

ALLIANCE FOR GLOBAL CONSERVATION

PROTECTING LIFE ON EARTH

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SOLUTION

A U.S. PLAN FOR GLOBAL CONSERVATION

Without a clear strategy, the U.S. cannot exercise the international leadership needed to halt the conservation crisis.

U.S. leadership is vital to marshal resources from all donor nations. The world's developing nations are on the front lines of the global conservation crisis. They have the highest rates of deforestation, species loss and depletion of the very natural resources that underpin their economic progress. Under tremendous economic and population pressures, they have asked for help from the U.S. and other developed countries to manage their resources sustainably.

The response from donor nations has been insufficient and uncoordinated. Benchmarks of progress are unclear, and ultimate success is not well defined.

In the U.S., more than six agencies are involved in international conservation, various efforts are often not coordinated, and the government has no overarching global conservation vision or strategy.



For more information, visit:
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RESULTS

The global conservation strategy outlined here would:

- Safeguard the freshwater supply of hundreds of millions of people.
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by billions of tons, the equivalent to taking millions of automobiles off the roads or eliminating hundreds of coal-fired power plants.
- Provide more than \$1.1 trillion of value per year in economic services including disaster mitigation, health protection, fresh water, and food production.
- Conserve or ensure sustainable development on millions of square miles of land and sea.
- Prevent the extinction of millions of species.





A STRATEGY FOR PROGRESS

The window for protecting the world's remaining natural areas is rapidly closing. Scientists have concluded we have only a decade to scale up conservation efforts to address the problem or we face irreversible losses.

A comprehensive strategy to begin to arrest the natural resource depletion, deforestation and extinction crises worldwide includes:

- Significantly advancing conservation in five of the world's most ecologically and economically important terrestrial wilderness areas and 20 large marine ecosystems.
- Fully protecting 20 of the world's most ecologically and economically important and species-rich areas on land and in the oceans.
- Conserving 10 percent of each of the developing world's major ecological types such as tropical forests, grasslands and freshwater systems.
- Ending illegal and unregulated fishing in 10 developing country regions where fish stocks are severely depleted and regional economies are threatened.
- Safeguarding natural areas providing fresh water to 20 major cities—and millions of people—in developing countries.
- Shutting down wildlife trafficking operations in 10 major global wildlife trading hubs and border areas—enterprises that enrich criminals, drug dealers and terrorists.

- Stabilizing or reversing natural resource scarcity trends in five vulnerable flashpoints for conflict, instability or mass migration.

COORDINATOR FOR GLOBAL CONSERVATION

In order to achieve more focused results from existing dollars, effectively program future commitments, and convince other nations to invest, the U.S. government must adopt a global conservation strategy and a plan for how all U.S. government agencies involved in conservation abroad can advance that strategy.

A Coordinator for Global Conservation should be identified within the Executive Branch to develop these critical plans, to coordinate agencies engaged in international conservation, and to lead the government's efforts to make the global conservation crisis an international priority.

