.org.

1

Make A One-Time Donation

Become a Mighty Earthling and support our efforts with a one-time donation.



Give A Monthly Donation

Recurring monthly donations help us be nimble and flexible.



Give Through Your Donor Advised Fund

You can make a powerful impact on Nature and Climate by giving through your donor advised fund.



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Make A Qualified Charitable Distribution From Your Ira

Make a powerful impact and potentially save on your taxes by making a qualified charitable distribution.

Donate Online

Visit www.mightyearth.org to donate quickly and easily through our website.



“Mighty Earth’s work has been invaluable to the significant reduction in deforestation linked to palm oil, and is set to have the same impact in other agricultural supply chains.”

- Rob McWilliam, Earthworm Foundation



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