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MISSION
TO ADVANCE CONSERVATION GOVERNANCE BY BUILDING POLITICAL WILL, PROVIDING ON-THE-GROUND SOLUTIONS

VISION
A WORLD WHERE PEOPLE AND NATURE SUSTAIN AND NURTURE ONE ANOTHER

THE MOST ADVANCED SOLUTION IN CONSERVATION GOVERNANCE

1. WE BUILD POLITICAL WILL
The ICCF Group advances leadership in conservation by building political will among parliamentary and congressional leaders, and by supporting ministries in the management of protected areas.

2. CATALYZING CHANGE WITH KNOWLEDGE & EXPERTISE
We support political will to conserve natural resources by catalyzing strategic partnerships and knowledge sharing between policymakers and our extensive network.

3. TO PRESERVE THE WORLD’S MOST CRITICAL LANDSCAPES
Legislative outcomes, public-private partnerships, & land management demonstrate our model is a cost-effective, sustainable solution to conservation governance challenges.
THE ICCF CONSERVATION COUNCIL

Our council members offer unique perspectives and share a common desire to implement conservation projects safeguarding wildlife and biodiversity, protecting and restoring habitats, and generating economic opportunities and social benefits for surrounding communities who are necessarily the long-term stewards of local natural resources.

"IT’S THE EXPERIENCE THAT COMES FROM THOSE NGOS AND VOLUNTEERS THAT ARE ASSISTING IN THIS WIDER EFFORT TO COME UP WITH LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS THAT WILL PROTECT SPECIES FAR INTO THE FUTURE."

-- CHAIRMAN ED ROYCE
INTERNATIONAL CONSERVATION CAUCUS FOUNDING CO-CHAIR
As an emerging organization on the global political stage, the ICCF Group is breaking ground, empowering hundreds of parliamentarians to reach across the aisle and sponsor legislation that, while covering a wide range of issues, shares a common purpose: To strengthen a country’s legislative framework in a manner that isn’t exclusively good for the planet, but for economies and local communities as well.

Our work to share globally a legislative model with proven results in the United States has led parliamentarians abroad to embrace a new approach to governance, one characterized by nonpartisanship and a focus on topics on which political parties can find common ground.

RIGHT: Senator General Surasak Karnjanarat, Senate Conservation Caucus Launch in Thailand

THE ICCF GROUP AND LEGISLATURES

HOW THE U.S. CAUCUS MODEL IS TRANSFORMING CONSERVATION GOVERNANCE AROUND THE WORLD

REACHING ACROSS THE AISLE

OUR PURPOSE IS TO SERVE

PRIORITIES ARE IDENTIFIED AND AGREED UPON BY THE PARLIAMENTARIANS. THE ICCF GROUP PROVIDES SUPPORT, GROWING THE CAUCUS WITHIN THE LEGISLATURE AND CATALYZING STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS AND KNOWLEDGE SHARING BETWEEN ITS POLICYMAKERS AND OUR EXTENSIVE NETWORK.
WHERE WE WORK

Each affiliate of the ICCF Group is established as a separate legal entity and registered in the host country. With its own Board of Directors, each entity has charitable status in its respective country. All entities are bound by a collaboration agreement that ensures a common purpose for all.

PARLIAMENTARY CONSERVATION CAUCUSES WE SUPPORT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Established/In Progress</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Angola</td>
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ICCF IN THE UNITED STATES
"THE MOST POPULAR CAUCUS ON CAPITOL HILL"

IN WASHINGTON, D.C., ICCF ADVANCES U.S. LEADERSHIP IN INTERNATIONAL CONSERVATION THROUGH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS AND DEVELOPING THE NEXT GENERATION OF CONSERVATION LEADERS IN THE U.S. CONGRESS.

BUILDING POLITICAL WILL
We bring together leaders at the highest levels of government, business, and the NGO community, setting the conservation and environmental agenda by coordinating people with scientific expertise, organizations that support and manage programs on the ground, and policymakers who shape legislation.

CHAMPIONING PUBLIC-PRIVATE COLLABORATION
Through ICCF, public- and private-sector organizations collaborate and seek consensus on conservation issues and share their expertise with policymakers, providing sound, market-oriented conservation solutions with the highest standards in accountability, effectiveness, and transparency.

LEFT: U.S. Senator Chris Coons, Co-Chair, International Conservation Caucus

INFORMING POLICY
ICCF educates and acts as secretariat to the leadership of the bipartisan U.S. Congressional International Conservation Caucus, made up of more than 1/3 of the U.S. Congress.
U.S. President Donald Trump signs the “Save Our Seas Act of 2018” in the Oval Office at the White House in Washington, U.S., October 11, 2018. REUTERS/Kevin Lamarque
BIRTH OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONSERVATION CAUCUS AND ICCF

In 2000, National Geographic Explorer and Wildlife Conservation Society Field Scientist Dr. Mike Fay completed a Mega Transect across more than 2,000 miles of Africa’s Congo Basin. He gathered pledges of support from several major conservation organizations for the establishment of protected areas and national parks in the Congo Basin, conditional upon matching support from U.S. Government grants. Dr. Fay sought the help of his long-time friend David Barron, who had been working in Africa for many years on issues of development and democracy, to find this matching support. David pulled together a number of the most important Democratic and Republican Members of the U.S. Congress to meet over dinner with Dr. Fay and several U.S. agency leaders to discuss what would become the historic Congo Basin Forest Partnership (CBFP). With the support of the President of Gabon and with a $53 million pledge from Secretary of State Colin Powell and other members of the Bush Administration, 13 new national parks were formed in the Congo Basin, resulting in tens of millions of acres dedicated to national parks and protected areas. This project was such a great success that many of the same key Members of Congress came back together in September 2001 and decided to launch an International Conservation Caucus (ICC) in the U.S. House of Representatives and later in the U.S. Senate to work in a bipartisan fashion on other international conservation challenges and opportunities. David was to build a foundation to support the leadership of the caucus with educational programs--that foundation became the ICCF.

ABOVE: ICCF Founder David H. Barron
The International Conservation Caucus was founded in September 2001 with a commitment to helping the United States lead public and private international partnerships that provide stewardship of natural resources for habitat and biodiversity protection, poverty reduction, economic development, and regional security.

The Caucus is one of the largest bipartisan groups in the U.S. Congress, comprised of nearly one-third of both the House and Senate.
The U.S. Congressional Oceans Caucus was established in 2011. The leadership of this caucus has been instrumental in the achievement of several legislative successes such as the Save Our Seas Act and ratification of four multinational oceans treaties.

CO-CHAIRS RECENTLY SPONSORED THE SAVE OUR SEAS ACT 2.0, TO IMPROVE MARINE DEBRIS RESEARCH AND WASTE MANAGEMENT RECYCLING TO IMPROVE NOAA’S CAPACITY TO ADDRESS MARINE DEBRIS CLEANUP.
LEGISLATIVE ACHIEVEMENTS

SPONSORED BY ICC CO-CHAIRS AND MEMBERS

DEFENDING ECONOMIC LIVELIHOODS AND THREATENED ANIMALS (DELTA) ACT

Promotes sustainable economic growth through trans-boundary conservation programs in the Okavango River Basin, home to Africa’s largest remaining elephant population.

TROPICAL FOREST CONSERVATION ACT REAUTHORIZATION

Implements “debt-for-nature” swaps, whereby countries are able to redirect debt repayments to instead support the conservation of tropical forests.

THE ELIMINATE, NEUTRALIZE, AND DISRUPT (END) WILDLIFE TRAFFICKING ACT

Creates a coordinated U.S. Government response to combat poaching and the illegal trade in wildlife.

MULTINATIONAL SPECIES CONSERVATION FUNDS SEMIPOSTAL STAMP ACT

Releases a special stamp, the proceeds from which are transferred to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to support species conservation programs.

LACEY ACT AMENDMENTS TO BAN ILLEGAL TIMBER IMPORTS

Amends the Lacey Act as part of the 2008 Farm Bill to combat trafficking in wildlife, fish, and plants, by expanding its protections to include a greater number of plants and plant products, specifically including products made from illegally logged wood.

CONGO BASIN FOREST PARTNERSHIP ACT [FOUNDATIONAL]

Led to $53 million pledged, 13 new national parks formed, and tens of millions of acres dedicated to protected areas in the Congo Basin.

RIGHT: Senator Sheldon Whitehouse, Chairman Ed Royce, and Representative Betty McCollum, co-chairs of the International Conservation Caucus, question witnesses during a Caucus hearing.
Improves international collaboration on marine debris research and alternative materials, and invests in the U.S. waste management recycling infrastructure; creates a foundation and trust fund to provide additional capacity for NOAA’s marine debris program.

MARITIME SAFE ACT NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT (NDAA) FY 2020
Addresses the threat to national security from illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing and associated illegal activity through a whole-of-government approach.

BLUE GLOBE ACT - INTRODUCED IN 2019
Advances data collection of the Great Lakes, oceans, bays, estuaries, and coasts to accelerate technology innovation, grow the marine workforce, and develop a better understanding of the blue economy.

SAVE OUR SEAS ACT 2018
Reauthorizes the NOAA Marine Debris Program through 2022, which works to address marine debris through research, prevention, and reduction.

ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED, & UNREGULATED FISHING ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2015
Implements the Agreement on Port State Measures by advancing U.S. efforts to prevent illegally harvested fish from entering U.S. ports and markets and addresses key priorities in the previous Administration’s action plan for combating illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing and seafood fraud.

RATIFICATION OF 4 MULTINATIONAL OCEANS TREATIES 2014
Protects American fishermen from being disadvantaged by illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing.

LEFT: U.S. Senator Sheldon Whitehouse, Co-Chair, Oceans Caucus/International Conservation Caucus
THE ICCF U.S. CONGRESSIONAL INTERNATIONAL CONSERVATION GALA

THE MOST IMPORTANT AND EXCLUSIVE GATHERING OF CONSERVATIONISTS FROM THE CORPORATE, NGO, AND GOVERNMENT COMMUNITIES TO PROMOTE U.S. LEADERSHIP IN THE SOUND MANAGEMENT OF THE WORLD’S NATURAL RESOURCES

The 500+ guests at each year’s Gala include members of the U.S. Cabinet, 100+ Members of Congress, policymakers and opinion leaders from around the globe, world business leaders, celebrities, and leaders from the international NGO community. This powerful cross-sectoral audience offers an unparalleled opportunity for guests to engage with the most important bipartisan caucus on Capitol Hill, high-level foreign delegations, and influential business and conservation leaders about the need for U.S. and international conservation leadership, cooperation, and action.

RIGHT: ICCF Founder David Barron and Former Secretary of State John Kerry at the ICCF Gala
PAST Awardees

ICCF’s Teddy Roosevelt Award recognizes public leadership for extraordinary efforts in furtherance of international conservation.

HRH The Prince of Wales
HSH The Prince of Monaco
He Felipe Calderon, President of Mexico
The Rt. Hon. Tony Blair, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom
The Hon. Rob Portman (R-OH), U.S. Senate
The Hon. Ed Royce (D-CA), U.S. House of Representatives

Gala Chairs
HMQ Queen Noor of Jordan
Hon. William J. Clinton, U.S. President
Hon. George H.W. Bush, U.S. President
Hank Paulson, U.S. Secretary of Treasury

Learn More:
InternationalConservation.org/Multimedia/Gala

Left: H.R.H. The Prince of Wales at the 2015 ICCF U.S. Congressional International Conservation Gala
SINCE 2019

ICCF-UK serves as the headquarters and founding organisation of the ICCF Group in Europe. By equipping lawmakers with objective information and bringing together the experience of the private, philanthropy, and non-profit sectors, the ICCF-UK educates legislators to make informed decisions and lead the way in forming sound, nonpartisan, conservation policies to the benefit of global conservation. Since its establishment, ICCF-UK has built political will on international conservation issues in Africa, Asia and Latin America through a series of international and national initiatives.

LEFT: Barry Gardiner MP, Co-Chair
The United Kingdom has designated conservation as a key domestic and foreign policy priority, becoming the first of the G7 nations to commit to net zero and citing nature-based solutions as a key priority for success at the Glasgow Climate Summit. It has allocated billions of pounds towards conservation and developed a suite of policies from forest protection measures to the creation and promotion of marine protected areas as a means to protect global biodiversity.

As an advanced economy with a first-rank diplomatic service, The United Kingdom has used its considerable international economic, political, scientific and cultural influence to increase protection for landscapes and biodiversity around the world, and through its position as a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council, membership of organisations including the World Trade Organization, the World Bank, NATO, Commonwealth, Five Eyes intelligence alliance, G7 and G20, it has ensured the environment remains at the top table of issues being discussed.

ICCF-UK serves as the secretariat of the APPG on International Conservation in the Parliament of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Launched in June 2019, the APPG provides a forum to address wildlife conservation and biodiversity issues affecting our planet, including but not limited to ecosystem collapse, species extinction, land degradation, invasive species, illegal fishing, and other threats to international conservation.

ICCF-UK supports the membership of the APPG by working as an extension of their office; it provides bespoke research and knowledge for Members of the APPG through a series of workshops, seminars, fact finding missions and inter-caucus collaboration. Through the International Conservation APPG, parliamentarians have engaged with their counterparts all over the world to protect natural resources and biodiversity.

RIGHT: Theo Clarke MP, Co-Chair
Alumni of the APPG that have gone on to hold Ministerial positions include The Rt Hon Lord Goldsmith of Richmond Park (co-founder of the APPG and Minister for Pacific and the Environment at the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) and the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra)) - and Alex Chalk (former co-chair and Parliamentary Under Secretary of State in the Ministry of Justice).
TRANSATLANTIC CONSERVATION CAUCUS

The United States and United Kingdom are ranked as the 1st and 3rd largest overseas development aid donors in the world, which have for decades championed the protection of nature. The Transatlantic Conservation Caucus leverages this strong commitment and the desire for collaboration between the UK APPG International Conservation and the long-established U.S. Congressional International Conservation Caucus. The ICCF Group functions as the secretariat to this group, which is co-chaired by a UK and U.S. representative.

Formed in 2020, this new caucus shines a light on areas of conservation most in need of international support. By bringing together UK and U.S. legislators, it provides an opportunity to reform international environmental laws and regulations, such as the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), and the development of innovative conservation financing mechanisms. Noting that governments alone cannot achieve sustainable development, the caucus brings together corporations, philanthropists, and conservation leaders to apply their unique skills and resources to achieve rapid transformation.
THE ICCF GROUP IN LATIN AMERICA

SOLUTIONS IN CONGRESS AND IN THE FIELD

The ICCF Group is working in governments and on the ground in Latin America and the Caribbean to advance leadership and build capacity to manage natural resources, including in parks and protected areas.

CONSERVATION CAUCUSES ACROSS LATIN AMERICA

The ICCF Group has facilitated the establishment of congressional conservation caucuses in Colombia, Peru, and Mexico and is working with partners in the parliaments of Antigua & Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, and Saint Lucia to support the launch of conservation caucuses in these parliaments, collaborating with each of these coalitions of policymakers to provide them with comprehensive information and innovative solutions on issues of natural resource management. Equipped with objective information, these Members of Congress can make informed decisions and lead the way in forming sound, nonpartisan conservation policies that benefit their respective nations.

ABOVE: HR. German Blanco, Co-Chair Colombia Conservation and Oceans Caucus, and House Speaker 2020 - 2021
ON THE GROUND,
EXPERTS FROM THE ICCF
GROUP’S INTERNATIONAL
CONSERVATION CORPS
WORK HAND IN HAND WITH
GOVERNMENTAL AND NON-
GOVERNMENTAL PARTNERS
IN DEVELOPING NATIONS
TO ACHIEVE CONSERVATION
PRIORITIES AND DEVELOP
INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY TO
EFFECTIVELY MANAGE PARKS
AND PROTECTED AREAS.

COLOMBIA
The International Conservation Corps team members are working with the National Natural Parks of Colombia (PNN) to strengthen its management capacity, especially improving the ability to sustainably support increased tourism to bring much-needed jobs to rural communities; developing a new institutional planning system; incorporating interpretation services at heavily visited parks; strengthening commercial services management; and developing a strategy for a new national training program.

PERU
Having demonstrated successful work with PNN, the ICCF Group has signed a memorandum of understanding to work with SERNANP - the National Parks Service in Peru - and identified key areas for collaboration in which the ICCF program can support Peru through expert technical assistance.

EASTERN CARIBBEAN
In the Eastern Caribbean, the International Conservation Corps is working with relevant Ministries in target countries to enhance capacity for protected area management in Antigua & Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, and Saint Lucia. This includes ongoing work to update the management plan and draft an associated implementation plan for Codrington Lagoon National Park in Antigua & Barbuda, a business plan for Dominica’s Cabrits National Park, a co-management agreement between the Fisheries Division and a third-party coalition of stakeholders in Grenada’s Grand Anse Marine Protected Area (MPA), and supporting the Ministry of Sustainable Development in Saint Lucia to promote Voluntary Protection Agreements with private landowners through a management plan for a private estate.

LEFT: Russel G. Moore, Land architect, Cons-Corp member drawing a sketch for technical assistance to Colombia National Parks
CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF COLOMBIA

COLOMBIAN CONSERVATION CAUCUS


CO-CHAIRS

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SEN. Daira de Jesús Galvis Méndez (PCR)
SEN. MAURICIO GÓMEX (PL)
SEN. Santiago Valencia (PCD)
SEN. EFRAIN CEPEDA SABARIA (PC)
SEN. MARITZA MARTINEZ ARISTIZABAL (PU)
REP. CARLOS ALBERTO CUENCA CHAUX (PCR)
REP. GERMAN BLANCO (PC)
REP. ASTRID SÁNCHEZ MONTES DE OCA (PU)
REP. ARMANDO ZABAÍN (PC)
REP. EDWARD RODRIGUEZ (PCD)
REP. ELOY QUIRTERO (PCR)
REP. EDWIN BALLESTEROS (PCD)
REP. JUAN DAVID VELEZ (PCD)

ABOUT

ESTABLISHED IN 2012 AS THE FOUNDING ORGANIZATION OF THE ICCF GROUP IN LATIN AMERICA, ICCF COLOMBIA HAS, DOMESTICALLY AND REGIONALLY, ADDRESSED ILLEGAL MINING, OCEANS, AND OTHER ISSUES WHILE WORKING TO STRENGTHEN THE MANAGEMENT CAPACITY OF ITS NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM.
COLOMBIAN CAUCUS PRIORITIES

FOREST ISSUES
According to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the U.N. (FAO), 54.5% or about 60,499,000 ha of Colombia is forested. Of this, 14.1% (8,543,000 ha) is classified as primary forest, the most biodiverse and carbon-dense form of forest. Colombia also has 405,000 ha of managed, planted forests. Deforestation remains a serious problem in the Andes and the Amazon basin. ICCF activities in support of the Caucus have stressed forest issues, including a binational legislative forestry summit with Mexican congressmen and expert presentations about forest management in the legislative training sessions held in 2020.

NATIONAL PARKS
Improving management of its National Parks is a priority for Colombia. The Colombian Conservation Caucus is working to assess and address the challenges facing the national parks system in order to promote ecotourism activities in important areas around the country. Part of this effort includes securing sustainable financing for Colombia’s National Parks.

WATER
Recognizing water as an axis of sustainable development, the Conservation Caucus is looking at water-related topics like water quality, groundwater management, sustainable use, access to potable water, sanitation, wastewater pollution, and drought.

WASTE MANAGEMENT
Colombia has advanced in the implementation of the National Strategy of the Circular Economy that promotes productive transformation to maximize the added value of production and consumption systems in economic, environmental, and social terms, based on the more efficient use of resources, value, and closing cycles. Among the challenges faced under this strategy is the management of containers and packaging. Colombia has gained experience in the collection of these materials, and it is worth noting the important contributions of the Colombian Conservation Caucus, which has introduced and promoted the law banning plastic bags in Isle of San Andres and bills to support the implementation of this strategy. However, it remains necessary to expand the installed capacity for recycling containers and packaging by at least four times in Colombia by 2030 in order to take advantage of the generated materials as well as create opportunities for jobs, businesses, and greater productivity, involving the accelerated implementation of this strategy.
ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

The National Government has among its goals the inclusion of environmental education both formally and informally as a contribution to sustainable development and the improvement of the quality of life of Colombians, conserving their natural wealth and recovering ecosystems for the sake of the next generations. Under this purpose, the Conservation Caucus, through multi-sectoral dialogues, is seeking initiatives that contribute to the implementation and strengthening of the strategies of the National Environmental Education Policy.

THUMBNAIL (RIGHT): Planning workshop 2015. Conscorp technical assistance to Colombia National Parks

ILLEGAL MINING

Conservation Caucus legislative initiatives have focused on the promotion of responsible mining practices, including formalization, fighting against illegal mining, and suppressing the use of mercury. Caucus leadership spearheaded efforts in Congress which led to Colombia’s formal accession to the Minamata Convention on Mercury.

BANNER (ABOVE): Oceans Roundtable, with Captain William Pedroza, Director of Maritime and River Interests of the National Navy, Caucus Member HR. Elizabeth Jay-pang Díaz, Captain Juan Camilo Forero Hauzeur, Executive Secretary of the Colombian Ocean Commission.
COLOMBIAN OCEANS CAUCUS


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SEN. EFRÁN CEPEDA SARABIA (PC)
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REP . GERMAN BLANCO (PC)
REP . ASTRID SANCHEZ MONTES DE OCA (PU)
REP . JUAN DAVID VELEZ (PCD)
REP . ELIZABETH JAY PANG (PL)

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Sen. Miriam Alicia Paredes (PC)
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Rep. Juan Carlos Rivero (PC)
Rep. Liliana Benavides (PC)
Rep. Adriana Magaly Matiz (PC)

RIGHT: IUU Fishing Roundtable (2018)
COLOMBIAN OCEANS CAUCUS PRIORITIES

FISHERIES MANAGEMENT

Colombia is the only country in South America with extensive marine-coastal territories in both the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. Fishing in these oceans is, for coastal communities, a primary income- and employment-generating activity. However, illegal fishing has become a challenge that affects the benefits generated by this activity. Illegal fishing also impacts national security with links to smuggling of fuel and illicit trafficking in gold. The Colombian Oceans Caucus is beginning discussion of this topic through a series of multisectoral dialogues that will be developed in the Congress of the Republic and through a field mission to the Utria National Park in the Pacific Region. Through these activities, caucus members hope to gain a comprehensive understanding of the challenges and opportunities that fisheries generate and to understand the role they can play as legislators to promote initiatives that will lead to effective solutions.

CORAL REEF RESTORATION

With the beginning of the UN Decade for Ecosystem Restoration (2021-2030) and Ocean Sciences for Sustainable Development (2021-2030), one of the key issues is the restoration of coral reefs as a strategy to improve their ecosystems services, such as food, coastal protection, tourism, and fishing, among others and also contribute to the reduction of the main threats that affect them with overfishing, pollution, deficient practices of coastal development, and climate change. Colombia is developing one of the largest initiatives in the region for the restoration of this ecosystem, especially in the Archipelago of San Andrés, also in response to the impact of Hurricanes Eta and Iota, which significantly destroyed the two smaller islands' infrastructure and coral reefs. Although the environmental authority is working diligently with NGOs and communities to restore it with Operation Black Crab, the effectiveness of its efforts is threatened if these are not increased and enhanced to meet the demand and the risks of climate change threats. This is an issue where the Oceans Caucus is involved actively in finding initiatives for its restoration, through national dialogue and field missions to foster these strategies as a key element for economic reactivation involving the local governments, communities, and international support.

ECOTOURISM

Colombia continues to be an important destination for international tourism. In 2016, the country received 5,092,052 international visitors, the highest figure in the country's tourism history, far surpassing country goals. Tourism is currently the second largest income generator in the country, reaching US $5.251 million in 2015, 7.45% higher than the previous year. With this growth in tourism, there are numerous opportunities to enhance tourism in Colombia’s national parks as a strategic economic sector of the country. Ecotourism can generate social, environmental, and economic benefits that will allow the country's protected areas to be developed in a sustainable manner. The Colombian Conservation Caucus and Oceans Caucus are endeavoring to assess these opportunities by carrying out field missions and seeing first-hand how legislators can play a role in promoting nature tourism once the COVID crisis is resolved.
ABOUT


CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF MEXICO

MEXICAN CONSERVATION PARLIAMENTARY GROUP

TERM: 2018-2022
ACRONYM: GPCM

CO-CHAIRS
SEN. JORGE CARLOS RAMÍREZ MARÍN (PRI)
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SEN. EMILIO ÁLVAREZ ICAZA LONGORIA (IND)
DIP. SILVIA GARZA GALVÁN (PAN)
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Dip. María Del Carmen Bautista Peláez (MORENA)

ED.2021-2022
THEICCFGROUP
THE ICC GROUP IN LATIN AMERICA
BIODIVERSITY

Although Mexico represents only 1% of the earth’s surface, it houses around 12% of the world’s biodiversity and a large number of endemic species. The Mexican Conservation Parliamentary Group works to promote the conservation and sustainable use of the country’s biodiversity, addressing issues such as the illegal trafficking of species, the conservation of habitats, the application of CITES, the role of communities in the conservation of biodiversity, and the strengthening of legislation and policies on the matter.

MEXICO CAUCUS PRIORITIES

SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY

Community forest management, including both the conservation and the sustainable use of forest ecosystems, is essential for the development of the nation, especially to improve the living conditions of the people who inhabit the forest communities. An important part of the work of the Mexican Conservation Parliamentary Group in this area has focused on the promotion of multisectoral dialogues to identify proposals for improvement of public policies and legislation to ensure the promotion of sustainable forest management, community rights, and compliance with the biodiversity and sustainable development goals that the country has acquired under various international and national frameworks.

PROTECTED AREA MANAGEMENT

Mexico has 182 federal natural protected areas that represent 90,839,521.55 hectares. These areas conserve the most representative ecosystems of the country and their biodiversity, protect the country’s main hydrological basins, provide raw materials, and harmoniously promote the integration of communities and nature to promote long-term sustainable development. Despite having a strong parks system, the country has recognized the need to improve its management and financing. The Mexican Conservation Parliamentary Group provides a forum for multi-sectoral dialogue to support the strengthening of national parks through public-private partnerships and to promote innovative schemes that integrate communities in conservation activities.
The ICCF Group is collaborating with Mexico’s National Forest Commission (CONAFOR) to promote sustainable development of Mexico’s forests and jungles, with a focus on community management. In 2018, the ICCF Group led a field mission to the state of Durango with key legislators to see firsthand the contributions of community forest companies toward biodiversity and sustainable development. Not long after, the Mexican House of Representatives approved amendments to the General Law of Sustainable Forestry Development, which include the creation of a Community Forestry Management Program. A number of Congressmen were involved in drafting and editing the bill including GPCM members, who advocated for community forest management on the Senate floor.

“THE MISSION ALLOWED ME TO EXPERIENCE THE WORK THAT FOREST COMMUNITIES IN MEXICO DO TO CONSERVE NATURAL RESOURCES AS VALUABLE AND AT THE SAME TIME GENERATING SOCIAL WELL-BEING. IT IS FUNDAMENTAL THAT WE CONTINUE STRENGTHENING THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK ON THE SUBJECT OF FORESTS AND LOOK FOR INCENTIVES FOR THESE COMMUNITIES’ WORK.” - DIP. EDNA GONZÁLEZ EVIA OF MEXICO
THE ICCF GROUP IN THE CARIBBEAN

SOLUTIONS IN PARLIAMENT AND IN THE FIELD

THE CARIBBEAN PROGRAM SUPPORTS THE FORMATION OF NATIONAL-LEVEL CONSERVATION CAUCUSES IN THE PARLIAMENTS OF ANTIGUA & BARBUDA, DOMINICA, GRENA, AND SAINT LUCIA, COLLABORATING WITH EACH OF THESE NONPARTISAN COALITIONS OF POLICYMAKERS TO SUPPORT THEIR AGENDAS REGARDING CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.

The program convenes stakeholders and creates a platform for dialogue on conservation issues, supporting Members of Parliament to make informed decisions and lead the way in forming sound, nonpartisan, sustainable development policies that benefit their respective nations, and the region as a whole.

In the field, the International Conservation Corps is working with relevant Ministries in Antigua & Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, Saint Lucia, the Bahamas, and St. Kitts and Nevis to enhance capacity for protected areas management. This includes ongoing work to update the management plan and draft an associated implementation plan for Codrington Lagoon National Park in Antigua & Barbuda, a business plan for Dominica’s Cabrits National Park, a co-management agreement between the Fisheries Division and a third-party coalition of stakeholders in Grenada’s Grand Anse Marine Protected Area (MPA), and supporting the Ministry of Sustainable Development in Saint Lucia to promote Voluntary Protection Agreements with private landowners through a management plan for a private estate.
MEXICO
GENERAL LAW OF SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY DEVELOPMENT OF 2018
Improves the forestry sector by mainstreaming biodiversity; adopts environmental and social safeguards system; improves mechanisms for civil participation in decision-making processes; and adopts measures to increase the sustainable production of the sector, among others.

PERU
BILL SIGNED INTO LAW TO REGULATE SINGLE-USE PLASTICS NATIONWIDE
Regulates the manufacturing, importing, distribution, and consumption of single-use plastics such as bags, straws, and polystyrene, among others, in order to protect both the environment and human health.

CLIMATE CHANGE LEGISLATION
Establishes the principles, approaches, and general provisions to coordinate, articulate, design, execute, report, monitor, evaluate, and disseminate public policies for the comprehensive, participatory, and transparent management of adaptation measures and mitigation to climate change. In order to reduce the country’s vulnerability, take advantage of the opportunities of low-carbon growth, and comply with international commitments.

RIGHT: HR. German Blanco

LEGISLATIVE ACHIEVEMENTS
LED BY CAUCUS CO-CHAIRS AND MEMBERS IN LATIN AMERICA

COLOMBIA
APPROVAL OF 2013 MINAMATA CONVENTION ON MERCURY
Led to Colombia’s formal accession to the Minamata Convention on Mercury.

LAW PASSED FOR THE PROTECTION OF ANDEAN HIGHLANDS (PÁRAMOS)
Regulates activities in and around the Andean highlands for the restoration and sustainable use of these integral ecosystems.

POLICE CODE TO FIGHT USE OF MERCURY IN ILLEGAL GOLD MINING
Prohibits the use of chemical substances in the irregular removal of minerals.

PLASTIC BAGS BAN, ISLE OF SAN ANDRES
Phases out single-use plastics in the Colombian archipelago by the year 2021.

KIGALI AMENDMENT TO THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL
Adds the 5th modification to the Montreal Protocol for ozone layer to regain 1980 level by 2050.

APPROVAL OF THE GLOBAL GREEN GROWTH INITIATIVE (GGGI) PROJECT
The Global Institute for Green Growth is established in Colombia as an international organization.

LED BY CAUCUS CO-CHAIRS AND MEMBERS IN LATIN AMERICA

MEXICO
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RIGHT: HR. German Blanco
THE ICCF GROUP IN AFRICA

EMPOWERING POLICYMAKERS AND THE JUDICIARY

THE ICCF GROUP IS WORKING IN EAST, SOUTHERN, AND CENTRAL AFRICA TO FOSTER POLITICAL WILL FOR CONSERVATION AND SUPPORT THE SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES.

CONSERVATION CAUCUSES ACROSS AFRICA

The ICCF Group has facilitated the establishment of parliamentary conservation caucuses in ten countries and is collaborating with each of these coalitions of policymakers to strengthen governance across several key natural resource sectors. The ICCF Group coordinates high-level political engagement with expertise on conservation strategies and solutions; facilitates interactions between U.S. and international policymakers, conservation organizations, and government agencies; and seeks to leverage and integrate resources in support of sustainable natural resource management policies.
FORUMS FOR EXPERTISE AND PARTNERSHIPS

ICCF-supported caucuses enable, inform, and strengthen policymakers in their commitment to conservation. They provide a forum for a broad range of stakeholders to share expertise with policymakers and develop public-private partnerships, to strengthen and harmonize laws and policies, and to work out solutions among competing interests. Conservation caucuses link the local, national, and international levels of governance to ensure the implementation of best practices in natural resource management.

CAPACITY BUILDING

The ICCF Group is also leveraging its relationships and the expertise of partners to strengthen the capacity of prosecution authorities and the judiciary across Sub-Saharan Africa to successfully handle wildlife crime cases. To this end, the ICCF Group has convened a series of workshops with judges, prosecutors, local magistrates, and customs and law enforcement agents to develop country-specific “road maps” for implementing operating procedures for criminal justice institutions with political buy-in and support.

RIGHT: Susan Lylis and Fiesta Warinwa share their experiences at a “Women in Conservation” panel at the National Public Radio headquarters in April 2019.
ABOUT
Since 2012, ensuring Kenya maintains a balance between economic development and conservation has remained a priority for the PCC-K. Leadership has prioritized the harmonization of wildlife, water management, forestry, and fisheries laws.

IN 2019, THE CAUCUS-BACKED AMENDMENTS TO THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT ACT, INCREASING PENALTIES FOR WILDLIFE CRIMES, WERE SIGNED INTO LAW

MEMBERS
Hon. Adan Keynan, MP (ODM - Eldas, Wajir)
Hon. Alexander Kang'ethe, MP (URP - Emgwen, Nandi)
Hon. Ali Wario Guyo, MP (WDM-K - Garsen, Tana River)
Hon. Amin Deddy, MP (JP - Laikipia East, Laikipia)
Hon. Beatrice Kones, MP (JP - Bomet East, Bomet)
Hon. Benjamin Tayari, MP (ODM - Kinango, Kwale)
Hon. Benjamin Washiali, MP (JP - Mumias East, Kakamega)
Hon. Catherine Waruguru, MP (JP - Laikipia)
Hon. Cecily Mbarire, MP (JP - Nominated)
Hon. Charles Njiru, MP (ODM - Kibra, Nairobi)
Hon. Charles Nyechama, MP (ODM - Nandi, Nakuru)
Hon. Chepkwony, MP (JP - Nominated)
Hon. Chepkwony, MP (JP - Nominated)
Hon. Charles Nyechama, MP (ODM - Kibra, Nairobi)
Hon. Chepkwony, MP (JP - Nominated)
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Hon. Chepkwony, MP (JP - Nominated)
Hon. Chepkwony, MP (JP - Nominated)
Hon. Chepkwony, MP (JP - Nominated)
Hon. Chepkwony, MP (JP - Nominated)
KENYA CAUCUS PRIORITIES

WILDLIFE TRAFFICKING

In 2013, members of the PCC-K led efforts to include stiff penalties for convicted poachers and traffickers in the National Wildlife Conservation and Management Act of 2013. Still, cases related to wildlife crimes continued to be characterized by judicial process delays and, if and when sentences were handed down, they were often contrary to the legislation. The PCC-K continued analyzing the challenges faced by the judiciary related to sentencing and brought to Parliament an Amendment Bill to the 2013 Act. In 2019, Parliament approved amendments to the National Wildlife Conservation and Management Act of 2013, and the President of Kenya signed them into law on January 4, 2019.

ILLEGAL LOGGING

In Kenya, illegal logging is widespread in the country, for both timber and charcoal production. The PCC-K is committed to increasing cooperation among government leaders in order to tackle the illegal trade in the region. Following the findings of a task force, which toured the country speaking with Kenyans about forest management and illegal logging, members of the PCC-K discussed the results of the investigative report. The PCC-K will continue to lead discussion as Parliament considers policy solutions to address this growing issue.

POLLUTION

Ensuring Kenya maintains a balance between economic development and conservation remains a priority for the PCC-K. Issues central to this discussion are air and water pollution, especially chemical runoff. The effects of industrial pollution are felt not only in the major cities, but also in urban and rural areas across the country. Caucus members are actively involved in identifying solutions to these environmental challenges, working to bring together government leaders and relevant stakeholders to discuss the pollution risks in communities and consider how environmental policies can be improved.
Established in 2017, the Gabon Parliamentary Conservation Caucus is committed to strengthening regional collaboration policies via the development of an action plan for Central African Regional Collaboration.

**THE CAUCUS MADE SEVERAL ADVANCES IN NATIONAL AND REGIONAL POLICY, INCLUDING A DRAFT AMENDMENT BILL TO THE PENAL CODE RELATING TO WILDLIFE OFFENSES, WHICH WAS SIGNED INTO LAW ON JULY 17, 2019.**

**SENATE AND NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**MEMBERS**

Hon. Jean Léonard Nguema Ondo
Hon. Alphonse Angara
Hon. Pauline Olive Nongou Moundounga ep Louembet
Hon. Béni Ona Ndong
Hon. Marie-Madeleine Nyngone Anda
Hon. Emmanouil Idrobo
Hos. Pascal Monga Azoza
Hos. Jadari Ngadjio Belo
Hos. Maxine Laurent Ngio Inondou
Hos. Germaine Etou Eto
Hos. Rodrigue Alouano Otohi
Hos. Pierre Philemon Alouendo
Hos. Sylvestre Henri Beugre
Hos. Vincent Ebele Ndong
Hos. Paul Ille Eyne
Hos. Paul Blaughe Mio
Hos. Fouadou Boudou
Hos. Alain Simplice Bougoum
Hos. Anastase Beaussova
Hos. Joseph-Max Beaussova
Hos. Angéline Ditekoko
Hos. Paul-Ève Dimme

Hos. Frédéric Martial Foudy
Hos. Florence Ghislaine Ayayè-Ej Ndong Odon
Hos. Jonathan Ipsavendi
Hos. Bertin Ndope-Mbong
Hos. Paulette Kahi
Hos. Abdalata Syrine Kouta ep Nound
Hos. Jean Baptiste Koungoye
Hos. Dina-Dione Nound
Hos. Mouhamed Cyrille Lounski
Hos. Martin Malaka
Hos. Franck Madume-Mb Louvendo
Hos. Gabriel Mbengue Musebi
Hos. Oumar Mamadou Bouemi
Hos. Yves Fernand Mafoode
Hos. Jean Modeste
Hos. Vincent Maurice Beouroy
Hos. Hugues Rémi Moyembi
Hos. Ferdinand Mbadinga Mamo
Hos. Robert Mba Mbaoundou
Hos. Philippe Ranou Mankala Semba
Hos. Gabriel Ayo Miko
Hos. Benjamin-Max Mikan
Hos. Simplice Mwango Bouroumè
Hos. Pocari Géorgin Mebalet Biabina
Hos. Abdoulrahmane Ahouré
Hos. Cyriaque Mounkoulou
Hos. Guy François Mounkoul Koumba

Hos. Paulette Moungui
Hos. Joseph Hc Mba
Hos. Patrick Nkoghe Shinga
Hos. Gervasine Ntshon Epi Ngatibale
Hos. Jean-Evans Njamba
Hos. Gcila Blaise Nkoghe-Bi
Hos. Landry Ndong Njama
Hos. Morice Flore Ndong Epi Dicks
Hos. Paulette Houdoep Otohi
Hos. Idriss Ngor
Hos. Raphael Ngouome
Hos. Angélique Ngoma
Hos. Charlotte Nkongo Mwounga Epi Essos Ndllib
Hos. Achille Ndong Epi Ebi
Hos. Lambert Ngakou Ebi
Hos. Jean Nana
Hos. Philippe Nsama Moumbié
Hos. Bernard Nkoum
Hos. Aki Abor Orange Véboue
Hos. Fuhu Pocari Ondzounga
Hos. Charles Ogoua Onkani
Hos. Félippe Ongoua Ngouillé
Hos. Jean-Pierre Otuba
Hos. Alphonse Ponsante
Hos. André Jules Retino
GABON CAUCUS PRIORITIES

WILDLIFE TRAFFICKING
Gabon is a source country for forest-elephant ivory in the Congo Basin region. Current laws impose relatively weak penalties for those convicted of trafficking protected species, doing little to dissuade ivory trafficking. Members of the Gabon Parliamentary Conservation Caucus examined amendments to the Forest Code, whose key aspects will be to create more transparent licenses and increase penalties related to violations. In March 2019, the new Forest Code was introduced to the Senate. Members of the caucus are also working with members of the judiciary to ensure that judges understand the importance of applying deterrent sanctions.

ABOVE: Hon. Francisco Mucanhela with other caucus members

ILLEGAL LOGGING
Timber is a major export in Gabon. However, there are entities trading in timber that seek to bypass the state and circumvent international trade regulations by illicit means. Instances of illegal logging are not regularly reported to prosecution officials; a lack of clarity in the law, instead, results in the resolution of cases by local enforcement officers who reach monetary settlements with offenders. The Caucus is working to address this gap, considering a clearer judicial monitoring system.

HUMAN-WILDLIFE CONFLICT
In some areas of Gabon, there are significant conflicts between human populations and elephants. Such instances of human-wildlife conflict have led the executive authorities to erect barriers around certain plantations and national parks. The caucus is working with the Agence Nationale des Parcs Nationaux (ANPN) to conduct field visits to better understand the problem and assess possible solutions.
ABOUT

The MPFC addresses a wide array of issues including wildlife trafficking, deforestation, sustainable development, and marine protected areas.

THE MPFC HAS SPONSORED AMENDMENTS TO RAISE PENALTIES ON WILDLIFE TRAFFICKERS, AS WELL AS THE SIGNING OF THE BILATERAL AGREEMENT WITH TANZANIA ON THE COORDINATED CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE NIASSA-SELOUS ECOSYSTEM

MOZAMBIQUE PARLIAMENTARY FORUM ON CONSERVATION

TERM: 2017-2020
ACRONYMN: MPFC

CO-CHAIRS
HON. FRANCISCO USENNE MUCANHEIA
HON. ARMANDO RAMIRO ARTUR
HON. ANTÓNIO NIQUICE
HON. EDSON MACUÁCUA
HON. JERÓNIMO MALAGUETA

MEMBERS
Hon. Jaime Augusto Bessa Neto
Hon. Costa Francisco Chale
Hon. Rosário Mudeia
Hon. Agostinho Zacarias Vuma
Hon. Faruk Osman
Hon. Amílcar José Hussein

Hon. Ricardina Suia Mazine
Hon. Alfredo Tomás Maganisse
Hon. Juliano Vitória Picando
Hon. Francisco Mampwe
Hon. Mario Franque

Hon. Gloria Salvador
Hon. Inês Artur Mucussete
Hon. Nilza Narcisco
Hon. José Sema Guda
Hon. José Nicolau
Hon. Carlos Manoel

Hon. Agostinho Manga
Hon. Fernando Bismarque
Hon. José Bento Coile
Hon. Luísiano Governo
Hon. Inês Artur Mucussete

THE ICCF GROUP IN AFRICA
BROCHURE
ED.2021-2022
THE ICCF GROUP IN AFRICA

BELOW: Deputy Speaker Hon. Azis Syamsuddin (right) congratulates Chairman Sudin (left) on launching the Kaukus Kelautan
As the wildlife population of Mozambique continues to decline due to poaching and trafficking, the Mozambique Parliamentary Forum on Conservation (MPFC) recognizes the need to take action. In 2017, Parliament passed an Amendment to the 2014 Conservation Law, increasing the penalties for wildlife crime. However, the MPFC acknowledges the existing gaps within the legal and judicial framework and understands that joint efforts are required to efficiently prosecute wildlife crimes. Moreover, magistrates require more skills and education on wildlife crime management to efficiently handle cases and implement existing conservation laws. Therefore, part of the parliamentary forum’s agenda has included bringing together magistrates and officials along with wildlife crime experts to discuss potential solutions to the challenges that hinder wildlife-related prosecutions in the country.

Believing the illegal export of timber from Mozambique to be leading to rapid deforestation, the Government took steps to improve cooperation among law enforcement agencies. The MPFC supported the tax updates on raw timber exports in 2017 as an effort to combat the illegal trade of timber. Moreover, the Government is currently revising the Forest Law, and the MPFC is supporting its development.

Mozambique has 2,515 km of coastline rich in hydrocarbons and other marine resources such as shrimp and tuna. To properly capitalize on and protect these resources, the Government has taken steps to acknowledge the importance of its maritime domain, and the MPFC has recognized the need for capacity building in terms of the management and enforcement of this domain. Improving maritime enforcement will also help Mozambique to combat illegal fishing.
One of the larger caucuses in Africa, the ZPCC membership currently stands at more than 80 Members of Parliament, including the Minister of Home Affairs, Minister of Luapula Province, Minister of Local Government & Housing, and Minister of Information. Their Strategic Plan 2015-2020 has received broad support from government, NGOs, and business leaders.

**THE ZPCC PUSHED FORWARD THE PASSAGE OF THE ZAMBIA NATIONAL PARKS AND WILDLIFE POLICY AND THE WETLANDS POLICY IN THE EXECUTIVE, WHICH WERE APPROVED IN JUNE 2018.**

**MEMBERS**

HON. STEPHEN KAMPEBWA (PF – SENGAL HILL)
HON. MARDI NYANGA (PF – KAPUTA)
HON. FRANK M NG’AMBI (PF – CHIFUBU)
HON. MULUKWA MUKUBUTA (UPND – MASAITE)
HON. LEAKY KINTU (UPND – SOLWEZI EAST)
HON. MAKOZO CHIKOTE (UPND – LUAMPA)
HON. KALALWE MUKOSA (PF – CHINSALI)
HON. STEPHEN MITI (Indp – FEIRA)
HON. LEAKY KINTU (UPND – SOLWEZI EAST)
HON. MUKOBO CHIKOTE (UPND – LUAMPA)
HON. KALALWE MUKOSA (PF – CHINSALI)
HON. STEPHEN MITI (Indp – FEIRA)
ZAMBIA CAUCUS PRIORITIES

**BIODIVERSITY & WETLANDS**

Responsibility for the management of biodiversity and wetlands is shared among a number of departments and ministries in Zambia. The implications of such a decentralized framework manifest themselves in a lack of institutional clarity and in other policy and legal issues surrounding biodiversity and wetlands, requiring urgent attention. To address this challenge, the ZPCC is working to develop a national wetlands management policy.

**WILDLIFE AND PROTECTED AREAS**

Some aspects of Zambia’s legal framework for managing protected areas are outdated. ZPCC members recognize that costly institutional arrangements require an urgent reorientation to promote private-sector participation. The ZPCC is currently focusing on incorporating new models of protected area management and promoting community stewardship of natural resources. Part of this effort involves considerations to revise the 1998 Wildlife Act.

**FORESTRY**

The 1999 Forest Act, though passed through parliament, was never enacted by the government. Rather, the government backtracked on its decision to establish an autonomous Forest Commission. New forestry-related opportunities that have yielded good results elsewhere in the world include carbon markets, community forestry, and public-private partnerships. So as not to miss out on these opportunities, the ZPCC will look to address weaknesses in forestry governance. The ZPCC has reviewed policy & legislation that would enable Zambians to benefit from new market-based incentives in the forestry sector.
SPOTLIGHT: MALAWI
MALAWI CWT LAW SHOWS ITS TEETH

Malawi, identified by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) as a “country of primary concern,” has lost 50 percent of its elephant population since the 1980s. In December 2016, to combat poaching trends, Malawi’s National Assembly passed amendments to its Wildlife and National Parks Act that stiffened criminal penalties for poachers and traffickers of “listed species,” namely rhinos and elephants. Under these amendments, convicted offenders face extended prison sentences of up to 30 years. Less than a year later, in October 2017, a court sentenced convicted rhino poachers to 18 years in prison, the most severe penalty ever handed down for poaching in the country’s history. A month later, a separate court convicted two elephant poachers and sentenced them each to 13 years’ imprisonment. With these decisions, Malawi’s new law has proven to have teeth. The long-term result, if tougher penalties can effectively deter the killing of Africa’s iconic wildlife species, will be seeing a “country of primary concern” transform into one with a thriving wildlife population and, consequently, a thriving wildlife tourism industry that can support human development.
ABOUT
The BOCOPAC strategic objectives have recognized the importance of ecotourism development, combating environmental crime, and the promotion of community-based conservation. The caucus’ goals involve the development and passage of national wildlife policy and legislative actions, implementation of regional policy frameworks, and continued development of criminal justice capacity building.

ESTABLISHED IN 2016, THE BOCOPAC IS ONE OF THE YOUNGEST CAUCUSES IN AFRICA

BOTSWANA CONSERVATION PARLIAMENTARY CAUCUS
TERM: 2020-2025
ACRONYM: BOCOPAC

CO-CHAIRS
HON. K. NKAWANA
HON. S.J. BROOKS

MEMBERS
Hon. W.T. Makuwina
Hon. Dr. T. Matsheka
Hon. Dr. E.G. Dikoloti
Hon. T.K. Khama
Hon. M. Balopi
Hon. U. Dow
Hon. O. Ramogapi
Hon. K.T. Minusi
Hon. J.L. Thilte
Hon. A. Lesao
Hon. M.M. Pule
Hon. W.B. Mmoloketsi
Hon. P. Majaga
Hon. T. Monnakgotla
Hon. D. Saloshando
Hon. S.N. Moabotse
Hon. C. Greeff
Hon. T.B. Lucas
Hon. B. Mathebula
Hon. P.K. Motsosane
Hon. Dr. K. Gobotswang
Hon. F.T. Leae
Hon. M. Reatile
Hon. E.L. Lesedi
Hon. C.K. Hikuama
Hon. S.N. Modukanele
Hon. T. M. Healy
Hon. E.M. Molale
Hon. K.K. Kapinga
Hon. D. Tshere
Hon. M.G.J. Motsamai
Hon. C.K. Hikuama

THE ICCF GROUP IN AFRICA
BOTSWANA CAUCUS PRIORITIES

ECOTOURISM DEVELOPMENT

BOCOPAC’s strategic objectives recognize that biodiversity is crucial for sustainable tourism development throughout the land. The caucus aims to review the legal framework for the protection and sustainable management of Botswana’s natural resources and natural capital, prioritizing the examination of legal protections of endangered and/or protected wildlife species in order to facilitate good governance in the management of National Parks, game management areas, and other wild spaces.

ENVIRONMENTAL CRIME

Environmental crime is an increasing challenge for Botswana. To ensure that law enforcement, prosecution authorities, and customs officials can effectively investigate and prosecute illegal trade of wildlife, forest, and fisheries products within Botswana’s borders, BOCOPAC is working to ensure that legislation and policy apply the strongest standards for combating environmental crimes.

COMMUNITY-BASED CONSERVATION

BOCOPAC is focusing on promoting national sustainable development goals in order to improve livelihoods. BOCOPAC members recognize that (i) conservation and economic development go hand-in-hand and (ii) when local communities take ownership of natural resources, they have a vested interest in promoting wise resource utilization. To this end, BOCOPAC looks to incorporate local communities into Botswana’s wildlife management framework.
Legislative Achievements
Led by Caucus Co-chairs and Members in Africa

Gabon
Development and Passage of the Mining Code in July 2019
The Mining Code addresses environmental provisions associated with mining and overall provides a stronger legal framework for mining title holders, simultaneously improving traceability and transparency within the industry.

Development and Passage of the Amendment Bill to the Penal Code Related to Wildlife Offenses in July 2019
The new Amendments to the Penal Code included several major innovations, especially the consideration of new forms of crime and the fight against major trafficking.

Movement of the Forest Code that is Expected to Improve Forest and Wildlife Management

Kenya
Amendments to the Wildlife Conservation and Management Act 2013
Amendments to the Wildlife Conservation and Management Act 2013 specifically introduced changes to institutional structures and functions, and new offences and penalties on wildlife crimes.


Malawi
Development and Passage of Amendments

To the Malawi Wildlife and National Parks Act in January 2018
Malawi Parliament passed the wildlife Act Amendment Bill, which introduced a maximum sentence of 30 years with no option of a fine.

Development and Passage of the Forestry Act Amendment Bill in February 2020
The National Assembly of Malawi passed the Forestry Act Amendment Bill of 2019, offering a range of increased protections, increased conservation efforts with broadened management options for the government, better regulation and law enforcement, enhanced penalties and fines, and the provision of a forest development and management fund.

Mozambique
Development and Passage of Amendments to Mozambique’s Conservation Law of 2014
The Mozambique Parliamentary Forum on

**BILATERAL AGREEMENT ON THE COORDINATED CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE NIASSA-SELOUS ECOSYSTEM SIGNED BETWEEN THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA AND THE REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE**

**NAMIBIA**

**DEVELOPMENT AND PASSAGE OF THE NATURE CONSERVATION AMENDMENT ACT IN JUNE 2017**

The Namibian Conservation Parliamentary Caucus (NACOPAC) facilitated development and passage of the Nature Conservation Amendment Act, increasing penalties for wildlife crime.

**TANZANIA**

**BILATERAL AGREEMENT WITH ZAMBIA ON THE COORDINATED CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE MIOMBO/MOPANE WOODLAND ECOSYSTEM**

**BILATERAL AGREEMENT WITH MOZAMBIQUE ON THE COORDINATED CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE NIASSA-SELOUS ECOSYSTEM**

**ZAMBIA**

**DEVELOPMENT AND PASSAGE OF THE ZAMBIA WILDLIFE ACT 2015**

This Act made provisions for the management and conservation of wildlife in Zambia and saw the establishment of the Department of National Parks and Wildlife within the then-newly established Ministry of Tourism and Arts.

**DEVELOPMENT AND PASSAGE OF THE ZAMBIA FORESTS ACT 2015**

The Forests Act 2015 provided the establishment and designation of national forests, local forests, joint forest management areas, botanical reserves, private forests, and community forests. It allowed the participation of local communities, local authorities, traditional institutions, non-governmental organisations, and other stakeholders in sustainable forest management. The Act established the Forest Development Fund and allowed the implementation of various international conventions.

**MOVEMENT OF THE ZAMBIA NATIONAL PARKS AND WILDLIFE POLICY IN THE EXECUTIVE**

The policy aims to protect game management areas, improve park management, and eradicate poaching and human encroachment in the park & game management areas.

**NATIONAL POLICY ON WETLANDS**

The policy targets threats to wetlands that include land-use change, invasive species, damming, poor management, channelling, mining, and human encroachment.

**BILATERAL AGREEMENT WITH TANZANIA ON THE COORDINATED CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE MIOMBO/MOPANE WOODLAND ECOSYSTEM**
THE ICCF GROUP IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

ON MARITIME ECONOMY, MARITIME SECURITY, SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES, AND GOOD NATURAL RESOURCE GOVERNANCE AND CONSERVATION

GOOD NATURAL RESOURCE GOVERNANCE IS CRITICAL TO FOSTERING ECONOMIC AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND ENSURING THE SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES. THE ICCF GROUP IS EXPANDING ITS MODEL OF SUPPORTING PARLIAMENTARY CONSERVATION AND OCEANS CAUCUSES THROUGHOUT THE ASEAN REGION TO FURTHER THE STRATEGIC PRIORITIES OF LEGISLATIVE LEADERS THROUGHOUT ASIA, WITH A FOCUS ON INDONESIA AND THAILAND AS THE LARGEST ECONOMIES IN SOUTHEAST ASIA AND STEWARDS OF TREMENDOUS BIODIVERSITY AND MARINE AND TERRESTRIAL NATURAL RESOURCES.
ABOUT
Established in 2020, Kaukus Kelautan was founded by four co-chairs and twenty-nine members from across geographic constituencies, nine political parties, and three commissions who work towards furthering Indonesia's sustainable fisheries management, and maritime economic development and security.

THE KAUKUS KELAUTAN FACILITATES ACHIEVING SOLUTIONS FOR INDONESIA'S GOOD NATURAL RESOURCE GOVERNANCE, AND ALLOWS FOR EFFICIENT DISCUSSIONS ACROSS MULTIPLE STAKEHOLDERS IN PURSUIT OF THE GOALS TO FURTHER STRENGTHEN INDONESIA'S MARITIME GOVERNANCE, SERVING INDONESIAN COMMUNITIES AND FOSTERING SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.
INDONESIA CAUCUS PRIORITIES

FISHERIES MANAGEMENT

Indonesia has an expansive coastline whose coastal communities and export markets depend on healthy fisheries. Well-managed fisheries are key to both healthy fish populations and a strong marine economy. Kaukus Kelautan works to promote multi-sectoral dialogue on the importance of effective fisheries management through a series of briefings, site visits, and parliamentary exchanges.

MARITIME SECURITY & IUU FISHING

Indonesia’s strategic geographic area places Indonesia in an important role as a center of gravity for the Indo-Pacific region. IUU fishing has long been a major issue that not only impacts Indonesia’s marine environment, but their economic and regional stability. Overlapping regulations and jurisdictions make the management and enforcement of IUU fishing more difficult than it already is. Clear, strong regulations and the synergy between stakeholders are major factors in eradicating IUU fishing and protecting Indonesia’s maritime sovereignty. Kaukus Kelautan works with relevant stakeholders in an effort to formulate robust and effective maritime policies to safeguard Indonesian waters.

MARINE PROTECTED AREA GOVERNANCE

As a country with one of the world’s largest marine biodiversity benefited from its geographical position at the confluence of multiple large marine ecosystems, such as Indonesia Sea, the South China Sea, the Gulf of Thailand, the Sulu Celebes Sea, and the Bay of Bengal, Indonesia regards its seas as its most valuable natural resources. Therefore, marine conservation for Indonesia is not simply an option but mandatory as to secure prosperity from it for generations to come. ICCF Indonesia supports the Kaukus Kelautan and its efforts to strengthen Marine Protected Area governance and coastal ecotourism domestically and regionally through a series of multilateral discussions, stakeholders briefing, and parliamentary exchanges.

RIGHT: Former Minister Edhy Prabowo (left), Chairman Sudin (middle), Deputy Speaker Hon. Azis Syamsuddin
ABOUT
IN FEBRUARY 2020, THE SENATE CONSERVATION CAUCUS WAS LAUNCHED IN BANGKOK WITH ICCF ACTING AS THE OFFICIAL SECRETARIAT

Senator General Surasak Karnjanarat, serves as the Founding Chairman of the new Caucus which now comprises 22 Senators, and is committed to working toward the good management of Thailand’s terrestrial and marine natural resources. The caucus leadership shares the common belief that their country’s ancestors have preserved Thailand’s natural resources for the benefit of people, and that everyone should work together in a collaborative fashion to ensure that future generations are able to benefit from Thailand’s tremendous natural heritage. In particular, there is every reason why the government, private sector, and civil society should work with each other and with other stakeholders to strengthen the sustainable management of national parks and natural resources.

ACRONYM:  SCC

CO-CHAIRS
HON. SENATOR GEN. SURASAK KARNJANARAT
HON. SENATOR ADM. CHOOMNOOM ARDWONG
HON. SENATOR MR. WEERASAK KOWSURAT

MEMBERS
Hon. Senator Gen. Surasak Karnjanarat
Hon. Senator Adm. Choomnoom Ardwong
Hon. Senator Mr. Weerasak Kowsurat
Hon. Senator Mr. Sathit Limpongpan
Hon. Senator Mr. Pisan Manawapat
Hon. Senator Gen. Supharat Phutthanawisuth
Hon. Senator Gen. Manul Patchotavisinh
Hon. Senator Gen. Chayuth Suwananans
Hon. Senator Gen. Rodsk Bunng
Hon. Senator Adm. Chalwat Iamsamut
Hon. Senator Adm. Noppadol Chokrada
Hon. Senator Mr. Kanoo Thanapakpawin
Hon. Senator Asst. Prof. Boonsong Kaigate
Hon. Senator Gen. Pissanu Puttawong
Hon. Senator Mr. Sattl Loosawan
Hon. Senator Gen. Sanan Marerngsit
Hon. Senator Gen. Tawatchai Samutsakorn
Hon. Senator Gen. Kanit Changreechaya
Hon. Senator Gen. Jarirak Chompiparn
Hon. Senator Mr. Suradet Jarittichareon
Hon. Senator Mr. Bunnee Surakhot
Hon. Senator Mr. Wichai Dittabhak

SENATE OF THE KINGDOM OF THAILAND

TERM:  2020 - 2025

THAILAND
THAILAND CAUCUS PRIORITIES

NATIONAL PARKS MANAGEMENT

Situated between two major biogeographical regions, the Indochinese region in the north and the Sundiac region in the south, Thailand’s expansive coastlines, varied topography, and range of climates make it one of the most biodiverse countries in Southeast Asia and the world. Its unique biodiversity is supported by a wide variety of ecosystems and habitats, many of which are significantly threatened by human activities like deforestation, pollution, and large increases in tourism. Thailand recognizes the importance of protecting ecosystems and the services they provide. Currently, there are over 100 national parks in Thailand with many in the process of establishment. Strengthening the management of national parks and natural resources through the SCC is therefore critical for the future benefit of people and nature.

IUU FISHING

Illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing is a global issue. As one of the world’s largest seafood exporters, Thailand takes its responsibility to tackle this challenge very seriously. In accordance with international commitments, the country has pushed for a major upgrade of fisheries governance and enforced tough reforms to eradicate IUU. It has committed to an “IUU-Free Thailand” meaning fish and fisheries products imported into or exported from Thailand will not come from IUU activities nor infiltrate supply chains. The Thai fisheries sector is vital for the social and economic prosperity of the country, and the government has introduced several measures to improve the welfare of local fishermen impacted by new IUU regulations. SCC works with concerned stakeholders to formulate and uphold policies aimed at maintaining a sustainable and ethical fishing industry.

COASTAL EROSION

With roughly 3,000 kilometers of coastline, coastal erosion is a serious problem for Thailand. Its coasts border the Andaman Sea in the west and the Gulf of Thailand in the east. Coastal erosion in Thailand is caused by several factors such as decreasing mangrove forest areas, overpumping of groundwater in metropolitan areas, tourism and large-scale development projects, decreasing sediment supply due upstream damming, sea level rise and increased monsoonal storm activity linked to global warming, and lack of proper coastal land use planning. ICCF supports the SCC and its efforts to combat coastal erosion through expert briefings, multisector discussions, and field visits to see the issues first hand.

MARINE DEBRIS AND AIR POLLUTION

An environment free of marine and air pollution is necessary for the health of Thai people, marine life, and natural resources. Currently, Thailand is the world’s sixth largest source of plastic polluting the ocean, with over 1 million tons per year. The government has initiated a plastic waste management plan to reduce the amount and increase the understanding of marine debris. Similarly, as Thailand’s air quality reaches dangerous levels, building political will to address the real causes of this pollution is essential. The SCC’s clean air priority requires strong, overarching air quality policy to address all types of air pollutants from various sectors. SCC works with relevant stakeholders to address marine and air pollution by declaring comprehensive and integrated policy actions and strengthening governance.
THE ICCF GROUP AND MINISTRIES

HOW THE ICCF GROUP IS ADVANCING THE MANAGEMENT OF LAND AND SEA CRITICAL TO MANKIND AND HIS PROSPERITY

INTERNATIONAL CONSERVATION CORPS

Through the International Conservation Corps program, the ICCF Group provides expertise to help partner nations develop protected-area, wildlife management, and conservation strategies. International Conservation Corps team members are veterans of U.S. and Canadian government agencies such as U.S. National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Bureau of Land Management, and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, and each member has decades of practical experience managing national parks, wildlife, forests, and water. These professionals work to complete demanding projects in countries in Latin America, Asia, Africa, and the Caribbean and have contributed over $3 million in volunteer services to date.

OUR TEAM

THE INTERNATIONAL CONSERVATION CORPS DEPLOYS SEASONED PROFESSIONALS WHO HAVE DECADES OF REAL-LIFE EXPERIENCE IN PROTECTED AREAS AND NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT
HOW WE DO IT
ADDRESSING THE GAP IN CONSERVATION EFFORTS

THE INTERNATIONAL CONSERVATION CORPS PROGRAM IS A HIGHLY EFFECTIVE, LOW-COST MEANS OF PROVIDING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, HELPING PARTNER NATIONS TO FULFILL THEIR OBJECTIVES AND TO DEVELOP INSTITUTIONAL AND HUMAN CAPACITY.

The program is the least costly way to project the vast U.S. experience in the management of national parks and natural resources in useful ways overseas, and it is more effective than other forms of technical assistance from the U.S., from other countries, and from often highly paid consultants.

U.S. and Canadian conservation agencies have long realized the potential of expanding their mission beyond their own borders to provide assistance and expertise in key regions but have lacked the funding to properly sustain international programs.

THE INTERNATIONAL CONSERVATION CORPS HAS THE SYSTEMIC CAPACITY TO CHANNEL THE EXPERIENCE AND TALENT OF THESE RESPECTIVE AGENCIES AND RETIRED EXPERTS TO MEET THE SPECIFIC NEEDS OF PARTNER NATIONS AND PROVIDE THE NECESSARY FUNDING AND IN-COUNTRY POLITICAL SUPPORT THROUGH THE ICCF GROUP.
GLOBAL CHALLENGES

Although most developing nations have set aside large areas for preservation, and much has been accomplished to scientifically catalogue critical natural resources, most of these nations lack the human and institutional capacity needed to manage these natural resources, leading to the destruction of biodiversity, water, and forests which are vital sources of environmental security, aesthetic value, cultural heritage, food security, and sustainable economic development.

This lack of capacity leads to unsustainable use and destruction of natural resources through inappropriate development, unmanaged tourism, poaching, erosion, pollution, and other problems.

To support the worldwide growth in human population and consumption, it is imperative to help overcome this global management deficit to ensure that economic and other benefits perpetually convey from ecosystems to forestry, fish, and wildlife sectors, the tourism industry, and agribusiness.