

RAINFOREST ACTION NETWORK



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COVER PHOTO: Pedro Helder Pinheiro / SHUTTERSTOCK



Leuser Ecosystem.
PHOTO: Paul Hilton / RAN



Mission

Rainforest Action Network preserves forests, protects the climate and upholds human rights by challenging corporate power and systemic injustice through frontline partnerships and strategic campaigns.

Vision

Rainforest Action Network works toward a world where the rights and dignity of all communities are respected and where healthy forests, a stable climate and wild biodiversity are protected and celebrated.



“Our Big Vision is You”

After almost a decade at RAN and seven years as the Executive Director, I have decided to make room for new growth and will step down at the end of this year. As a result, this last letter is a bitter sweet thank you for all that you have done to support me and Rainforest Action Network. For more than 30 years, we've brought activists together for people and planet, creating innovative campaigns that forced corporate bad actors to change their practices. And you have consistently been our secret weapon.

PHOTO: Erik McGregor / ERIKMCGREGOR.COM;
Eric Slomonson / SLOMOPHOTOS.COM

Together, we will **keep forests standing**, we will **keep fossil fuels in the ground**, we will **defend Indigenous and human rights**, and we will **stabilize the climate**.

As I write, the rainforest band that circles the globe is on fire. And the banks behind those fires are funneling billions into supporting the fossil fuel industry and making the climate crisis worse. But solutions are right in front of us — and I am more confident than ever that, with your help, RAN is perfectly positioned to do three things:

1) Keep Forests Standing

We will continue to target the companies responsible for rainforest destruction. RAN recently exposed a palm oil plantation illegally operating in an Indonesian reserve, known as the orangutan capital of the world. We followed the conflict palm oil to major global brands and forced them, and the largest palm oil trader on the planet, to suspend their business. We will continue to press those causing this destruction and partner with communities who have protected these forests for generations.

2) Keep Fossil Fuels in the Ground

The science is clear. We must phase out fossil fuels as quickly as possible if we are to avert the worst climate scenarios. Every protest, march, petition, donation, action and degree matters — to us and to future generations. Facing the climate emergency means no expansion of oil, gas, or coal. That's why we are going after the money. This year, RAN published the most rigorous analysis to date of which banks are funding the fossil fuel sector. Our research is being cited every week — in *The Guardian*, *Forbes*, *The New Yorker*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Financial Times* and in the U.S. Congress. We will continue to push hard on JPMorgan Chase because they are literally the worst bank in the world when it comes to funding this crisis — to the tune of \$196 billion dollars in the last three years alone.

3) Defend Indigenous Rights and Human Rights

We will stand with Indigenous communities who are protecting water, forests, ecosystems, and life. Overwhelming evidence proves that recognizing Indigenous rights is the single most effective long-term approach to protecting forests. We know that the strongest resistance to fossil fuel expansion — from Standing Rock to the Ecuadorian Amazon — is being led by Indigenous groups. Now more than ever, they need direct support.

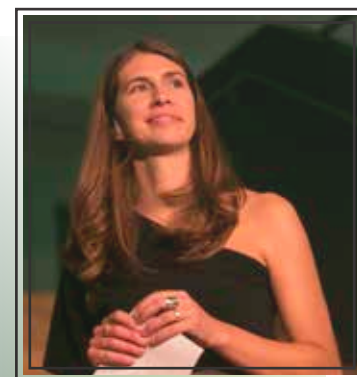
At Rainforest Action Network, we say that Action is our middle name, but we would be nothing without our Network. Because we can't do any of this alone. My friend and predecessor Becky Tarbotton, said "Our big vision, is You. This is a community that can see windmills replacing coal fields, that believes a tree is worth more standing than cut down for paper, that knows people power can defeat corporate power. Protecting forests, our climate and human rights really doesn't happen without you. Nothing happens without you."

So from the bottom of my heart, thank you for all you do and have done to support me and RAN. It's been an honor of a lifetime — and I look forward to seeing you in the streets.

With deep appreciation,



Lindsey Allen
Executive Director



We Are Resilient

As the incoming board chair at RAN, let me start off my first letter by congratulating you. Because you showed up in 2019.

This year, the Amazon rainforests in South America were set ablaze by shameful profiteers. Spurred on by the openly racist and xenophobic encouragement of Brazilian president Jair Bolsonaro, more than 80,000 fires blazed across the Amazon this year — intentionally started in order to clear land for agricultural use. This irreplaceable jewel is one of the most biodiverse places on the planet. More than 30 million people — including more than 400 distinct Indigenous nationalities and ethnic groups — call the Amazon their home. But these fires affect us all — they will only exacerbate our climate crisis through the carbon released into the atmosphere and by the loss of the forest's ability to absorb carbon in the future.

In the face of this crisis, RAN supporters answered the call like never before. More than \$500,000 was raised from committed individuals like you in a matter of weeks. RAN has been directing that money to frontline and Indigenous-led organizations working to save the forest.

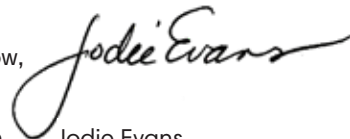
This all comes at a time when progress in this area looked possible and promising. A recent report from the United Nations has confirmed what we have been saying for years: Indigenous and local communities are our best defense against industrial destruction of rainforests. Local and Indigenous communities have been defending their forests and protecting the biodiversity on their lands for generations. And as we know, any real solution to our climate crisis has to have one key component: keeping forests standing. Intact, old-growth forests are our best chance to reduce the carbon in our atmosphere.

But greed is a powerful thing. And the big banks and large investment companies that are backing the fossil fuel industry are also backing the industries destroying our rainforests. Intentionally set fires have been a crisis that RAN has been fighting for years across the globe. The destruction of lush Amazonian rainforest and the carbon-rich peatlands of Indonesia are symptoms of the same problem — short term corporate profits driving long term global disaster.

Challenging corporate power to force positive social change: that's why we do this work. And we will continue moving forward in this work even as we bid farewell to our amazing outgoing executive director Lindsey Allen. Today, Rainforest Action Network is in the strongest position in our nearly 35 year history." The organization is well poised and ready for the next phase of growth. We are resilient — just like forests. Trees take care of their community. They exchange information through their root system, they share resources, and they make way for new growth, creating life supporting foundations as they evolve.

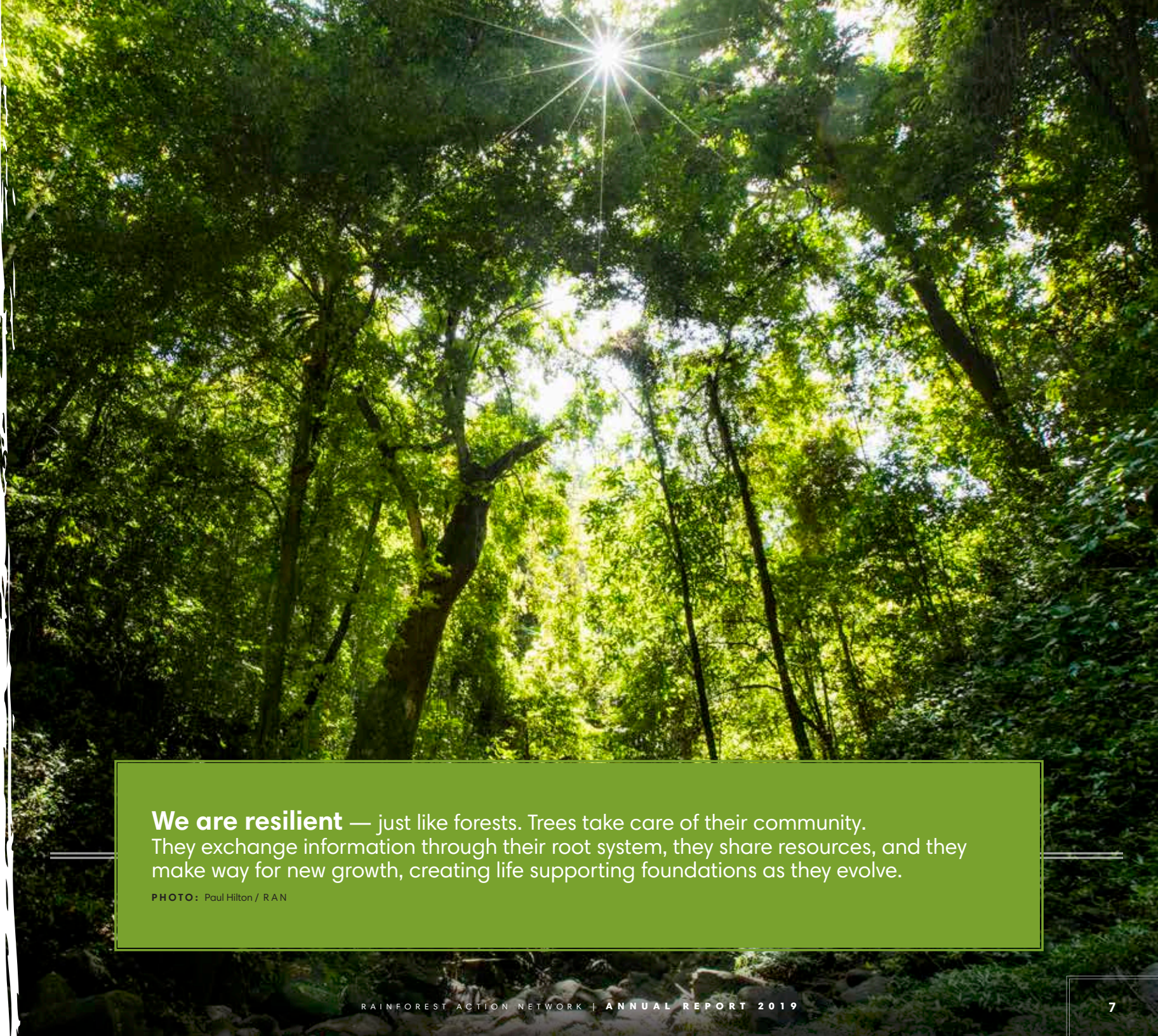
As we move through this well-planned transition process, we will keep you posted on our developments. So please stay tuned, stay supportive and keep fighting for people and planet.

With deep appreciation,



Jodie Evans
Board Chair





We are resilient — just like forests. Trees take care of their community. They exchange information through their root system, they share resources, and they make way for new growth, creating life supporting foundations as they evolve.

PHOTO: Paul Hilton / RAN

Responding to the Crisis of Fires

FROM THE AMAZON TO INDONESIA



PHOTO: Victor Moriyama / GREENPEACE

The fires in the Amazon Basin shocked millions and generated global headlines for weeks in the Fall of 2019. The scale of this greed-driven disaster was sometimes too much for people to comprehend — at times, **more than 80,000 fires were burning at once.**

And yet, the scale of this crisis is even bigger than that. In South America, in Africa, in Southeast Asia, rainforests are being intentionally and systematically set on fire every year. These fires are used to evict communities and clear land for palm oil, cattle, soy, and paper plantations — in other words, for corporate profits. In Indonesia, 6.4 million acres of forest have been intentionally burned in a single year — an area roughly the size of Massachusetts. In the same year, the resulting haze and respiratory illness contributed to more than 100,000 deaths.

From the Amazon, to the Congo Basin, to the islands of Indonesia, the band of rainforests that circles the globe is under threat. This slice of the Earth — the tropics that follow the Equator — feeds off the most intense sunlight, gathers the most rainfall, creating vital, irreplaceable, and critically diverse forests. The Amazon alone is the most species-rich place on the planet, with more different kinds of plants on a single acre than can be found in most American states. A full 10 percent of the world's species are found there, and it is home to more than 30 million people.

At Rainforest Action Network, our community has been fighting this threat for years — and this year, you immediately stepped up to this challenge. RAN experienced an unprecedented influx of support in response to the fires in the Amazon. For decades, RAN has partnered with frontline and Indigenous-led organizations who have been defending these lands for generations. Supporting local and community-led solutions to preserve forests, protect the climate and uphold human rights is the very definition of RAN's mission. As a result, we will be able to send more than \$500,000 in grants over the next two years directly to groups located in and fighting for the Amazon.

And it is a hard fight. The new President of Brazil, Jair Bolsonaro, campaigned on the slogan "The Amazon is open for business." He has openly called for rainforest regions to be cleared for agribusiness. He also promised there will be zero dollars for NGOs protecting the environment and "not one centimeter" reserved for Indigenous communities or quilombolas, historic settlements founded by former slaves.

But the scientific community is catching up to the activist community — this past year, a UN study confirmed what Indigenous people have known for generations: that strong and organized local communities are our best defense against industrial destruction and a critical component to stopping climate catastrophe. Local and Indigenous communities have been defending their forests, protecting the biodiversity on their lands and slowing the effects of climate change for years. It is imperative that we support them in this fight, now.

Grocery store standards such as **Unilever**, **Nestlé** and **Procter & Gamble** still need to clean up their supply chains and make sure land grabbing and deforestation are not part of their profit model. Major financial players like **BlackRock**, **JPMorgan Chase**, and Japanese megabank **MUFG** are still pouring billions into destructive projects — projects that demand lots of land. And that encourages unscrupulous players to strike a match hoping to strike it rich.

That's why RAN follows the money. We need to support the global movement of Indigenous and frontline communities, together with strong, consistent public pressure on the banks, brands and financiers bankrolling this disaster. That is how we will win.



Preserving Forests

IS ALWAYS A LONG TERM ENDEAVOR

In 1985, Rainforest Action Network launched our very first campaign — a successful effort to pressure Burger King to cancel \$35 million worth of Central American beef contracts that were turning rainforests into grazing land. Over the years, RAN has tenaciously stayed the course, adapting our strategies and adding ever more sophisticated tactics as we continue to push back against the corporate forces that eat up forests for profit.

Thanks to our supporters, in this past year alone:

- » We forced the biggest food company in Indonesia — Indofood — to be suspended from the leading palm oil industry association due to their continued role in labor violations on palm oil plantations.
- » We investigated, gathered evidence and broke major news stories that pressured the world's largest food companies to take action about illegal plantations and palm oil mills operating in the 'orangutan capital of the world.'
- » We exposed direct connections between major U.S. companies connected to household brands — such as **Procter & Gamble** — with forced labor, debt bondage and human trafficking of migrant workers in the palm oil industry.
- » And we continue to follow the money and expose scandals that exert pressure on the banks and financial institutions funding disastrous projects that are killing forests and our planet.



In the midst of this long term work we also organized a rapid response to the fires in the Amazon basin — sending more than \$300,000 directly to Indigenous and frontline leaders in South America, while organizing nationwide peaceful protests that included shutting down Wall Street West in San Francisco to demand accountability from those bankrolling deforestation.

The Singkil Investigation

This past year, Rainforest Action Network conducted a series of undercover field investigations to protect critical peat forests in Indonesia — specifically in Sumatra's Leuser Ecosystem. The results of the investigations were shocking and definitive.

The Leuser Ecosystem is a global hotspot for biological diversity. It is one of the highest priority conservation landscapes in the world. The Leuser peatlands keep massive amounts of carbon in the ground and provides critical habitat for endangered Sumatran elephants, rhinos and tigers. It is called the 'orangutan capital of the world' because it is home to the densest population of orangutans anywhere.

RAN investigators used satellite images and on-the-ground surveillance to prove that an area in the Rawa Singkil Wildlife Reserve located in the Leuser Ecosystem was cleared and planted with illegal palm plantations to supply nearby mills. We traced that conflict palm oil directly to **Golden Agri-Resources (GAR)** and **Musim Mas Group**, two of the largest palm oil traders in the world who supply major global snack food brands, including **Unilever**, **Nestlé**, **PepsiCo**, **Mondeléz**, **General Mills**, **Kellogg's**, **Mars** and **Hershey's**. RAN's investigation exposed the fact that each of these major brands were in stark violation of public commitments to end deforestation made years ago.

Thanks to RAN's investigation, contracts with these mills have already been suspended, and further penalties and enforcement mechanisms are forthcoming. And RAN is committed to keeping the pressure on. "No new business with either of these mills will be possible until they are compliant with our sustainability requirements," said a representative of Musim Mas. But RAN's investigations will continue — and have already uncovered further violations.

Protecting the Climate

CUTTING EDGE RESEARCH + TENACIOUS ACTIVISM

“Why are you talking about oil and pipelines? You have ‘rainforest’ in your name.”

When RAN first began targeting the fossil fuel sector for its role in our current climate crisis, we received some pushback. When we supported Indigenous communities fighting against oil extraction in South America or pipelines in North America, we were told to focus on the forests. And when we targeted massive banks, we were told we were overly ambitious. But at Rainforest Action Network, we have never focused on what's popular, what's palatable, or what many would call politically feasible. We focus on what's necessary.

Today, more people understand how preserving forests, protecting the climate and upholding human rights are the same fight. And today, RAN produces the most comprehensive report on the banking industry's pivotal role in funding the climate emergency that threatens our future.

This year's *Banking on Climate Change* report — the 10th annual version — is by far the biggest and most comprehensive yet. Published in March,

it generated headlines across the globe. Moreover, regulators are using our report as a resource, with US Representative Rashida Tlaib, US Senator Sheldon Whitehouse, the UK Labour Party and others directly citing our research to highlight banks' role in our climate crisis.

The 2019 report tracked funding from 33 banks for 1,800 fossil fuel companies. We named the bankers of the top 30 companies across a variety of sub-sectors — including fracking, coal mining, tar sands oil and others. And our analysis summed up bank behavior in the three years since the Paris Agreement — when so many leaders in the financial sector said so many promising words of support.


The report was co-authored by BankTrack, Indigenous Environment Network, Oil Change International, Honor the Earth and the Sierra Club. Last year's report was endorsed by 51 other organizations; this year over 160 groups endorsed it.



That **JPMorgan Chase** is the world's worst banker of fossil fuels came as no surprise. The numbers, though, were a shock — Chase pumped \$196 billion into fossil fuels from 2016 through 2018, almost 30% more than second place **Wells Fargo**. That is why we have been pressuring JPMorgan Chase and their leadership relentlessly with Op-Eds, social media, peaceful protests, petitions, and direct communications. We have met Chase CEO Jamie Dimon at his public speaking events across the country, blockaded the streets of Manhattan and dropped banners in front of Chase's headquarters. We have descended on branch openings in Minnesota and shut down Chase offices in San Francisco. And we greeted the first ever event at San Francisco's new Chase Center with a massive light projection proclaiming that "Chase Funds Climate Change."

All of this pressure is changing the global conversation, but we must remain vigilant. For example, this September, as part of Climate Week NYC and the United Nations General Assembly, 130 banks signed the Principles for Responsible Banking — a UN-supported, bank-led initiative. The group, representing \$47 trillion in assets — one third of global capital — formally committed to align with the Paris Climate Agreement. Rainforest Action Network and more than 25 allied organizations issued a statement welcoming the Principles of Responsibility in concept, while also expressing significant reservations about potential greenwashing that masks the destruction of the environment and egregious human rights abuses.

We know what needs to happen for banks to align with the Paris Climate Agreement: banks need to immediately stop financing any fossil fuel expansion or peatland degradation, end all financing of deforestation no later than 2020, and rapidly phase out financing of fossil fuels.

33 global banks  **financed fossil fuels**
with **\$1.9 trillion** since the **Paris Agreement**.
(more than all the currency in circulation in the U.S.!)



A large elephant is shown in a dense, green tropical forest, partially obscured by foliage. The elephant's head and trunk are visible, and it appears to be eating. The background is a thick wall of green leaves and ferns.

Forests are Our Future

Our mandate is clear: We must keep forests intact and standing. We must end industrial expansion into the last remaining forests. We must draw a line in the sand: not another forest cleared.

The reasons for this are many. But as our climate disaster becomes more urgent every day, the crucial role that forests play is finally gaining the attention it deserves. The massive loss of forests is a significant factor in our climate crisis — but protecting and restoring forests will play a crucial part in any solution. When tropical forests are destroyed — through intentional fires or through clear-cutting — they release a massive amount of carbon into our atmosphere. Tropical deforestation for the sake of industrial agriculture and development accounts for a huge percent of the world's annual carbon emissions. In fact, if it was ranked as a country, tropical deforestation would be the third largest carbon emitter in the world, behind only China and the United States.

And these emissions from deforestation are only getting worse — more than doubling in the last few years. If tropical deforestation continues at the current rate, a climate-stable future will be all but impossible. The series of reports that the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has put out in the last year are a stark warning of what's to come if we don't act now.

And then there are the other reasons this is an urgent challenge. A million plant and animal species are facing extinction, more than ever before in human history. And the rate of extinction is accelerating. The last remaining populations of iconic species — like Sumatran orangutans,



We are losing our tropical rainforests at an unprecedented rate. **Less than 50% of the world's tropical forests remain standing** and we lose more every day — the equivalent of one football field every second.

tigers, elephants and rhinoceros — are clinging to life in the threatened tropical rainforests of Indonesia. We are losing our tropical rainforests at an unprecedented rate. Less than 50% of the world's tropical forests remain standing and we lose more every day — the equivalent of one football field every second.

If we want to stop climate chaos, we need to keep forests intact and standing. According to the IPCC, reducing deforestation represents one of the most effective ways to mitigate climate change globally, with the potential to reduce global greenhouse gas emissions by nearly a third. It is beyond frustrating to read about high-tech start-ups saying that we need multi-million dollar “air-scrubbing towers” and “carbon-sucking machines” to stop rising carbon levels in the atmosphere. To put it bluntly, what we need are more trees. Or, as the scientists say: “The ‘natural technology’ of forests is currently the only proven means of removing and storing atmospheric CO₂ at a scale that can meaningfully contribute to achieving carbon balance.”

But we must be ready and committed to this challenge. At RAN, we focus on challenging corporate power because corporations are the worst polluters, the most rampant consumers, and the biggest exploiters of people and the planet. Unchecked corporate greed places profits above all else — ignoring laws, regulations, and moral imperative for the sake of maximizing shareholder returns. But we are all left to pay the incredibly high price of the aftermath. That is why RAN is drawing the line and demanding an end to industrial expansion into forests.

At RAN, we utilize many tools to effect change. From undercover field investigations to supply chain research, from partnering with organizations on the ground to negotiations in corporate boardrooms, from high-profile media exposure to our dedicated supporters taking action online and in the streets, we successfully call out bad corporate actors and hold them accountable to implement real and meaningful change. We hope you are ready to join us.



Financing a Sustainable Future

Over the past few years, RAN's Forest & Finance campaign has steadily become a force in the banking industry — increasing our influence and exerting greater pressure on the Asian financial giants bankrolling forest destruction through extensive research and investigations.

Our newly renovated online tool at www.forestsandfinance.org, created with partners TuK Indonesia and Profundo, publishes the most comprehensive data available on the money flowing into the worst companies responsible for deforestation. We track and expose those responsible for deforestation and the environmental and health disaster of the annual rainforest fires in Indonesia. Recently, the Indonesian government has joined the chorus and publicly identified some of these worst offenders for the fire and haze crisis.

As a result of our relentless campaigns, the three largest banks in Japan — **Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group (MUFG)**, **Mizuho Financial Group**, and **SMBC Group** — have all adopted new palm and forestry policies; not a small feat considering none of these Japanese banks had any public financing policies two years ago.

These banks still fund controversial companies like Indonesian palm oil giant **Indofood**, but we are increasing the pressure. Our coalition has convinced three Western banks — **Citi**, **Standard Chartered** and **Rabobank** — to stop financing Indofood this year. RAN staff also presented at the largest responsible investment conference in Asia called Responsible-Investor Asia. We shared a seat on the first ever panel dedicated to banking and sustainability with some of the biggest banks in Japan and representatives from the Japanese Ministry of Environment. And in June, ahead of MUFG's shareholder meeting, we occupied MUFG-subsidiary **Union Bank**'s headquarters in downtown San Francisco, demanding it stop financing conflict palm oil, deforestation, fossil fuels, and human rights abuses. Shortly thereafter, MUFG announced it will no longer provide financing for new coal-fired power projects — a major precedent in the sector.



The Tokyo Olympic games are being billed as the “most sustainable Olympics yet.” Yet **more than 130,000 massive sheets of rainforest plywood have been used to build the Olympic venues**, and we’ve traced it back to some of the most fragile and rare ecosystems on the planet.

PHOTO: Ayse Gürsöz / RAN

Stop the Olympics from Destroying the Rainforests

As the Tokyo 2020 Olympic games approach, RAN has continued to use this international event to shine a spotlight on the terrible deforestation in Southeast Asia that is driven by money from the Japanese banking sector.

RAN and our partners — TuK Indonesia and WALHI — have been investigating a giant logging and palm oil company called **Korindo**, which has been cutting down rainforests across Indonesia including endangered orangutan habitat. RAN traced more than 170,000 massive sheets of rainforest plywoodwood directly to the iconic sports venues being built for the upcoming Olympic games in Japan. **SMBC** and **Mizuho** — gold level sponsors of these Olympics — are also key trading partners with Korindo, and RAN has been exposing this scandal at every opportunity.

In response, the International Olympic Committee issued guidance on sustainable sourcing for all future Olympics, to protect “forests with High Conservation Values and [ensure] people’s traditional and civil rights have been protected.” Tokyo 2020 organizers have also taken steps to their correct timber procurement.

RAN and our allies are demanding that the Tokyo 2020 Olympics recognize that the continued use of unsustainable rainforest products is directly contributing to our climate emergency. And we are asking them to commit to avoid using any timber, pulp or palm oil products sourced from rainforest regions unless full traceability is established that ensures no material is associated with rainforest or peatland destruction, illegal logging, or human rights violations.



A composite image showing the Statue of Liberty partially submerged in blue water. The sky is dark and cloudy. The title 'Insuring the Future' is overlaid in large white serif font.

Insuring the Future

In 2019, RAN launched a major new campaign in our efforts to hold the world's most powerful corporations accountable for the growing climate crisis, this time targeting an entirely new sector: the global insurance industry.

Insurance companies have long flown under the radar when we talk about the major actors responsible for the climate crisis, but in fact insurers play a central role propping up the fossil fuel economy.

You can't drive a car or buy a house without insurance. Likewise, without insurance, energy companies cannot build or operate destructive fossil fuel projects like the Keystone XL pipeline, coal-fired power plants, and fracking wells. Insurers can single-handedly stop the expansion and operation of most fossil fuel projects by simply refusing to insure them.

These companies collect our premiums for car, home, and health insurance, and funnel that money into the stock market. It's estimated that insurance companies have more than \$450 billion directly invested in coal, oil, and gas companies.

Meanwhile, the insurance industry knows that the climate emergency is here. US insurers are abandoning customers who are on the frontlines of this crisis. They are increasing the costs of insurance or withdrawing coverage entirely from regions experiencing climate impacts — such as the coast of Florida battered by extreme storms and increased flooding; or counties in California ravaged by wildfires whipped up by ever increasing dry winds, hotter temperatures, and later and lighter rains.

And it's in the industry's own self-interest to do something about it. The increased intensity and frequency of hurricanes and wildfires, combined with rising sea levels, means that more people and companies are filing insurance claims. The last few years have seen the biggest losses on record for insurance companies.

PHOTO: APFootage / ALAMY; InsureOurFuture



Insurers can **single-handedly stop** the expansion and operation of most fossil fuel projects by simply **refusing to insure them**.

The last few years have also seen a string of recent victories from the global coalition challenging the insurance industry, in which RAN is a key player. Thirteen European and two Australian companies have already adopted policies restricting coal insurance, and four of these companies limit tar sands insurance as well.

And we've seen major results in the US. After months of direct engagement with RAN, two US insurers have followed suit. In July, **Chubb**, the largest commercial insurer in the US, adopted a policy on coal insurance and investments. Four months later, **AXIS Capital** became the first US company to rule out both coal and tar sands insurance. At the moment, the rest of the US industry is lagging behind — but we are ramping up the pressure.

In October 2019, in conjunction with Insure Our Future and Mothers Out Front, RAN staged a protest at **Liberty Mutual's** headquarters, formally launching a campaign demanding the fossil fuel insurer to take responsibility for its role fueling the climate crisis. Liberty Mutual is a top global insurer of coal, oil, and gas. It also invests more than \$6.6 billion in fossil fuel companies, including \$1.5 billion in thermal coal.

This work builds on the bread and butter of RAN's climate and energy team: pressuring financial institutions to cut off their support for destructive fossil fuel projects. With your support, we'll hold the industry accountable for its role in climate change and fight alongside communities resisting fossil fuel expansion.



Community Action Grants

A photograph of a man in a green tunic and black pants standing in a dense forest, holding a long spear. Another person is visible in the background, holding a camera. The forest is lush with green foliage and large trees.

The Kofán people from Sinangoe have trained and equipped community land patrols to protect their forest from illegal invasion. In this photo, members of a land patrol set up camera traps in a remote area of their territory.

PHOTO: Mitch Anderson / AMAZON FRONTLINES



Since 1993, RAN's Community Action Grants program has distributed more than **4.5 million dollars in grants** to more than **400 frontline communities, Indigenous-led organizations, and allies**, helping their efforts to secure protection for **millions of acres of traditional territory** in forests around the world and helping to keep millions of tons of carbon in the ground.*

* including grants made through RAN's partnership with Global Greengrants Fund

Community-led solutions are key to preserving forests, protecting our climate and upholding human rights — this is a core principle at Rainforest Action Network. For more than 25 years, RAN has made direct grants to Indigenous and grassroots organizations that are working on the frontlines of the battle to save our planet. From plantation expansion into rainforests to mountaintop removal coal mining; from illegal animal poaching to illegal land grabs; from massive water-source contamination to massive carbon pollution from profit-driven land management — these communities know these threats because they live with their environmental impact and their cost in human rights violations and species extinction.

The Community Action Grants program has distributed more than **\$4.5 million dollars** to more than **400 organizations*** across the globe — from Southeast Asia, to Africa, to North and South America. These frontline communities, Indigenous-led organizations, and allies secure protection for millions of acres of traditional territory in forests around the world and keep millions of tons of carbon in the ground through their efforts to stop the destructive — and often illegal — practices of extractive industries

As the latest UN reports on the climate emergency have confirmed, Indigenous and frontline communities are the best stewards of the world's rainforests and the best organizers against climate change. History has proven that time and again — and that is why RAN is proud to see our Community Action Grants program thrive and expand. This past August, RAN experienced an unprecedented influx of support in response to public concern regarding the fires in the Brazilian Amazon. As a result we will be able to increase our giving in the Amazon region by **\$200,000** this year for a total of **\$300,000** in grants to the Amazon region. Overall, RAN now plans to distribute well over **\$500,000** in total grants this year globally through our Community Action Grants Program and our partnership with Global Greengrants Fund — and we are hopeful that we will sustain this level of grantmaking going forward.

RAN's Community Action Grants are distributed under two categories: Protect An Acre grants and Climate Action Fund grants. Protect an Acre grants support grassroots leadership and local organizations in forest regions to protect threatened forest lands and to protect the human rights of communities that have coexisted with and depended on these regions for generations. These grants are critical to help local efforts to regain control of and sustainably manage traditional territories. Climate Action Fund grants support frontline communities directly challenging the damage caused by the fossil fuel industry. These small grants go to local groups tackling the root causes of climate change — the extraction and combustion of dirty fossil fuels such as coal and oil.



Protect-an-Acre Highlights

CONCONAWEP Federacion Waorani

\$10,000 to support the successful efforts by the Waorani people, who live in the upper headwaters of the Amazon river in Ecuador in one of the most biodiverse areas on earth, to mobilize and secure legal recognition of their Free, Prior and Informed Consent rights to block oil drilling on their ancestral territory covering 2.5 million acres.

Instituto Internacional de Derecho y Sociedad (IIDS) supporting Federation of the Achuar Nationality of Peru (FENAP)

\$5,000 to support a delegation of Achuar and Wampis Indigenous leaders to pressure GeoPark at its annual shareholders meeting in Santiago, Chile, to cancel their planned oil extraction project on Indigenous territory in the Peruvian Amazon. The Achuar have successfully stopped five oil companies from drilling on their ancestral territory for more than two decades.

Save Rivers

\$4,800 to support several Indigenous villages working together to stop industrial logging that would impact their traditional territories, which cover about 125,000 acres and include some of the last remaining primary forest in Sarawak, Malaysia.

Associação das Mulheres Munduruku Wakoborun

\$5,000 to support an assembly led by Munduruku women to strengthen alliances and confront threats to collective territories in the Brazilian Amazon. The region is still largely covered with intact rainforest despite the constant menace of illegal loggers, wildcat miners and other threats in the form of various concessions. The women have also seen increased threats to their Indigenous rights since the election of Brazil's far-right President Jair Bolsonaro.

Pueblo Originario de la Nacionalidad Kichwa del Cantón Santa Clara (PONAKICSC)

\$5,000 to support Kichwa Communities of Piatua towards mobilizing efforts and food costs for 200 Indigenous men and women from impacted communities in the Ecuadorian Amazon. The funds support participation in a legal hearing and related activities challenging plans to build a hydroelectric dam. The dam would irreparably affect 23 Indigenous communities and the headwaters of a critical river that is part of the Llanganates–Sangay ecological corridor, considered one of the most biodiverse and rarefied areas on Earth with hundreds of plant species endemic to this region alone. Thanks to these efforts, plans for the dam have been canceled.

PHOTOS: Borneo Project; Movement Rights; Black Belt Citizens Fighting for Health and Justice; Rosamaria Loures; Andrew Miller / AMAZON WATCH

Climate Action Fund Highlights

Movement Rights

\$5,000 to support the Frontline Oil & Gas Action Summit to examine the impacts of fossil fuel extraction and transportation on the Ponca Nation and communities of Oklahoma, share Indigenous-led strategies of resistance, and build alliances in order to challenge the oil and gas industry in Oklahoma and beyond.

Black Belt Citizens Fighting for Health and Justice

\$2,500 to support community organizing, develop local leadership, conduct trainings, and build partnerships in Uniontown, Alabama. The groups seeks to address the impact of the largest industrial spill in US history after four million tons of toxic coal ash waste were transported to a landfill near the city. The area is home to 90% African American residents.

Indigenous Climate Action

\$26,950 to support the week-long Bringing Our Voices Together: Indigenous Tar Sands Strategy Summit held on Cold Lake First Nation territory in Alberta, Canada. The event is an Indigenous-led gathering to focus on collective strategies across borders and territories in order to build the resistance against the tar sand industry and to build relationships between communities at the source of extraction, along the pipeline routes, and at tar sands refineries.

For a complete list of grant recipients, visit: » grants.RAN.org



A photograph of the Chase Center at night. The building's glass facade is illuminated with blue and white lights, and the words "CHASE CENTER" are visible in large white letters. In the foreground, a large, dark, circular object, possibly a sculpture, features a glowing silhouette of a jaguar walking to the left. The overall scene is dark with vibrant blue and white highlights from the building's lights.

CHASE CENTER

Changing the Story

DRIVING CHANGE THROUGH INNOVATIVE STORYTELLING

Convincing the biggest banks, the largest snack food companies, and the fossil fuel industry to change their policies and practices requires a massive network. That's why we are constantly reaching out to our supporters and our Network to reach out to our campaign targets, to sign petitions, and to spread the message: People and planet are more important than profits.

This pressure is a big part of our strategy. RAN also builds pressure for change by creating a public narrative — changing the story to highlight the forces that are driving our climate crisis, the attacks on human

rights, and the destruction of forests. Social media, traditional news outlets, email campaigns, RAN.org, and impeccably researched and professionally produced reports and publications all contribute to telling our story and shining a spotlight on critical issues.

When the Amazon fires hit the headlines this fall, media outlets from around the globe reached out to RAN due to our expertise and history protecting rainforests. The whole RAN team responded immediately — often directing media outlets to our allies to amplify Indigenous-led organizations and leaders as much as possible.

PHOTO: Toben Dillworth / RAN

And we were able to have a significant impact in traditional and social media. Along with Op-Eds and media generated in major news outlets across the globe, our presence across all of our social media platforms has been intentionally and substantially developed over recent years. For example, in a very short period of time, we have doubled our presence on Instagram. RAN was also tagged as a go-to resource by many celebrities and social media influencers during the Amazon fires crisis, which has created a steady increase in exposure, followers and potential future lasting supporters.

A 'Hard Rain's a Gonna Fall' on Insurers Unless they Address Climate Risks

- FORBES

Banks pumped \$1.9 trillion into fossil fuels since the Paris climate deal

- FAST COMPANY

Palm Oil Was Supposed to Help Save the Planet. Instead It Unleashed a Catastrophe.

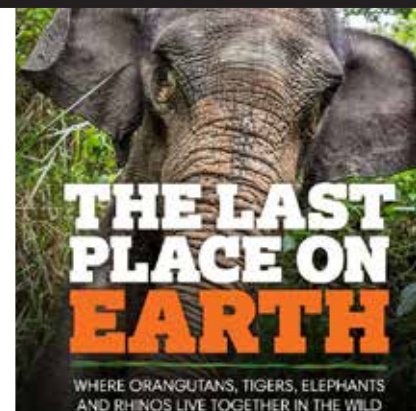
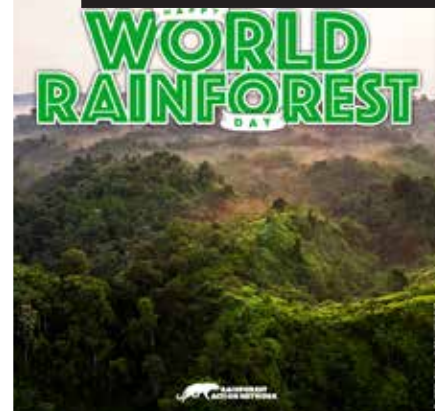
- THE NEW YORK TIMES

Major international brands connected to one of the largest cases of illegal rainforest clearance ever

- THE LONDON ECONOMIC

Are banks in Asia funding deforestation in Southeast Asia?

- ASIAN CORRESPONDENT



The New Yorker

@NewYorker

Follow

What would happen if, tomorrow, JPMorgan Chase, America's largest bank and the world's most valuable by market capitalization, announced that it was going to phase out lending to the fossil-fuel industry?



Money is the Oxygen on Which the Fire of Global Warming Burns
What if the banking, asset-management, and insurance industries decided to move away from fossil fuels?
newyorker.com

9:52 AM - 17 Sep 2019

Supporters

JULY 1, 2018 - JUNE 30, 2019



THE PANTHER CIRCLE - (\$25,000 AND UP)

(\$100,000 AND UP)

Alice & Fred Stanback
Anonymous (3)
Climate and Land Use Alliance
CMR Foundation
CREDO Mobile
David & Lucile Packard Foundation
Ford Foundation
Foundation For The Carolinas
KR Foundation
San Francisco Foundation
The Houser Foundation
The Overbrook Foundation
The Sunrise Project
The Tilia Fund
UK Department For International Development
Wallace Global Fund

(\$50,000 - \$99,999)

Andre Carothers
Anonymous (4)
Arcus Foundation
Community Foundation of Snohomish County
Dan Scales
Humane Society of the U.S.
Inmaculada Z. Ortoll-Mutuc & Jorge Z. Ortoll
Jewish Communal Fund
Mary E. Weinmann Charitable Lead Unitrust
Nancy G. Schaub

Quan Yin Foundation
Rick Steves' Europe Fund held at the
Community Foundation of Snohomish County
Rockefeller Brothers Fund
The Capital Group Companies Charitable Foundation
The JMG Foundation
The Scherman Foundation
Wallace Genetic Foundation
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Winslow Foundation

(\$25,000 - \$49,999)

Anonymous (2)
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Capital Group Companies
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ImpactAssets, Inc.
Katz Family Foundation
LiveWell Mutual Fund
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Penterra Trust Company Limited
Sandy Spring Trust
Silicon Valley Community Foundation
Stephen Silberstein
The Grantham Foundation for the Protection
of the Environment
Urs Hoelzle

PHOTO: Paul Hilton / RAN

CATALYZING A MOVEMENT - (\$1,000 - \$24,999)

(\$10,000 - \$24,999)

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Avalon Trust
Benevity Community Impact Fund
Bessemer National Gift Fund
California Community Foundation
Clif Bar Family Foundation
Colleen Kelly & Jonathan Altman
Cynthia Beard & Gary Roland
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Hawthorn Ubell Family Fund
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The Schaffner Family Foundation
The Serena Foundation
The William Kistler Charitable Fund
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(\$5,000 - \$9,999)

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(\$2,500 - \$4,999)

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(\$1,000 - \$2,499)

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 Google AdWords
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 Michael Miller, Jr.
 Robert Shultz
 Sherry Schmidt
 Sandra Resnikoff
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BEQUESTS

Estate of Cathe Dietrich
 Estate of Karl Patten
 Estate of Ralph Arbus

“I’m proud to be here on behalf of one of my favorite organizations – one that has stood the test of time and been on the front lines of some of our most crucial climate issues — not just for forests, but for human rights. I’m proud to be a link in the chain. Our work has never been more important, and we know the best antidote to what’s going on is to get back out on the street to show our support.”

— **Bonnie Raitt**

Amazon Watch Executive Director, **Leila Salazar-Lopez**, Honorary Board Member **Bonnie Raitt** and Executive Director **Lindsey Allen** at RAN’s annual benefit, REVEL.

PHOTO: Ayse Gürsöz / RAN



Statement of Activities

JULY 1, 2018 - JUNE 30, 2019

SUPPORT AND REVENUE

Public Support and Membership	\$ 1,557,775	20%
Major Gifts / Family Foundations	2,091,021	27%
Special Events (Net)	408,587	5%
Grants	3,465,117	44%
In-Kind Contributions	304,747	4%
Other Income	19,384	0%

TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE **\$ 7,846,631**



EXPENSES

Program Services	\$ 5,579,963	73%
Management and General	1,005,716	13%
Fundraising	1,028,439	14%

TOTAL EXPENSES **\$ 7,614,118**



Change in Net Assets	\$ 232,513
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	\$ 6,417,015
Net Assets at End of Year	\$ 6,649,528

The financial data provided above was produced in accordance with the new accounting standard update for nonprofits (ASU 2016-14) issued by the Financial Accounting Standards Board. This update requires changes in how nonprofit organizations account for and present expenses, using expanded criteria for expenses assigned to fundraising and management.

RAN's complete independent financial audit is available at [RAN.org](https://ran.org). If you have further questions, you may contact Emily Selzer at emily@ran.org.

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 Digital Campaign Strategist
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Clouded leopard.

PHOTO: PhotocechCZ / SHUTTERSTOCK



Rainforest Action Network (RAN) preserves forests, protects the climate and upholds human rights by challenging corporate power and systemic injustice through frontline partnerships and strategic campaigns.

425 Bush Street, Suite 300 | San Francisco, CA 94108 | [RAN.org](https://www.ran.org)

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