



people need nature to thrive

annual report

2008

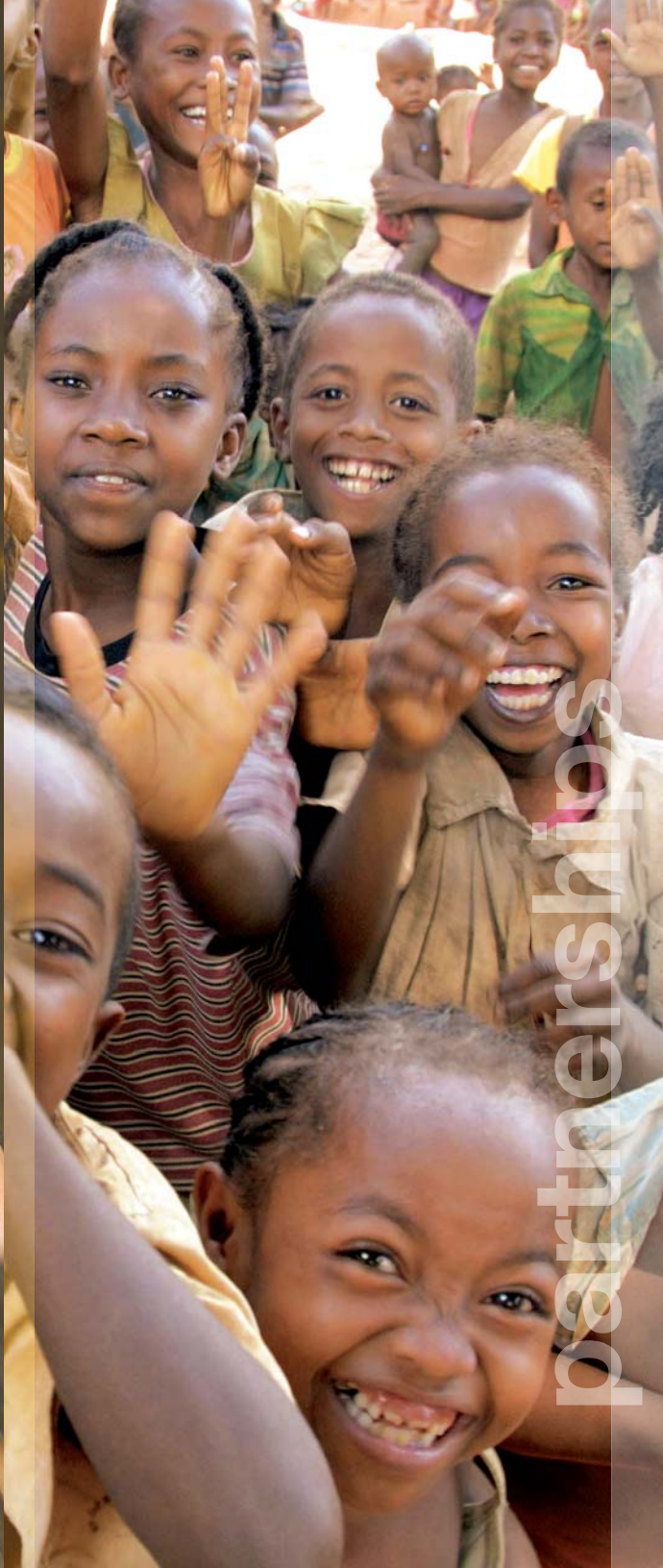




research



human dimension



partnerships



communications



government + policy



fundraising



protected areas

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In Memoriam: CI lost two individuals who contributed much to the organization. We shall miss them both.



Carlos Ponce, who passed away in September 2007, was a Peruvian conservationist and among the core group who participated in discussions about the founding of CI in January 1987. For more than 40 years, Carlos was a bright star and inspiration for conservation efforts in Latin America.



Henri Blaffart was swept away by the flooded Tiendanite River on March 21, 2008, while traveling in Province Nord, New Caledonia, where he worked with the Kanak communities on management of the Mont Panié reserve. A native of Belgium, Blaffart had worked since 2002 on the CI-funded project and formally joined CI in 2006 as project chief at the reserve.

We are at a pivotal moment in CI's — and our planet's — history. As the world grapples with an economic crisis, we look to new leadership to raise us from the downturn. At CI, we are also looking to lead — in an exciting new direction.

leadershipmessage



CI had many successes in fiscal year 2008 (FY08). Working intensively with partners across the globe we jointly ensured the protection of 280,000 square kilometers of forests and marine areas. From remote marine sanctuaries in Indonesia's Raja Ampat to enormous expanses of tropical forests in Brazil's Amazon, these newly established protected areas afford refuge for countless species of plants and animals. Our team of conservationists secured a debt-for-nature swap in Costa Rica; and continued our partnerships with McDonald's, Wal-Mart, Starbucks and other corporations that have committed to essential principles of sustainability. We also actively participated in the U.N. Climate Change conference in Bali, and encouraged and supported government funding commitments to stop tropical deforestation, which led to the formulation of our climate change business strategy and the launch of our "Lost There, Felt Here" awareness campaign.

The past year also saw the "Blue Auction" in Monaco, which raised money through the purchasing of naming rights of new marine species; the publication of Tim Killeen's startling "Perfect Storm" paper about the risks of unchecked development in the Amazon; and the extension by the government of Kiribati of the Phoenix Islands protected area to become the largest marine protected area in the world.

If anything, however, the sense of urgency flowing through the conservation community has become more acute. Two sobering facts have emerged: Since 1990, the planet has lost nearly half a million square miles of forest, an area twice the size of France, and close to one-third of the planet's coral reefs have seriously deteriorated.

Recognizing this urgency, CI has just emerged from a careful and lengthy examination of our mission and strategy, and we have come to some conclusions that will change the way CI operates.

One idea dominated our thinking during strategic planning: Until societies understand that humanity needs nature, economic development will increasingly undercut conservation. The result will be accelerated loss of the services and benefits that nature provides to humankind.

So, human well-being through ecosystem and biodiversity conservation becomes CI's retooled mission. CI has always emphasized human welfare in our work, but it now will be the guiding principle of what we do and how we interact with partners around the world.



leadershipmessage



This has major implications for how we do our work. How do we demonstrate to the public and to international and national leaders that sustained human well-being requires healthy ecosystems and that, over the long term, the loss of nature's diversity and vitality will exacerbate the plight of the world's poor and imperil all communities on Earth?

We will need to work closely with existing partners and expand our engagements with the institutions and nations that drive unsustainable development.

We will need to ensure that we have a place at the table with those who are making enormously important decisions about energy, food security and development strategies, so that the conservation of biodiversity is not sacrificed to short-term thinking.

We must convince our partners that it is possible to achieve sustainable development and improve human well-being only if development is built upon a foundation of biodiversity and ecosystem conservation.

We are excited and invigorated by this challenge. It is time for all of us to move the environment off the sidelines and onto the frontlines.

Peter Seligmann
Peter A. Seligmann
Chairman and CEO

Russell A. Mittermeier
Russell A. Mittermeier
President

Niels Crone
Niels Crone
Chief Operating Officer



No issue is as important to our world in the 21st Century—or to CI's mission—as global climate change. Rising levels of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases in the atmosphere are altering weather patterns worldwide.

the climate of CI

Droughts and water shortages, more intense hurricanes and coastal storms, increased transmission of diseases, and declining habitats for plant and animal species are already linked to climate change. Scientists now agree that the burning of fossil fuels and the destruction of forests and other natural habitats are largely responsible for these changes. The challenge could not be greater, nor the need for action more urgent.

CI is rising to the challenge. Mitigating the impact of climate change is our highest priority. Our first strategic plan more than 20 years ago identified climate change as a major threat to human well-being. For more than a decade, we have been at the forefront of studying the impact of climate change on the world's species and natural habitats. We have helped to focus the world's attention on the contribution that biodiversity conservation makes toward mitigating climate change. Deforestation accounts for about 20 percent or more of global carbon dioxide emissions—more than all the world's cars, trucks and planes combined. By preserving forests, CI and our partners help to stem global climate change while securing the fresh water, fertile soils, abundant wildlife and other benefits that healthy forests provide to local people. With our partners, we have launched groundbreaking initiatives for climate, community and biodiversity conservation in China, Madagascar, South Africa, Ecuador and the Philippines.

In January 2008, CI convened a retreat of our top leaders from around the world. Chairman and CEO Peter Seligmann challenged the team to create an even more ambitious strategy. Over the following weeks, experts from all of CI's regional programs and technical divisions developed a business plan to harness nature as a solution to climate change. Scientists, program directors and communications staff across CI worked together on a strategy that would appeal to world leaders, policymakers and investors. The team set an ambitious goal to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by up to two billion tons per year by conserving forests and other natural habitat in our priority regions and that would also help millions of people and more than 100,000 threatened species in those areas adapt to the impacts of climate change. CI's Board of Directors approved the plan in February, and members of CI's Chairman's Council helped us secure more than \$10 million to begin implementing the plan.

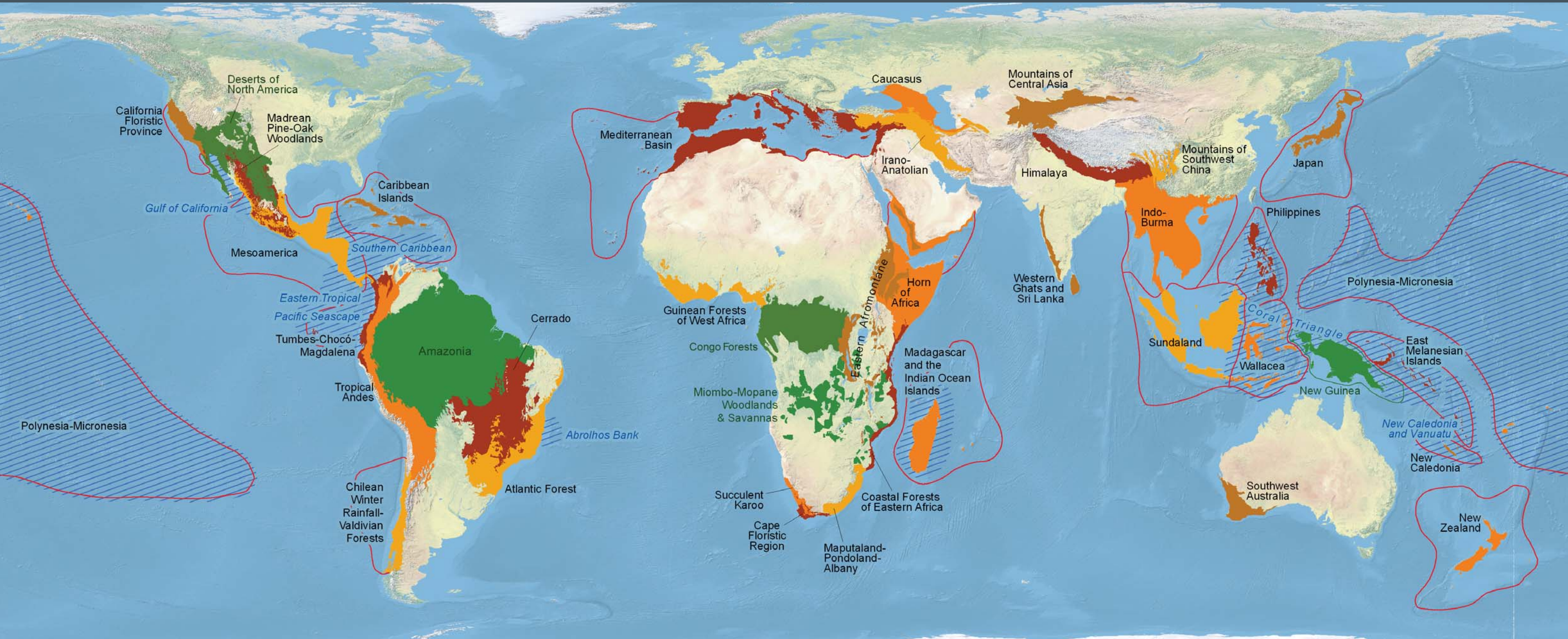


the climate of CI



Over the next three years, we will invest with partners in Brazil, Indonesia, Guyana, Liberia, South Africa and the Eastern Tropical Pacific Seascape to show that ecosystem conservation is an effective strategy to mitigate climate change and to adapt to its impacts. We will apply our cutting-edge scientific research to develop innovative strategies that combine climate, biodiversity and community benefits. We will partner with leaders in the private sector to mobilize hundreds of millions of dollars to reduce emissions from deforestation. We will work with government officials in the United States, Europe and the United Nations to develop a new policy framework for combating climate change that combines innovations in energy efficiency and clean energy technologies with financial incentives for developing nations to preserve their forests, coral reefs and other natural habitats. We will build the capacity of indigenous communities, NGOs and government agencies in key countries to implement this strategy. To achieve these goals, we will communicate the urgency of climate change and the effectiveness of biodiversity conservation as a solution to key audiences around the world.

CI's climate change business plan is an example of the unique impact that we can have as a global organization to help nations realize the inherent value of nature to the well-being of their people. We can help societies harness their biodiversity as an asset for sustainable development. This is CI's mission. Helping the world tackle climate change is one of the most important ways we can pursue it.



priority areas: The World of Conservation International

Our conservation success spans more than 40 countries on four continents. When it comes to determining our priorities, science leads the way. Using superb field research, we pinpoint specific regions rich in biological value—where people, plants and animals are desperately in need of conservation action. Human well-being depends on our ability to preserve biodiversity and natural resources.

By focusing on areas where each dollar spent will do the most good, we maximize efficiency and effectiveness. That's how we're able to work across enormous areas, conserve entire ecosystems and link our efforts together one piece at a time. That's how we have brought about protection and improved management of more than 1.2 million square kilometers (463,000 square miles)—an area large enough to be seen from space.

- **Biodiversity Hotspots:** Earth's biologically richest places, the hotspots hold especially high numbers of species found nowhere else. Each hotspot faces extreme threats and has already lost at least 70 percent of its original natural vegetation.
- **High-Biodiversity Wilderness Areas:** Vast regions of relatively undisturbed land, wilderness areas are home to high numbers of species found nowhere else. Each area still claims 70 percent of original vegetation and has very low human population density.
- **Marine Priority Areas:** Across the immensity of the seas, these regions are among the most important for the future of our oceans. Many of these places extend beyond country boundaries, creating opportunities for diverse partners to work together to conserve the marine life that is a crucial resource for people everywhere.



research

Research is the engine that drives CI's work and determines how best to apply our conservation efforts.

CI's Center for Applied Biodiversity Science (CABS) continued its strong tradition of inspiring scientific research of the highest quality and standards to support global conservation efforts. During FY08, scientists in CABS and across CI produced a total of 160 publications, including 62 peer-reviewed articles (indexed in the Web of Science Internet platform), seven books, 20 book chapters and eight conference proceedings. The research covered biodiversity assessments, ecosystem services, climate change and priority-setting across terrestrial, marine and freshwater biomes.



With the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Species Survival Commission and other partners, CABS completed global-scale assessments of all mammals and made the databases available to the general public. The global mammal assessment found that nearly 50 percent of the world's 390 primate species are in danger of extinction.

In addition, the global amphibian assessment added more than 360 new species to the database. This effort also contributed to refinement of criteria and tools for the IUCN Red List process, which continues to play an influential role in understanding species extinction risks globally and in setting conservation priorities.

Research on biodiversity patterns is helping to better understand congruence with ecosystems services at multiple scales. As a result, CI scientists and partners are developing cutting-edge tools for multi-scale assessment of ecosystem services by multiple stakeholders, such as identifying landscape targets for biodiversity protection, safeguarding watersheds, sequestering carbon and enhancing habitat connectivity.

This science-to-policy linkage was a key factor in securing buy-in from the Inter-American Development Bank for the CABS publication titled *A Perfect Storm in the Amazon Wilderness*, which highlighted challenges and policy options for integrating biodiversity concerns into the Initiative for Integration of the Regional Infrastructure of South America. Published in Portuguese, Spanish and English, "A Perfect Storm" proved that if South America develops in the wrong way, it risks destroying the region's rainforests, destroying its rivers and altering regional weather patterns that are fundamental to the region's long-term economic prosperity.

CI scientists also made important contributions on climate change adaptation and mitigation, including major inputs to the 13th Conference of Parties of the U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change held in Bali, Indonesia. This included an analysis of vulnerability of the world's protected areas to climate change, which highlighted the need for anticipating predicted impacts in designing national systems.

In this regard, CABS research on species extinction risks and vulnerability of habitats and ecosystem functions (hydrology and carbon storage) was an important contribution to the development of Madagascar's national climate change adaptation strategy. On climate change mitigation, CABS supported capacity building on the application of cutting-edge remote sensing and mapping tools for assessment of carbon baselines to help implement projects that retain standing forests.

CABS also moved forward with CI's flagship Tropical Ecosystem Assessment and Monitoring (TEAM) partnership, which is establishing a global network of field stations to generate near real-time data for long-term monitoring of tropical biodiversity. Online data became fully operational, and the new protocol for landscape-scale monitoring was launched.

On the policy front, CABS joined forces with CI's Center for Conservation and Government to contribute analytical research on ecosystem service values to an ongoing global assessment by the European Union on the economic cost of biodiversity loss.



human dimension

By partnering with local inhabitants and other stakeholders, CI strives to empower indigenous and local communities to conserve essential resources and strengthen the fundamental role of biodiversity conservation in providing sustainable livelihoods. This is the human dimension of our work, and during FY08, significant results were achieved throughout CI.



In September 2007, with the help of CI, the Wai Wai people of Konashen District in Guyana created the nation's first Community Owned Conservation Area. Under regulations passed by the Guyana parliament, the Wai Wai community formally designated their land a protected area and adopted a management plan, developed with technical and financial support from CI, for the 625,000-hectare (1.5 million-acre) tract on the northern border of Brazil's Pará state.

April 2008 saw the launching of a book titled *Coming Together in a Land of Riches, Power and Life-Giving Forces*. The book focuses on the bi-national peace park process between Peru and Ecuador with CI and other partners. A group of 127 contributors—86 percent of them indigenous—documented the project.

Also in April, the Indigenous People and Climate Change Workshop at the U.N. Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues was held, bringing together more than 120 participants from around the world to focus on building awareness and strategies for mitigation and adaptation to climate change for indigenous peoples.

CI-Brazil continues to work with the Kayapó people of southeastern Brazil to protect their 11-million-hectare (25-million-acre) homeland. Located in the Brazilian Amazon's most deforested sector, the Kayapó lands form the largest single protected tract of tropical forest in the world. CI provides training and equipment to facilitate border surveillance, along with support for small businesses that provide income while conserving the forests.

Using a novel approach to make conservation attractive to local people, CI has implemented conservation agreements to protect more than 20,000 square kilometers (7,700 square miles) by engaging with and benefiting 100 indigenous communities, local groups and private landowners in 17 countries around the world.

Conservation agreements have increased school attendance in communities in Cambodia by 25 percent, provided wages for conservation jobs such as patrolling and reforestation to more than a dozen communities in 10 countries, offered more than 100 scholarships to children in the Solomon Islands, helped rebuild communities devastated by the Sichuan earthquake in China and improved the respiratory health of more than 200 families in the highlands of Peru by reducing fuel wood consumption and supplying energy-efficient stoves.

Conservation agreements are attractive to the donor community, as endowments have been secured for the Sovi Basin in Fiji and Tetepare in the Solomon Islands, through the support of FIJI Water and AusAid, respectively. Working with government agencies and landowners in Fiji, CI has helped pilot a conservation approach in which landowners have cancelled a timber concession in Sovi Basin—the largest remaining area of intact forest in the country—and created a protected area instead.

Approximately 4,000 people in six villages now receive support for socioeconomic development, including a student scholarship program. Recognizing the importance of the project, FIJI Water has granted \$2.25 million in endowment funds to provide support in perpetuity.



partnerships

All of CI's partners, including NGOs and governments at all levels, demonstrate leadership to achieve conservation outcomes. Our corporate partners stepped up in FY08 to address environmental sustainability as a business priority.



CI helped leading brands create company-wide environmental strategies and launch groundbreaking initiatives to tackle climate change and biodiversity loss. These efforts are led by CI's Center for Environmental Leadership in Business (CELB) and involve all of CI's field and headquarters divisions.

A new phase in CI's decade-long partnership with Starbucks Coffee Company takes conservation beyond coffee farms into surrounding landscapes to address climate change. A five-year commitment begins with an initial investment of \$7.5 million, most of which will support projects in Mexico and Indonesia. We will help coffee growers apply good conservation practices on their farms and protect surrounding forests. Preserving forests keeps CO₂ on the ground, so we will help coffee farmers become carbon farmers and earn income by reducing emissions. The forests provide water, prevent erosion and help buffer the coffee farms from droughts, hurricanes and other impacts of climate change. Starbucks also nearly doubled its investment in CI's Verde Ventures fund, which provides financing to coffee growers in El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Peru and Indonesia.

Marriott International announced a new company-wide commitment to the environment, developed with CI. Marriott will lead the hotel industry in reducing CO₂ emissions through energy efficiency, a commitment to green buildings and incentives to green its \$10 billion supply chain. To offset remaining CO₂ emissions, Marriott will fund the protection of 405,000 hectares (1.4 million acres) of rainforest in the Brazilian state of Amazonas—one of the first examples of a company taking steps toward becoming carbon neutral by helping preserve forests. Marriott is inviting its customers and suppliers to join the program.

Fiji Water worked with CI to go beyond carbon neutral, making a commitment to reduce and offset 120 percent of the annual greenhouse gas emissions generated by its product life cycle. CI has a longstanding commitment to the nation of Fiji, where we have worked for more than a decade to help landowners find economic alternatives to logging. CI advised FIJI Water on its carbon footprint and recommended adoption of a portfolio of actions, including energy efficiency, reduction in packaging, investment in renewable sources of energy and high-quality forest carbon investments. CI and FIJI Water began by helping protect more than 20,000 hectares (50,000 acres) in Fiji's Sovi Basin—the CO₂ saved is equivalent to keeping two million cars off the road for a year.

In consultation with CI, Wal-Mart Stores Inc. launched *Love, Earth*[®] jewelry, which allows customers to trace the path of their jewelry purchases from mine to market. CI and Wal-Mart worked with jewelry manufacturers and mining companies to develop environmental and social standards. *Love, Earth*[®] customers can go online and trace the gold, silver and diamonds in their jewelry to mines or recycled sources that conform to the standards. As the world's biggest jewelry retailer, Wal-Mart's program will help to reduce the environmental and social impact of mining worldwide. Wal-Mart underscored its commitment to sustainability by working with CI and the Brazilian state of Amapa to fund the Amapa National Forest, which provides fresh water to 500,000 people, prevents CO₂ emissions and preserves the Amazon's biodiversity.

communications

In 2008, CI re-imagined Conservation.org to make CI's work more accessible to the millions who gather information on the Web. The revamped Web site serves as the gateway for all CI programs and regions. Innovations include the online "Stop the Clock on Species Extinctions" campaign, expanded video content (featuring CI partners and supporters, including Al Gore and Pearl Jam), a personal carbon calculator and the launch of a climate change campaign featuring a Harrison Ford public service announcement that appeared worldwide.



In the year since the relaunch, new visitors are up 20 percent, and our repeat traffic is up 67 percent. With the Web site's richer content and a more interactive experience to enjoy, our users are spending roughly five-and-a-half minutes on the site—almost a full minute longer than they did a year ago.

CI has pushed hard to increase the number, and ensure the continuing quality, of our photographic and visual resources. In May 2008, CI expanded and formalized our partnership with the International League of Conservation Photographers, so that we may draw easily on the best photographers in the world.

CI scientist Timothy J. Killeen's report, *A Perfect Storm in the Amazon Wilderness*, was released as part of a coordinated effort to showcase the challenges facing protection of the Amazon.

A series of expeditions to the Bird's Head Seascape of Indonesia led to the discovery of a new species of walking shark. Our Strategic Marketing and Global Communications (SM+GC) division took our scientists' good work and delivered a massive promotional campaign resulting in funds for the region and the designation of new protected areas by the Indonesian government.

As part of our vision to catalyze a new global conservation ethic and raise CI's brand awareness among a general consumer audience, we created new corporate partnerships. Led by CI's Center for Environmental Leadership in Business, SM+GC formed marketing alliances with international corporations, including the following:

- Starbucks has renewed its relationship with CI to include marketing communications and leveraging CI's brand to show its commitment to sustainable coffee production and the preservation of forests.
- McDonald's is partnering with CI in new ways, including a panda Happy Meal, an endangered animal Happy Meal in Europe and potential collaboration on the Great Turtle Race in 2009.

Finally, we designed a multifaceted launch for CI's climate change business strategy, called "Lost There, Felt Here." The campaign is designed to shift the debate and planning on global warming to increase awareness of the fact that 20 percent of the world's greenhouse gases are released by the razing and burning of tropical forests. CI Board of Directors Vice Chair Harrison Ford served as spokesman for the campaign, which drove new traffic to our Web site. Visitors were able to "Protect an Acre" for \$15, calculate their own carbon footprint and to navigate forests and climate issues around the world through an interactive map.

Of course, the aggressive outreach of CI communication and media staff, and the in-depth, in-country marketing knowledge of our international team expanded the scope of the "Lost There, Felt Here" campaign immeasurably, and represents a new dimension for CI's worldwide brand.



government+policy

Since the U.N. Conference in Bali on Climate Change, CI has been working with governments and multilateral organizations to further build on momentum and opportunities. Governments decided in Bali to encourage actions to reduce emissions from deforestation and degradation now, and agreed to consider how to reward those countries who take immediate action. This is a key decision and, with this encouragement, tropical-forest governments can feel confident that their efforts to act now will not go unrecognized.



Many governments have announced major commitments to help reduce tropical deforestation. CI's Center for Conservation and Government (CCG) mapped out the pledges announcing funding to combat climate change by both countries and multilaterals. Almost all funds that have been announced are intended to be channeled through multilaterals, and CCG's Public Funding department has been working across the organization to promote the diverse set of financial mechanisms that it has to offer to multilaterals and bilaterals to achieve results on a significant scale.

Among the many commitments, a few stood out: The World Bank launched its Forest Carbon Partnership Facility, totaling \$160 million USD in commitments; Norway announced a deforestation fund on the order of \$560 million USD per year; the United Kingdom announced the \$1.2 billion USD Environmental Transformation Fund; and Germany announced \$780 million USD over the next five years.

CI is well positioned to partner with governments and funding agencies on these new deforestation initiatives, and CCG has been working steadily over the past year to expand the dialogue. A number of high-level meetings took place in Europe with the governments of Germany, France, Norway, the United Kingdom and in Japan. CI's vision on priority areas for investment based on sound science provides an excellent base for discussion and helps governments set priorities. CI recognizes the excellent global leadership of these governments in making bold commitments to biodiversity conservation and climate change.

In addition, CCG continues to work with the World Bank on developing the Forest Carbon Partnership Fund and other climate funds, and to ensure that several key high-biodiversity countries are able to participate and benefit accordingly.

On the U.S. government side, there has been much activity in our work on Capitol Hill. After a coalition including CI spent a year opposing proposed cuts of up to 50 percent in USAID's international budget for biodiversity conservation, the House and Senate both produced the highest budget recommendations ever for these programs: \$175 million and \$195 million, respectively.

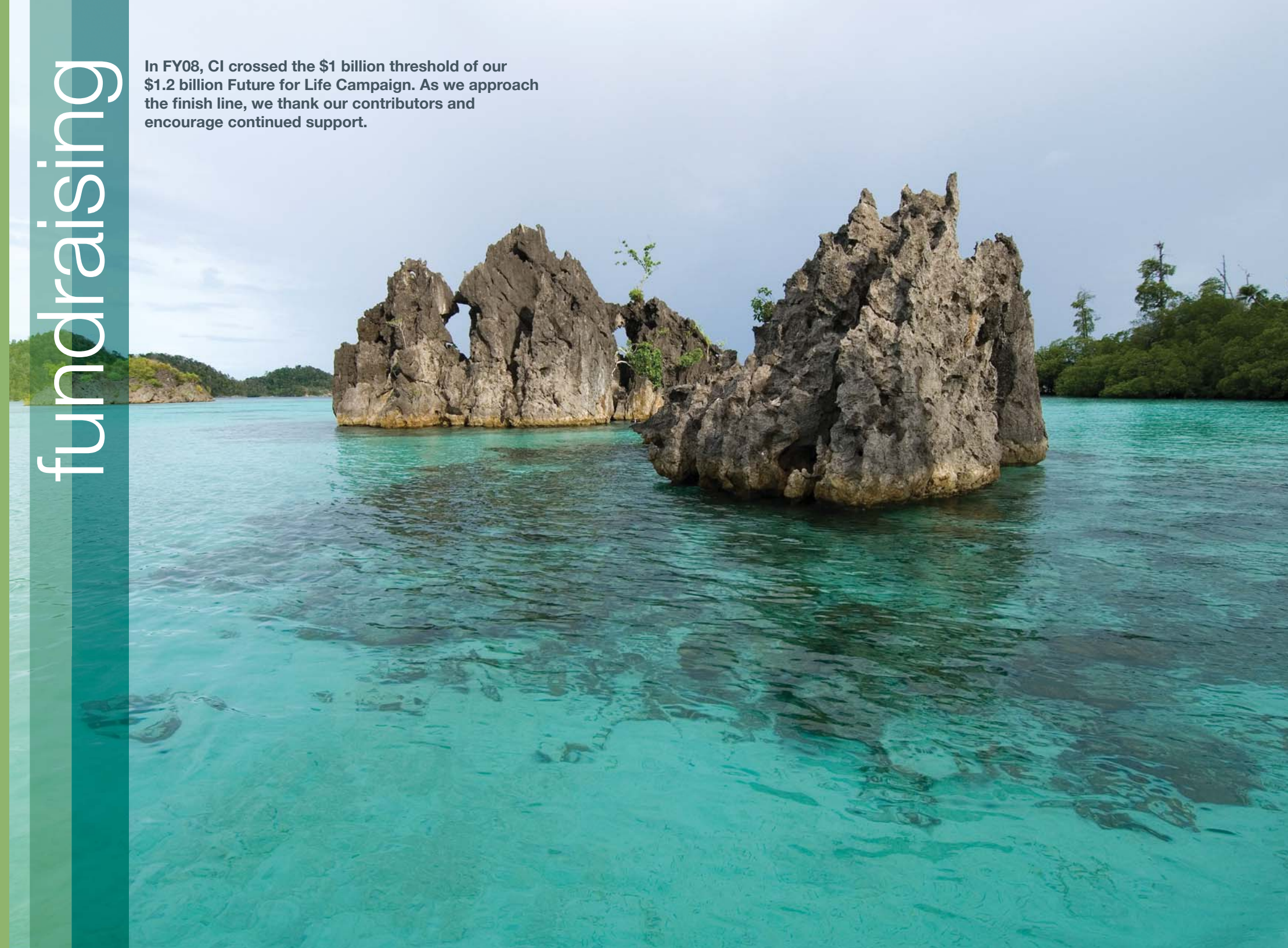
This led to a reversal in the Bush Administration's plans to significantly reduce or close conservation and natural resource management programs in some of the world's countries richest in biodiversity, such as Madagascar, Mexico and Brazil. We also managed to intervene with key congressional offices to block last-minute amendments in both the House and Senate to reduce or eliminate 2008 funding for the Global Environment Facility.

U.S. government support for the Coral Triangle Initiative (CTI) gained considerable momentum in the past months and now includes a financial commitment of approximately \$32 million over the next five years. The CTI is an effort to promote planning and support for large-scale marine conservation in the world's most biodiverse marine region. With important support from WWF, the Nature Conservancy and CI, the CTI is being led by six country governments: Indonesia, the Philippines, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Timor Leste and the Solomon Islands.



fundraising

In FY08, CI crossed the \$1 billion threshold of our \$1.2 billion Future for Life Campaign. As we approach the finish line, we thank our contributors and encourage continued support.



CI is deeply grateful for the support of the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation—our largest institutional donor—whose long-term funding, including \$79 million in FY08, has enabled CI to increase our strategic partnerships, expand the scientific inquiry that underpins our efforts and build our own and our partners' institutional capacity.

In just this past year, from one generous individual, CI received \$10 million—nearly half of the \$21 million needed to launch our innovative new climate change business plan. The Walton Family Foundation renewed support for CI's Seascape initiative, approving two grants for more than \$26 million over three years.

CI and our partners in the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) signed several agreements for significant new support for this highly successful global program. To date, the program has provided grants to CI regional programs and more than 1,300 partners. Together, these partners have pioneered new and diverse alliances, enabled more than 10 million hectares (24.7 million acres) of new protected areas and influenced policy in favor of people and nature in many countries. The new agreements are with the World Bank (\$20 million in new support from the Global Environment Facility) and with the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation (\$12 million in additional support).

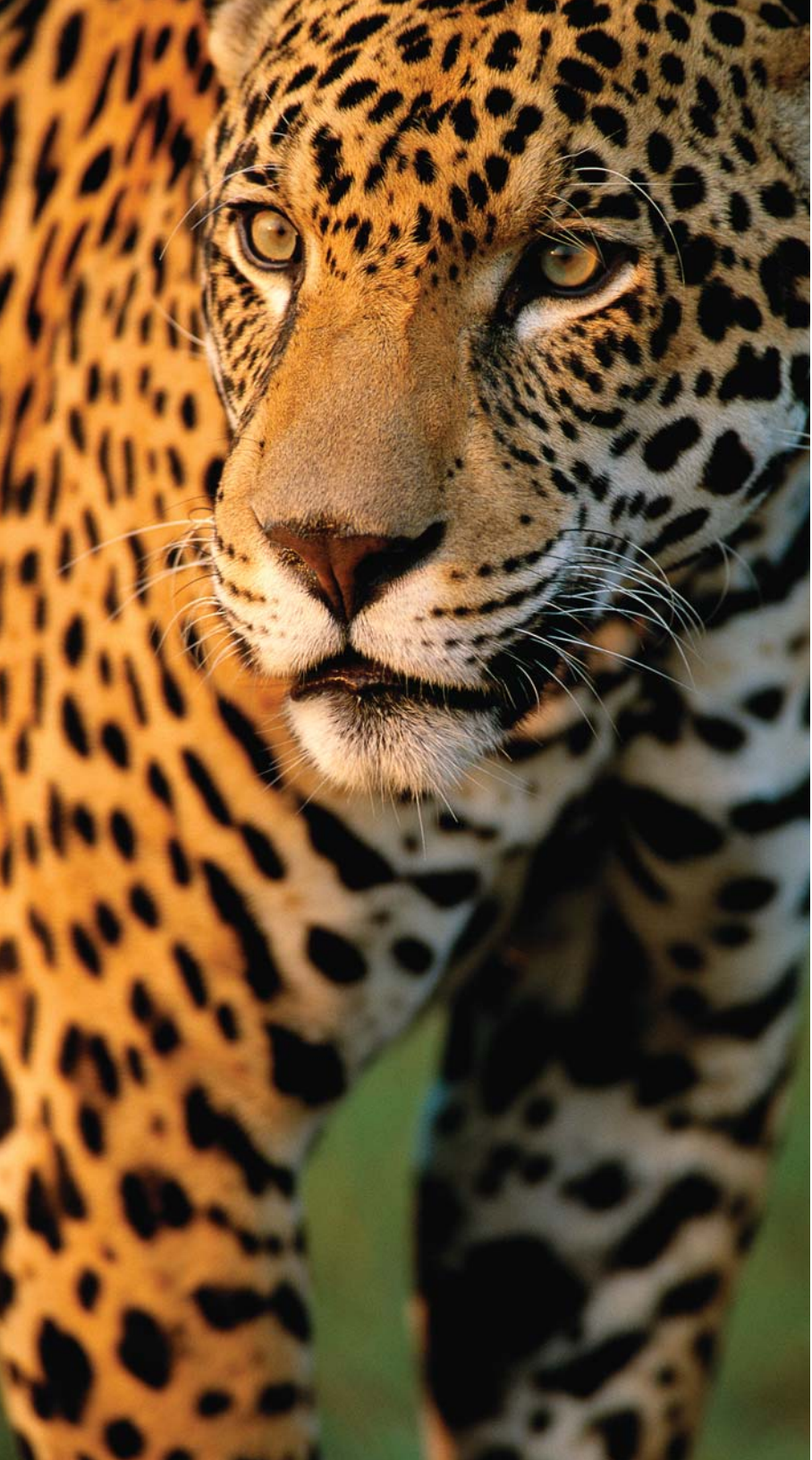
In FY08, CI's special events raised \$3.6 million. Our trademark fundraising events in Washington, D.C., Los Angeles and New York City got raves from those attending. We also expanded to new cities—Jackson Hole, Wyoming and Las Vegas, Nevada. Nearly 2,000 guests learned about CI and global conservation issues.

Perhaps our most innovative event ever took place on September 20, 2007, in Monaco: the "Blue Auction," held in the historic Musée Oceanographique de Monaco, cosponsored by the Monaco-Asia Society under the patronage of HSH Prince Albert II, and conducted by Christie's International. Auctioned off for a total of more than \$2 million were the naming rights to 10 species discovered by a CI survey in the Bird's Head Seascape, along with two non-species lots.

On the public funding side, CI, in partnership with WWF and The Nature Conservancy, secured a five-year, \$32 million grant from USAID for the Coral Triangle. (The grant will be split among the three organizations and others.) This is the largest single USAID investment in marine conservation.

CI continued its record of successful corporate partnerships in FY08. In addition to Starbucks and FIJI Water, the Wrigley Company Foundation has committed to implement CI's first initiative to weave conservation practices into the everyday lives of people around the world by working to inform the public about practical solutions to global and local conservation problems.

CI's online fundraising efforts took off in FY08, breaking the \$1 million mark for the first time, and included launching the "Lost There, Felt Here" campaign featuring CI Board Vice Chair Harrison Ford. The generosity of our donors makes our work possible, and the success of the Future for Life Campaign is due to our Board of Directors' and Chairman's Council members' financial gifts, but also to their contributions of time and energy.



protected areas

In 2008, CI continued working with national governments and local stakeholders not only to establish new protected areas but also to strengthen their capacity to efficiently manage existing protected area networks. During FY08, CI and its partners supported the creation of more than 90 terrestrial and marine protected areas, which jointly cover an area of 280,000 square kilometers (108,000 square miles), roughly the size of the state of Nevada.



For example, CI-Bolivia supported the establishment of the largest Municipal Protected Area in the region—“Pampas del Rio Yacuma”—with 616,453 hectares (1.54 million acres) and provided technical assistance to the municipalities around Madidi and Pilon Lajas protected areas (Ixiamas and San Buenaventura) to complete their municipal development plans.

In Peru, CI supported research, conservation and sustainable management activities in the Rodal Tahuamanu Conservation Concession, protecting it from agricultural and timber activities and providing key habitat for threatened species such as the Goeldi's monkey (*Callimico goeldii*), the mahogany tree (*Swietenia macrophylla*) and the harpy eagle (*Harpia harpyja*).

In Cambodia, CI and its partners worked toward the protection of globally threatened species found only in the 402,000 hectares (993,000 acres) of Central Cardamoms Protected Forest, the largest contiguous track of evergreen forest in Indochina. There, local communities are receiving incentives to improve their agricultural systems, health and education, while protecting the last known populations in the world of species such as the Asian dragonfish (*Scleropages formosus*) and the Siamese crocodile (*Crocodylus siamensis*). Recently, the government of Cambodia requested CI's assistance to establish and manage the Tonle Sap Freshwater Sanctuary. This sanctuary contains approximately 270 fish species and many other freshwater species, including globally threatened otters, turtles, waterbirds and crocodiles, and represents the lifeblood for fisheries production of a large proportion of the Cambodian population.

In the Philippines, CI supported the expansion and management of the Penablanca Protected Landscape and Seascape, home to thousands of animals and plant species, notably the Critically Endangered Philippine eagle (*Pithecophaga jefferyi*). The Penablanca protected area represents today the largest block of forest under conservation management in the Philippines and provides clean water for communities near and far.

CI-Guyana recently completed the boundary delineation for the proposed Kanuku Mountains Protected Area and submitted it to the government of Guyana for approval. The process used for the delineation was groundbreaking and involved full participation from the 18 communities that live in and use the mountains, as well as government agencies and other stakeholders. The final delineated area is 611,000 hectares (1.5 million acres) and is agreed to by all involved in the process.

In FY08, CI and our partners helped create four new Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in marine priority regions. The highlight of the year was the expansion of the Phoenix Islands Protected Area in Kiribati to more than 41 million hectares (101.3 million acres), making it the largest MPA in the world and protecting both important shallow reefs and deep sea waters. In the Eastern Tropical Pacific Seascape, new MPAs in FY08 included an important mangrove area protected in El Morro, Ecuador, and an artisanal fishing community marine area in Tarcoles, Costa Rica. In Brazil, the Cassurubá Marine Extractive Reserve became the latest MPA on Abrolhos Bank to provide benefits to local communities.



financials

CI strives to exercise the highest level of stewardship over donor contributions and wishes to extend its deepest appreciation to our donors for their continued support and generosity during FY08.



“Philanthropy is almost the only virtue which is sufficiently appreciated by mankind.”

– Henry David Thoreau

CI continues to strive to make every donor dollar count. We take pride in again receiving the top rating from Charity Navigator, America’s premier independent charity evaluator. Charity Navigator states: “We are proud to announce Conservation International has earned our second consecutive 4-star rating for its ability to effectively manage and grow its finances. Only 16 percent of charities we’ve rated have received at least two consecutive 4-star evaluations, indicating that Conservation International outperforms most charities in America in its efforts to operate in the most fiscally responsible way possible.”

revenue

CI wishes to express our deepest appreciation to our donors, who through their continued support and generosity allowed us to raise \$233 million in FY08, despite the challenging economic environment. This represents a 32 percent increase over FY07 levels and is the highest revenue reported in our history.

Several significant foundation and multilateral gifts received during the year provided crucial resources to support CI’s core programmatic efforts throughout the world’s biodiversity hotspots and high-biodiversity wilderness areas. The gifts also provided seed funding for our important new initiatives to protect human well-being by ensuring that the biodiversity and ecosystems on which we depend are healthy and enduring.

CI received continued support in 2008 from the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation for our regional programs and CBCs. In addition, the foundation provided support and collaboration in developing the new strategic vision that we will begin to implement in 2009. The Global Environment Facility through the World Bank renewed its support for the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund with a commitment of \$20 million over five years. And, in addition to its ongoing support for our seascapes program, the Walton Family Foundation provided a multi-year grant of more than \$40 million to support new strategic initiatives, including climate change mitigation and ecosystem services programs. CI was also fortunate to receive a \$10 million gift from an individual to support the launch of our ambitious climate change strategy that employs nature as a solution to climate change.

expenses

CI invested more than \$135 million in conservation in FY08, reflecting 15 percent growth over last year’s level of \$118 million. This growth was targeted, with support services falling slightly as a percentage of total expenses and with the majority of the additional funding going to direct program support. In FY08, CI invested 84 percent of each dollar spent in programmatic services.

In keeping with our goal of promoting sustainable conservation practices, CI invests a considerable portion of its resources in grants to local partner organizations that have the largest stake in and are best positioned to protect their resources. In FY08, CI invested almost \$42 million, or 31 percent of total expenses, to support our partners in the field.

Our Conservation Funding Division, regional programs and CBCs in the Neotropics, Africa and Madagascar and Asia Pacific regions represent the core of our program delivery, with these programs accounting for 64 percent of our spending in FY08. These programs supported the creation of 78 new terrestrial protected areas and 14 new protected marine areas, as well as the improvement of management practices in 334,000 hectares (825,000 acres) of protected areas and 32,000 square kilometers (82,880 square miles) of indigenous territories. These programs are the bedrock of our efforts to conserve the terrestrial, marine and freshwater ecosystems that humanity relies on for survival.

Ten percent of our operating expenses supported the Center for Applied Biodiversity Science. CABS develops tools for the scientific community to assess the status of and protect Earth’s biodiversity and to ensure that conservation action is based on sound, reliable and verifiable science. In FY08, CABS played a leadership role in developing CI’s climate change strategy, as well as our ecosystem services program, which addresses such issues as availability of clean water, pollination of crops, soil fertility, disease regulation, ecotourism and carbon sequestration—which links human well-being to the health of the environment.

While representing a relatively small percentage of our operating budget, the Center for Environmental Leadership in Business (CELB) leverages its relationships with the private sector to promote “green” business practices in industries. Among other successes in FY08, CELB launched the Integrated Biodiversity

Assessment Tool, which facilitates access to accurate, timely conservation information to support critical business decisions and better inform these industries about the impact of their prospective and current business projects and practices.

The Center for Conservation and Government (CCG) has actively engaged key government partners, including KfW Bankengruppe, AFD (l’Agence Française de Développement) and the Saudi government. CCG seeks to impact policy to ensure that conservation is balanced with its partners’ respective development goals, economic interests and political realities.

During FY08, CI’s Strategic Marketing + Global Communications team launched the “Lost There, Felt Here” campaign to increase awareness of the profound impact that deforestation has on climate change. In addition, the team worked closely with CELB to develop and implement programs with Starbucks, McDonald’s and DreamWorks Animation.

Net Assets

Despite challenging economic conditions that resulted in substantial investment losses in FY08, CI closed the year with a modest \$631,000 unrestricted operating surplus that will be added to our reserves.

As a result of the significant, multi-year commitments described above, CI’s temporarily restricted net assets, which represent funds earmarked for specific conservation programs to be implemented in future years, increased by almost \$102 million.

During the year, CI received contributions totaling \$51,000 to its endowment fund, bringing the total endowment to just over \$13.1 million. Earnings from this endowment are used to fund environmental education and training, field programs and general operations.

While we enter FY09 with considerable restricted resources to support our core programs, we continue to strive to build our unrestricted reserves to provide us with flexible funding necessary to respond to urgent needs.

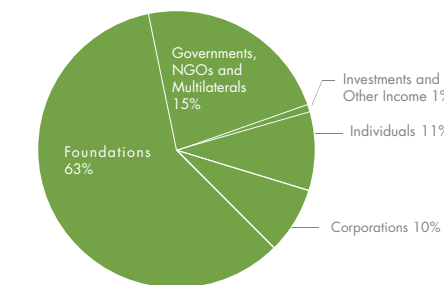


statement of activities

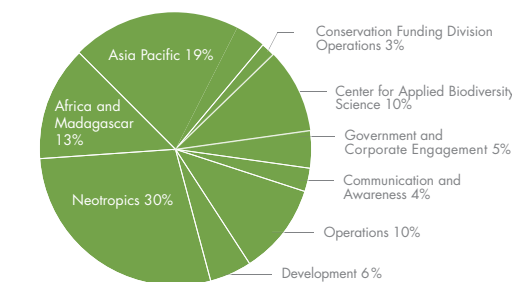
For the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2008 and 2007, in Thousands

	2008			2007	
	UNRESTRICTED	TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED	PERMANENTLY RESTRICTED	TOTAL	TOTAL
Revenue					
Grants and contributions					
Individuals	\$6,570	\$18,935	\$ -	\$25,505	\$23,202
Corporations	1,592	22,663	-	24,255	9,448
Foundations	6,928	138,078	51	145,057	85,681
U.S. Government	-	7,229	-	7,229	7,207
Non-U.S. Government	-	1,207	-	1,207	28,827
NGO/Multilaterals	19	27,253	-	27,272	11,243
Investment income	563	(1,307)	-	(744)	8,176
Licensing agreements, product sales and other income	1,095	2,057	-	3,152	2,823
Net assets released from donor restrictions	119,128	(119,128)	-	-	-
Total Revenue	135,895	96,987	51	232,933	176,607
Expenses					
Program services					
Neotropics	40,389	-	-	40,389	33,303
Africa and Madagascar	17,147	-	-	17,147	12,601
Asia Pacific	25,189	-	-	25,189	24,199
Conservation Funding Division Operations	4,075	-	-	4,075	4,418
Center for Applied Biodiversity Science	13,135	-	-	13,135	11,964
Center for Environmental Leadership in Business	4,701	-	-	4,701	4,593
Center for Conservation and Government	2,775	-	-	2,775	2,027
Communication and Awareness	6,115	-	-	6,115	5,828
Total program services	113,526	-	-	113,526	98,933
Supporting services					
Operations	13,909	-	-	13,909	13,179
Development	7,829	-	-	7,829	5,972
Total supporting services	21,738	-	-	21,738	19,151
Total Expenses	135,264	-	-	135,264	118,084
Changes in net assets before nonoperating activity	631	96,987	51	97,669	58,523
Nonoperating activity					
Gain (loss) on foreign currency translation	-	4,899	-	4,899	1,967
Changes in Net Assets	\$631	\$101,886	\$51	\$102,568	\$60,490
Net assets at beginning of year	14,898	197,423	13,049	225,370	164,880
Changes in net assets	631	101,886	51	102,568	60,490
Net Assets at End of Year	\$15,529	\$299,309	\$13,100	\$327,938	\$225,370

FY08 Revenue of \$232.9 Million



FY08 Total Expenses of \$135.3 Million



individuals

Douglas and Nancy Abbey
 Audrey Abbott
 Jacob and Ruth Anne Abraham
 Jeffrey and Rona Abramson
 John and Andrea Adams
 Catherine Adler
 Robert Aiken
 David Ailion
 Michael Ailion
 George and Joyce Albers-Schonberg
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 Coleman and Alison Andrews
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 Eric Dobkin
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 Gil Hagan and Anne Wade
 Robert Haines
 Leah Hair
 Julie and Parker Hall

Patrice Auld



Patrice Auld, together with her husband Kevin and their three daughters, has been a tireless champion for Conservation International since the early 1990s. Though a long-time supporter of CI events around the country, she is best known for her energy and vision behind our first Seattle event in 1997. She has co-chaired every highly successful Seattle Dinner since then, and her leadership in the Northwest and personal philanthropy have leveraged substantial community support. Patrice's relationship-building and generous willingness to open up her home for events have helped CI acquire countless long-term friends for global conservation.

Patrice is one of the original Chairman's Council members and currently serves as the Vice Chair for Membership. She and Kevin also have been important supporters of the Center for Conservation and Government to help CI influence international environmental policy and strengthen foreign governments' capacities for conservation.

She credits her family's travel with CI-Sojourns to South America and Africa as transforming experiences in their commitment to the environment. "We learned firsthand why CI is so successful," says Patrice. "They are inclusive of everyone—scientists, governments and businesses. They understand that all voices must be heard when coming up with long-term solutions. Conservation International sees the big picture better than any other organization, but never loses sight of all the important partners on the ground."

donors

Following is a listing of CI's Emerald Circle, a remarkable community of individuals who gave \$1,000 or more in FY08 (July 1, 2007–June 30, 2008) to protect life on Earth. We are also grateful to the many donors who have made generous contributions but wish to remain anonymous.

individuals

Margaret Hamburg and Peter Brown
Dorothy Hamilton
Benjamin and Ruth Hammett
John and Katie Hansen
Whitney Hansen
Renee Harbers
Scott Harbers
Joan and George Hardie
Porter Hardy
Benjamin Harnett
Donald Harris
Jessie Harris
Joan Harris
John and Lynne Harris
Stephanie and John Harris
Anne and Bill Harrison
Judy Hart
Pamela Harting
Jane Hartley and Ralph Schlosstein
Charlene Harvey
Richard Hastings
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Terry and Leanna Hauck
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Henry Hillman
Mrs. Reuben Hills (Ingrid)
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Diana Horvat
George and Monica Hosfield
Bruce and Carol Hosford
Elizabeth Howitt
Carrie Howrylak
Manush Hristov
Hans and Jayne Hufschmid
Ernest and Jane Hughes
Peter and Heidi Huizenga
Katie and Will Hunckler
Hundert Family
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Peter and Juliet Johnson
Ralph and Bonnie Johnson
J. Tyler and Melanie Johnston
Robert Jonas and Margaret Bullitt-Jonas
Chris Jones and Kira-Anne Sorensen
Karen Jones
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Derry and Charlene Kabcenell
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Jeffrey and Marilyn Katzenberg
Richard Kauffman
Ric and Suzanne Kayne
Robert Kellogg
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Paula and Dan Kinney
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Jane and Charles Klein
John Klein and Maria Pastoor
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Mike and Gaelynn McGavick
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Sonnet and Ian McKinnon
Dan and Susan McKnight
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Jim and Jennifer Rogers
Jeremy and Maria Roschelle
Mordecai and Debbie Rosen
Terry and Tori Rosen
Paul Rosenbaum

Andrew and Leslie Nicholls



"I've been in the 'green' community for a long time," says Andrew Nicholls, and he and his wife Leslie live by those principles every day. "We buy shade-grown, CI-approved Starbucks coffee," he adds, mentioning just one example.

When the couple was looking for an international conservation group to support in 2003, Andrew investigated CI and, intrigued, contacted the Emerald Circle program to find out more. He was introduced to Glenn Prickett, CI senior vice president and executive director of the Center for Environmental Leadership in Business, who filled him in on CI's programs and provided a firsthand account of CI's groundbreaking efforts helping corporations "go green."

Impressed, Andrew and Leslie joined the Emerald Circle, became monthly contributors and continued learning. CI's monthly contributors provide a reliable stream of income for conservation, and the regular connection keeps them engaged. Andrew cites CI's Rapid Assessment Program as an example of the kind of science-based, in-country, pragmatic work he is proud to support. The couple also appreciates the regular updates and sense of relationship the Emerald Circle provides.

As Andrew puts it, "We like to pick a few organizations and stick with them." CI is deeply grateful. It's that kind of approach that helps CI plan effectively for the conservation challenges ahead.

individuals

Dr. David Rosenberg and Dr. Jessica Lattman
 Andrew Rosenthal
 Jack Rosenthal and Holly Russell
 Jamie Rosenthal Wolf
 Doris Roskin
 Ambassador and Mrs. Dennis Ross
 Robert Rotella
 Rosemarie C. Rotella
 The T. Rowe Price Program for Charitable Giving
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John Swift



“There are many fascinating opportunities for people to get involved,” states John Swift, both of Conservation International (CI) and the larger effort to protect the planet’s species, indigenous cultures and landscapes. He personally supports and cites CI’s quality projects in South Africa, New Guinea, Madagascar, Botswana and the evolving carbon project in Liberia as examples of the opportunities that abound.

In 1982, while volunteering in Papua New Guinea, “I gazed out over the unbroken canopy of a pristine rainforest and felt awe and wonder at being part of an ecosystem so vital to life on Earth.” Upon returning to the states, he met Peter Seligmann and became involved with the newly formed CI. And he’s been an active supporter ever since.

“What I love about CI,” he adds, “is the different partnerships that unite people and conservation.” With the urgent challenges ahead, Swift has expanded his giving, both current and planned, so that he and his wife and their three children can continue to “leverage CI’s expertise to benefit local cultures and the environment in a harmonious way.”

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Stewards for tomorrow: These dedicated people are providing for the Earth's future, as well as their own, by including CI in their estate plans. We sincerely appreciate the foresight and commitment of these individuals and the 72 members of CI's Future of Life Society who wish to remain anonymous.

To learn what you can do today to make a real difference for the future of life on Earth, contact us at 800.406.2306 or at giftplanning@conservation.org.

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CI's fundraising events are unique affairs that help bring together deeply committed conservationists and those who would like to learn more about the environmental challenges and opportunities facing our planet. Our events are our most important way of broadening our network of supporters because we do not use expensive and wasteful mass mailings to expand our donor base.

In FY 2008, CI held five major fundraising dinners. Thanks to the generous support, outreach and dedication of our committee members, these events raised \$3.6 million to benefit CI's critical work. We are grateful for their leadership, involvement and enthusiasm for CI.



Clockwise from top left:

Co-chair Carolyn Brody and Bill Hart at CI's 2007 Washington, D.C. dinner
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Melissa Seligmann and Paul Arnhold, members of the New York After-party Committee
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Fisk Johnson, Margot Snowden and Yves Desgouttes at CI's 2007 Jackson Hole dinner
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Jackson Hole Dinner

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other organizations

A Rocha
The Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia
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California Institute for Energy and Environment
CARE-Bolivia
Cleveland Zoological Society
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National Geographic Society
National Philanthropic Trust
The Nature Conservancy
New England Aquarium
North England Zoological Society (EAZA)
Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium
Population Reference Bureau
Porgera Joint Ventures
The Puffin School
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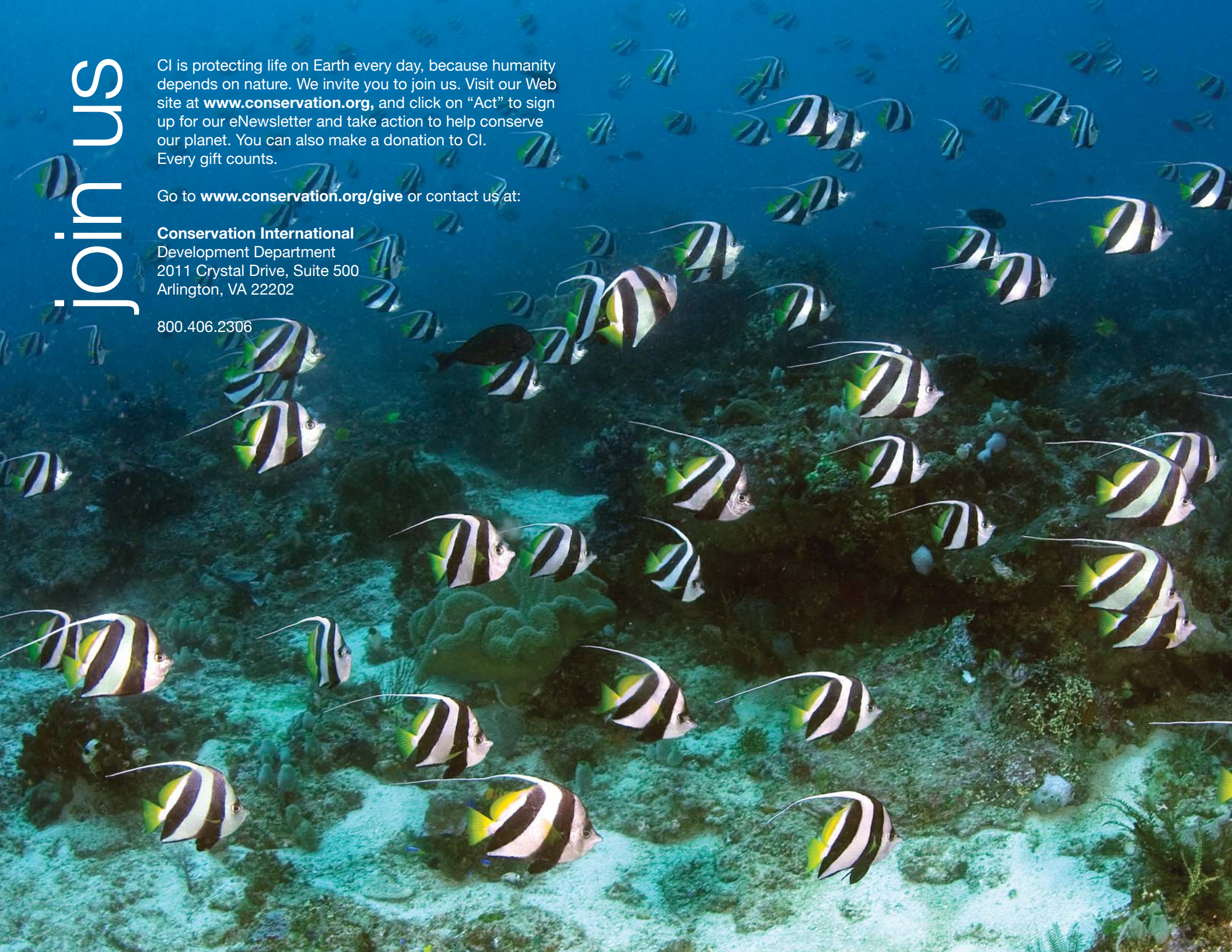
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