

2021 ICCF

U.S. CONGRESSIONAL
INTERNATIONAL CONSERVATION
LEADERSHIP AWARDS DINNER

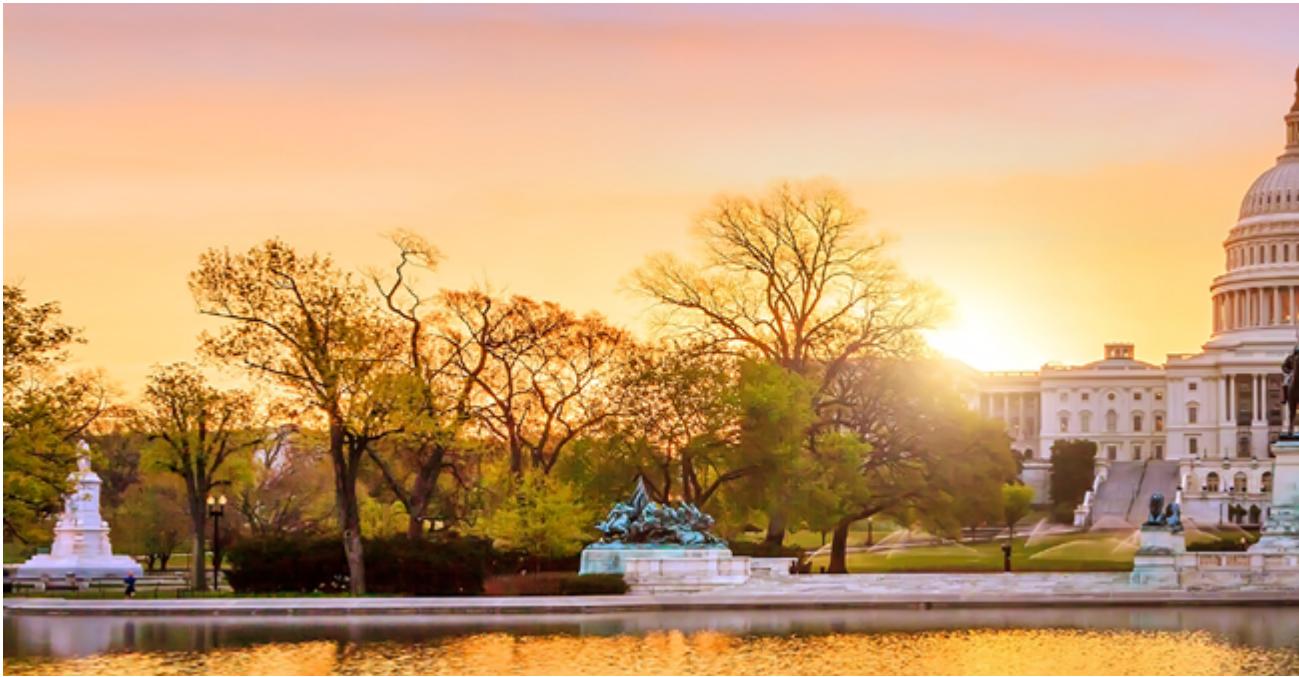


UNITED FOR CONSERVATION

The year's most important gathering of conservationists from the business, NGO, and government communities to promote U.S. leadership in the sound management of the world's natural resources

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2021 | WILLARD INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL, WASHINGTON, D.C.





FOREWORD



A MESSAGE FROM ICCF PRESIDENT JOHN B. GANTT

Welcome to the 2021 ICCF U.S. Congressional International Conservation Leadership Awards Dinner. We are honored to be joined by so many inspirational government, corporate, and NGO leaders—an audience that embodies tonight's theme, "United for Conservation."

Tonight we celebrate the 20th anniversary of the founding of the U.S. Congressional International Conservation Caucus in the House of Representatives by Congressmen Ed Royce, Clay Shaw, John Tanner, and Tom Udall. These caucus leaders recognized that for the caucus to be successful it must unite both Republicans and Democrats. This is the basis for the successful bipartisan caucus model now being replicated by parliamentarians in more than 20 countries around the world with ICCF support.



We are also pleased to have this opportunity to recognize several public- and private-sector leaders for their outstanding conservation commitment. We will present the ICCF Teddy Roosevelt® International Conservation Award to His Excellency Iván Duque Márquez, President of Colombia; the Conservation Leadership Award to His Excellency João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço, President of Angola; and the ICCF Lifetime Achievement Award to Rob and Melani Walton.

We are excited to share with you three groundbreaking conservation announcements this evening, which demonstrate the power of public-private partnerships and will help shape the future of conservation.

Thank you for joining us this evening as we recognize and celebrate outstanding conservation leadership and the global impact of the caucus model.

Best wishes,

John B. Gantt
President

PROGRAM

RECEPTION SPONSORED BY VOLKSWAGEN GROUP OF AMERICA

U.S. NATIONAL ANTHEM

INVOCATION

THE REVEREND DR. MARGARET GRUN KIBBEN, CHAPLAIN
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OPENING REMARKS

JOHN B. GANTT, PRESIDENT, ICCF

CHRISTOPHER PARKER

OAK FOUNDATION TRUSTEE

THE HONORABLE KEVIN MCCARTHY

HOUSE MINORITY LEADER
INTRODUCED BY THE HONORABLE GARRET GRAVES

CARLOS MANUEL RODRIGUEZ

CEO AND CHAIRPERSON, GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY
INTRODUCED BY THE HONORABLE BETTY MCCOLLUM

FRANK MARS

CHAIRMAN OF MARS, INCORPORATED
INTRODUCED BY THE HONORABLE SHELDON WHITEHOUSE

PROGRAM BREAK

PRESENTATION OF CONSERVATION LEADERSHIP AWARD

HIS EXCELLENCY JOÃO MANUEL GONÇALVES LOURENÇO
PRESIDENT, REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA
PRESENTED BY THE HONORABLE JEFF FORTENBERRY

PRESENTATION OF ICCF TEDDY ROOSEVELT® INTERNATIONAL CONSERVATION AWARD

HIS EXCELLENCY IVÁN DUQUE MÁRQUEZ
PRESIDENT, REPUBLIC OF COLOMBIA
PRESENTED BY THE HONORABLE CHRIS COONS

PETE SELIGMANN

CHAIRMAN AND FOUNDER
CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL

SENATOR ROB PORTMAN

INTRODUCED BY ICCF FOUNDER DAVID H. BARRON

PRESENTATION OF LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

ROB & MELANI WALTON
PRESENTED BY THE HONORABLE ROB PORTMAN

CLOSING REMARKS

JOHN B. GANTT, PRESIDENT, ICCF



INTERNATIONAL CONSERVATION CAUCUS

THE U.S. CONGRESSIONAL INTERNATIONAL CONSERVATION CAUCUS, THE OLDEST AND MOST DEVELOPED CONSERVATION CAUCUS IN THE WORLD, IS INSPIRED BY THE BELIEF THAT THE U.S. HAS THE OPPORTUNITY, THE OBLIGATION, AND THE INTERESTS TO ADVANCE THE CONSERVATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES FOR THIS AND FUTURE GENERATIONS.

The International Conservation Caucus Foundation (ICCF) acts as an informal secretariat to the leadership of the U.S. Congressional International Conservation Caucus, directly supporting caucus members with nonpartisan, well researched, and timely educational resources from an unmatched network of business and nonprofit leaders. Since 2006, ICCF has helped grow the bipartisan U.S. Congressional International Conservation Caucus to include one-third of the U.S. Congress.

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THE BIPARTISAN U.S. CONGRESSIONAL OCEANS CAUCUS WAS ESTABLISHED TO INCREASE AWARENESS, PROMOTE DIALOGUE, AND FIND COMMON GROUND IN RESPONDING TO ISSUES FACING THE OCEANS AND COASTS.

The Oceans Caucus Foundation (OCF) is an independent program within ICCF U.S. that advances U.S. leadership in international ocean conservation by providing a platform to bring marine issues to the attention of government leaders and working with partners to provide educational programming. OCF supports the leadership of the U.S. Congressional Oceans Caucus, educating members about the importance of oceans issues and solutions that protect oceans resources and the livelihoods that depend upon them.

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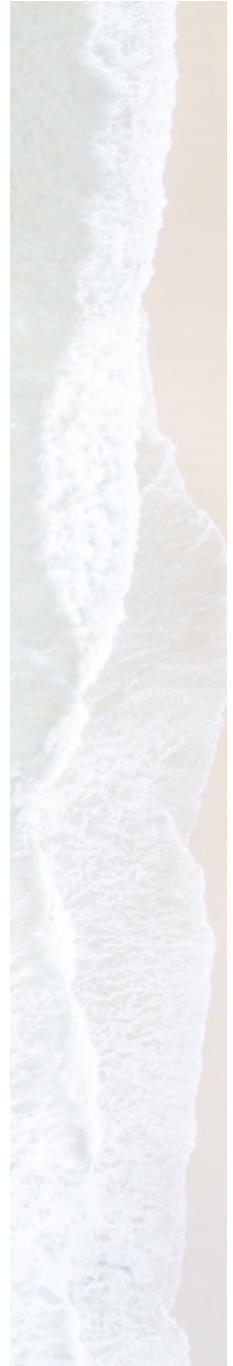
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YEAR ANNIVERSARY

TWO DECADES AGO,

Congressmen Ed Royce, Clay Shaw, John Tanner, and Tom Udall launched the historic Congo Basin Forest Partnership. This remarkable effort resulted in the protection of more than 10,000 square miles of land in Gabon and brings together some 85 partners, including African countries, donor agencies and governments, international organizations, NGOs, scientific institutions, and the private sector, working to coordinate efforts to sustain forest resources in the Congo Basin.

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONSERVATION CAUCUS

Inspired by the success of the Congo Basin Forest Partnership, these Members of Congress proposed the establishment of an International Conservation Caucus in the U.S. House of Representatives, and in 2001 the caucus was born. The success of this caucus later inspired the launch of a companion caucus in the U.S. Senate and the creation of the International Conservation Caucus Foundation (ICCF) to support the leadership of these caucuses.

Over the past 20 years, with ICCF support, members of the U.S. Congressional International Conservation Caucus have spearheaded a number of legislative achievements, including:

TROPICAL FOREST AND CORAL REEF CONSERVATION REAUTHORIZATION ACT
DEFENDING ECONOMIC LIVELIHOODS AND THREATENED ANIMALS (DELTA) ACT
CONGO BASIN FOREST PARTNERSHIP ACT
MULTINATIONAL SPECIES CONSERVATION FUNDS SEMIPOSTAL STAMP ACT
Lacey Act Amendments to ban illegal timber imports
Eliminate, Neutralize, and Disrupt (END) Wildlife Trafficking Act

In addition, over many years the leaders of the caucus have brought about **a dramatic increase in overall U.S. funding for international conservation.**

THE INTERNATIONAL CONSERVATION CAUCUS FOUNDATION



ICCF was founded in 2006 to support the leadership of the bipartisan U.S. Congressional International Conservation Caucus (ICC). ICCF brings together major conservation NGOs and corporate partners to support educational programs for the ICC. This partnership has grown to include more than 50 corporations and NGOs.

ICCF's founders recognized governance as the missing piece in modern conservation efforts. The ICCF Group was founded to fill this gap in countries around the world. People care deeply about our planet but often need guidance and support to improve laws and policies, strengthen enforcement, and find the right technologies to address specific issues. The ICCF Group provides this support and brings together a wide network of partners to find innovative solutions to complex conservation challenges.

THE ICCF GROUP:

- INSPIRES AND EMPOWERS POLICYMAKERS TO DEVELOP GOOD POLICIES AND LEGISLATION;
- STRENGTHENS JUDICIAL CAPACITY TO ENFORCE LAWS;
- SHOWCASES SUCCESSFUL CONSERVATION MODELS;
- FACILITATES EFFECTIVE PARTNERSHIPS BETWEEN THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS;
- PROVIDES ON-THE-GROUND CONSERVATION EXPERTISE.





OUR WORK ON THE GROUND, AROUND THE WORLD

The ICCF Group's International Conservation Corps is made up of experienced veterans from U.S. and Canadian land management agencies (such as the U.S. National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Bureau of Land Management, and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, among others) who travel to partner nations around the world to provide high-level, low-cost expertise.

International Conservation Corps projects complement the ICCF Group's work with policymakers and the work of our partners around the globe on a range of conservation issues such as forestry, wildlife, national parks & protected areas, oceans & rivers, and fisheries.



AWARDEES

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

THE ICCF LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD RECOGNIZES INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE DEMONSTRATED A LIFE-LONG COMMITMENT TO ENVIRONMENTAL PRESERVATION AND RESTORATION.

SAMUEL ROB & MELANI WALTON

Rob Walton served as Walmart's Chairman of the Board of Directors from 1992 to 2015, having joined the company in 1969. He is active in many nonprofit and educational organizations, including the Rob and Melani Walton Foundation (RMWF), which seeks "to elevate people, planet, and purpose by changing what people feel is possible and know is doable." He serves on the Board of Directors of the Walton Family Foundation, the Executive Council of the Center for Environmental Leadership in Business, and the Conservation International Board of Directors, where he was Chairman of the Executive Committee. He also serves as Co-Chair of the Board of Trustees at the Arizona State University Global Institute of Sustainability, is an Advisor for EFW Partners, and was a founding supporter of African Parks. Rob earned a Doctor of Jurisprudence degree from Columbia University and a Bachelor's degree from the University of Arkansas.

As co-founder of the Rob and Melani Walton Foundation, Melani Walton is committed to supporting philanthropic impact on a local, national, and global scale. She is passionate about supporting research and innovation in education, arts and humanities, brain health and consciousness studies, human performance and well-being, and conservation and sustainability. Her commitment to these

causes is reflected in her board and committee service with a number of organizations including the Arizona Science Center, the Rob and Melani Walton Sustainability Solutions Service at Arizona State University (ASU), Conservation International, The Nature Conservancy, Dickinson



State University, National Park Foundation, Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library Foundation, and many others. Melani graduated from Dickinson State University with a Bachelor of Science degree, double majoring in K-12 Education and Art History. She was a three-time Academic and Athletic All-American in basketball and track & field.

Rob and Melani have traveled around the globe supporting efforts such as whale and dolphin protection; development of gorilla, crocodile, and hippo habitats; underwater investigations of fishing bans; and discovery of new species. Through the Rob & Melani Walton Foundation, they work with grantees all over the planet to collaborate on strategies and implement on-the-ground work. They have supported development of the Rob and Melani Walton Urban Farm at St. Vincent de Paul, the Rob and Melani Walton Campus of Liberty Wildlife, and the Rob and Melani Walton Sustainability Solutions Service at ASU. In partnership with Conservation International, the Rob & Melani Walton Foundation is engaged in projects focused on achieving harmony between people and planet. The Foundation has also provided African Parks with critical startup funding for Akagera National Park in Rwanda and other work across Africa. In honor of the couple's efforts in conservation, The Nature Conservancy has dedicated the Rob and Melani Walton Nature Preserve in Northwest Arkansas.



TEDDY ROOSEVELT® INTERNATIONAL CONSERVATION AWARD

THE ICCF TEDDY ROOSEVELT® INTERNATIONAL CONSERVATION AWARD
RECOGNIZES OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP IN CONSERVATION POLICY.

HIS EXCELLENCY IVÁN DUQUE MÁRQUEZ PRESIDENT, REPUBLIC OF COLOMBIA

H.E. Iván Duque Márquez is the President of Colombia, having been elected in 2018. From 2014-18, he served as a senator in the Colombian Congress; prior to that, he worked at the Inter-American Development Bank in Washington, D.C. for more than a decade. He has worked as a columnist and professor and has published several books. He earned a law degree from the Universidad Sergio Arboleda, a Master's Degree in Public Policy and Public Management from Georgetown University, and a Master's Degree in International Economic Law from the American University.

As President of Colombia, he has demonstrated an outstanding commitment to reducing deforestation, having pledged to plant 180 million trees, of which 60 million have already been planted. In addition, he is committed to reducing carbon emissions through nature-based climate solutions by 51 percent by 2030. He has pledged to create new protected areas as a strategy for biodiversity conservation and restoration and is a strong supporter of the 30 by 30 goals on protected areas.

President Duque's conservation approach is a key part of Colombia's development plan, with a focus on producing by conserving and conserving by producing. His strategy highlights the benefits of a circular economy, with emphasis on reforestation, carbon neutrality, bio-economy, and protection of the Amazon.

CONSERVATION LEADERSHIP AWARD

THIS AWARD RECOGNIZES OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP IN CONSERVATION POLICY BY A HEAD OF STATE.

**HIS EXCELLENCY
JOÃO MANUEL GONÇALVES LOURENÇO
PRESIDENT, REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA**



H.E. João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço has been the President of Angola since September 2017. Prior to becoming President, he served as Minister of Defence from 2014 to 2017 and as First Vice-President of the National Assembly from 2003 to 2014. In September 2018 he became the Chairman of the People's Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA), the ruling party. He was the party's Secretary-General from 1998 to 2003. He earned a Master's Degree in Historical Sciences from the Lenin Military-Political Academy and advanced to the rank of General in the Angolan military.

As President of Angola, His Excellency has demonstrated outstanding leadership in securing national parks and protected areas, in particular Iona National Park in the southwest of Angola. In December 2019, African Parks signed a long-term management agreement for the park with the then-Ministry of Environment (MINAMB) and the National Institute for Biodiversity and Protected Areas (INBAC), with an official hand-over ceremony taking place on January 31st, 2020.

Congratulations to the ICCF Group

on advancing U.S. leadership in conservation and for supporting conservation efforts across the globe, together with your partners.

McGuireWoods Consulting addresses our clients' business challenges and the needs of their communities.

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CHAPLAIN OF THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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U.S. SENATE INTERNATIONAL CONSERVATION CAUCUS CO-CHAIRS

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A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE MANY INTERNATIONAL DELEGATES FROM THE FOLLOWING
COUNTRIES WHO TRAVELED TO WASHINGTON FOR THIS SPECIAL EVENT:

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THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS DINNER SPONSORS: MCGUIREWOODS CONSULTING; CORI MODISETT, BOARD MEMBER, THE CAILLOUX FOUNDATION; RE:WILD; RONALD ULRICH; AND JORIE BUTLER KENT AND REUTE BUTLER (FRIENDS OF CONSERVATION).

WE ALSO WISH TO EXTEND OUR APPRECIATION TO THE AFRICAN WILDLIFE FOUNDATION, THE NATURE CONSERVANCY, WILDLIFE CONSERVATION SOCIETY, AND WORLD WILDLIFE FUND FOR MAKING A CONTRIBUTION TO HELP US HOST OUR INTERNATIONAL DELEGATIONS IN WASHINGTON D.C. FOR THE DINNER.

GREG CARR
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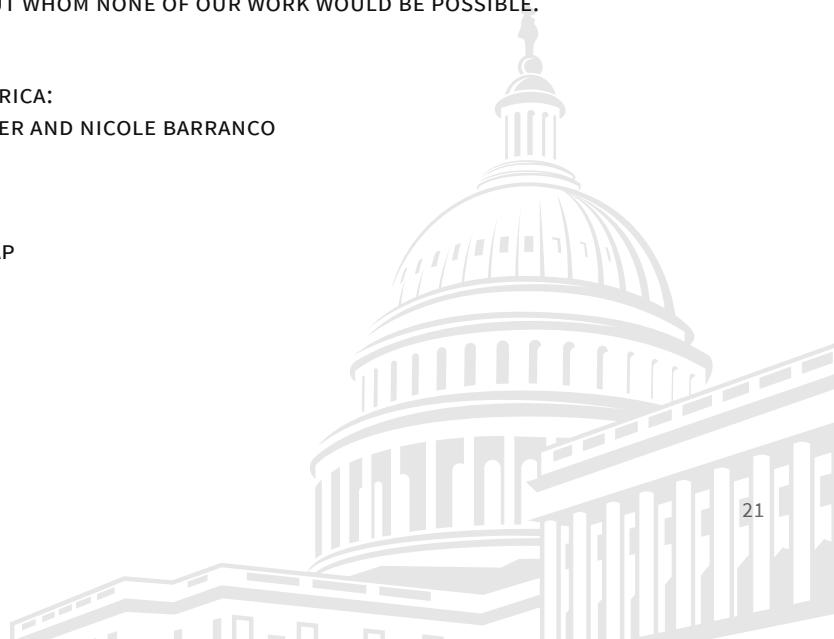
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OUR MANY PARTNERS, WITHOUT WHOM NONE OF OUR WORK WOULD BE POSSIBLE.

TEAM AT VOLKSWAGEN OF AMERICA:
SCOTT KEOGH, ANNA SCHNEIDER AND NICOLE BARRANCO

TEAM AT EXXON:
MATT GOBUSH AND JIM DUNLAP

OUR DEDICATED STAFF



CONSERVATION OF OUR NATURAL RESOURCES HAS BEEN TRANSFORMED BY THE GENEROSITY AND LEADERSHIP OF ROB AND MELANI WALTON

YOU HAVE INSPIRED COUNTLESS OTHER LEADERS IN THE U.S. AND AROUND THE WORLD TO PRIORITIZE AND INVEST IN CONSERVATION THROUGH YOUR EXAMPLE. WE JOIN ICCF TODAY IN CELEBRATING YOUR LIFETIME CONSERVATION ACHIEVEMENT AWARD AND THANKING YOU FOR YOUR ONGOING SUPPORT. OUR WORLD – OUR HOME – IS MORE SUSTAINABLE THROUGH YOUR COMMITMENT TO CONSERVATION.

“ As founding funders of African Parks, we thank you for your transformational commitment to conservation and communities, which is paving the way for the enduring protection of some of the most biodiverse yet threatened landscapes on the planet. ”

-- AFRICAN PARKS



“ Thank you for your leadership in advancing innovative solutions to climate and conservation challenges for lasting community-driven change. ”

-- AFRICAN WILDLIFE FOUNDATION



“ Your unparalleled conservation leadership has enabled incredible progress on the ground around the world, showing how nature is the main solution to the interconnected climate, biodiversity, and human health crises. ”

-- RE:WILD



“ Your visionary action to protect nature, address climate change and improve lives is inspiring! Thank you on behalf of TNC. ”

-- THE NATURE CONSERVANCY



“ Thank you for your unswaying commitment to protect nature across the globe for the benefit of wildlife, wild places, and the people who depend on them for their health and wellbeing. ”

-- WILDLIFE CONSERVATION SOCIETY



“ WWF applauds your enduring commitment to healing humanity’s relationship with nature and securing a brighter future for people and the planet. ”

-- WORLD WILDLIFE FUND





JORIE BUTLER KENT AND REUTE BUTLER

**EXTEND THEIR
CONGRATULATIONS
AND APPRECIATION
TO ROB AND MELANI
WALTON FOR THEIR
EXTRAORDINARY
CONTRIBUTION TO
CONSERVATION. YOUR
IMPACT IN AFRICA HAS
BEEN INVALUABLE.**



