



Forests for a Just Future

Green Livelihoods Alliance

Annual Report
2022



Alliance members

Gaia Amazonas



Technical partners



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DGIS contact

Kaj van de Vorstenbosch, Policy Officer Climate - IGG Ministry of Foreign Affairs
(kaj-vande.vorstenbosch@minbuza.nl)

Consortium Contact

Eva Duarte Davidson, Senior Programme Coordinator GLA (evadd@milieudefensie.nl)

Cover photo

A farmer practices climate change resilient techniques in her field (Kinyandonyi, Democratic Republic of Congo). Photo by: CEPED

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Contents

Executive summary	III
Section I Annual Report narrative	V
1. Introduction	1
2. Changes in context and risks in 2022	3
3. Overview of progress made in 2022	8
4. Inclusion, gender equality and youth involvement	30
5. Programme monitoring, evaluation and learning (PMEL)	34
6. Global alliance coordination and collaboration	35
7. Planning and reporting	37



Executive summary

Photo credit: Kitagasa community IP&LCs and ETA staff at the proposed nursery site establishment donated by a community member. Uganda - ETA

Despite several complicated and worrisome international, national and local circumstances, the FfJF programme was well on track in 2022, and often even ahead. Countless promising outcomes have been achieved by GLA partners across the globe, yet we also recognise that IP&LCs are swimming against the tide and more international and national action is needed to effectively protect tropical forests and mitigate and adapt to climate change. GLA partners will continue unabated to address drivers of deforestation and protect the forests and rights of IP&LCs in tropical forest landscapes.

The programme is implemented by the global **Green Livelihoods Alliance (GLA)**, consisting of Milieudefensie (Alliance lead), Gaia Amazonas, IUCN national committee of the Netherlands (IUCN NL), Non-timber forest products-exchange programme Asia (NTFP-EP Asia), Sustainable Development Institute (SDI), Tropenbos International (TBI) and two technical partners: (i) Fern and (ii) Women Engage for a Common Future (WECF), working in partnership with the Global Forest Coalition (GFC). The Alliance collaborates with over 70 civil society organisations (CSOs), Indigenous people and local communities (IP&LCs) and social movements in 11 countries in Latin America, Africa and Asia, as well as internationally.

2022 has been a very productive year. Compared to 2021, the programme was less impacted by Covid-19 restrictions. National and international meetings were possible again and important national and international policy processes, like the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) CoP15, could finally take place. In addition to this, we were also able to pick up speed because the starting-up process in new countries (Malaysia, Colombia, Cameroon), the baseline study and the full integration of new Alliance members and technical partners - who joined in 2021 - were all realised by the end of 2021.

Context and risks

A central change in context in 2022 was the **Russian invasion in Ukraine**. The war sparked an **economic crisis**, linked in part to the related energy crisis, which is felt by governments and communities around the world. All partners report on the negative effects of inflation on the programme budget and the communities they work with. The war has also initiated a stronger interest in **deforestation for development**.

This is partly owing to **corporate capture** of international policy processes and a strong push for certain **nature-based solutions** like carbon capture and geo-engineering that are subject to controversy and considered by some stakeholders to be false solutions.

On the other hand, there have been important international policy developments in 2022 that our programme contributed to and can build on. The CBD finally agreed to the **post-2020 biodiversity framework**, which includes a standalone target on gender and recognises Indigenous territories as management units that contribute to biodiversity protection; and the **EU deforestation regulation** was adopted. Within this context, the goals and activities of the FfJF programme are increasingly relevant to protect forests and central biodiversity hotspots by enabling IP&LCs to sustainably govern their land.

Shrinking civic space and insecurity of environmental human rights defenders (EHRDs) continues to be an issue in 2022. Even though the new national government in Colombia is more open to IP&LC and CSO participation, the country is still the deadliest country for EHRDs. The situation in Uganda, the Philippines, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Indonesia, Viet Nam and Bolivia is also getting worse. The international support systems and collaborations offered through the GLA remain relevant.

Pathway A: Strengthening IP&LC governance over increased areas of forest

Pathway A is at the heart of the FfJF programme. This is where the ultimate change happens as we contribute to increasing areas of land being governed by IP&LCs. Outcomes achieved under Pathway B and C contribute to sustainable results under Pathway A. In 2022 we noticed most of the results under Pathway A are achieved at the local and subnational level. Achieving results at national level proves to be more complicated as national governments are likely to prioritise their economic agenda over their environmental agenda. This requires ongoing attention.

In 2022, GLA partners contributed to more IP&LCs organising themselves and gaining rights to manage their land. We also contributed to resilient livelihoods for IP&LCs, supporting them in setting up sustainable businesses. Strengthening women and youth is effectively integrated into all activities.

Pathway B: Government and agro-commodities, extractives, energy and infrastructure sectors no longer drive deforestation

The international collaboration within the GLA is an essential added value for addressing the key drivers of deforestation. In 2022, partners at different levels were able to link local struggles to international policies and actors, and hold perpetrators of rights violations accountable. The local-to-global-to-local work carried out through specific policy dossiers and thematic programmes - just energy transition (JET) and community rights and deforestation drivers (CRDD) - achieved many positive outcomes by bringing the voices of IP&LCs to regional and international policy arenas and influencing policies as a result.

Pathway C: Citizens enjoy human and women's rights and safely participate in social movements

In 2022, in countries of high insecurity and restricted civic space, Alliance members strengthened the capacity of CSO partners to develop safety and security protocols and provided emergency funds when needed. The collaboration with embassies proved to be important to address issues of civic space. In addition, in the Netherlands and the EU, the GLA was able to contribute to corporate human rights and due diligence legislation. Finally, at the end of the year, the Alliance carried out a survey in GLA countries to gain further insights into civic space in the areas of intervention of the GLA. The report with a summary of key findings will be shared externally in 2023.

Inclusion, Gender and Youth involvement

In the FfJF programme, gender equality and inclusion goals have been prioritised from the start in the planning and monitoring framework. All countries have developed a gender action plan (GAP) to advance gender equality within their organisations and consider gender and inclusion of young people in their activities and strategies. In the 2022 annual reports we see this prioritisation is effective in integrating a gender lens across the board. In addition, WECF/GFC conducted analyses of gendered impacts of different policies and enabled women's voices to be heard in regional and international policy making arenas.

Conclusion

Despite complicated and worrisome international, national and local circumstances, the FfJF programme was mainly on track in 2022, and often even ahead. Countless promising outcomes have been reported by GLA partners across the globe, yet we also recognise that IP&LCs are swimming against the tide and more international and national action is needed to effectively protect forested landscapes and mitigate climate change. The next few years are essential to turn the tide.

In 2023 the mid term review (MTR) for the FfJF programme is planned. This independent review will analyse the achievements so far in relation to the Theory Of Change. The MTR will inform the final years of the programme.



Section I

Annual Report narrative

Photo credit: Organic rice field and village forest landscape – Sumpur Kudus Village Landscape, Indonesia – @warsi(Salim)



1. Introduction

Photo credit: Students creating awareness on tree planting by planting on their school farm. Asiakwa, Eastern Region, Ghana.

This is the 2022 annual report of the **Forests for a Just Future (FfJF) programme** (January 2021 - December 2025), implemented by the **Green Livelihoods Alliance (GLA)** which consists of Milieudefensie (Alliance lead), Gaia Amazonas, IUCN national committee of the Netherlands (IUCN NL), Non-timber forest products-exchange programme Asia (NTFP-EP Asia), Sustainable Development Institute (SDI), Tropenbos International (TBI) and two technical partners: (i) Fern and (ii) Women Engage for a Common Future (WECF), working in partnership with the Global Forest Coalition (GFC). The Alliance collaborates with over 70 civil society organisations (CSOs), Indigenous people and local communities (IP&LCs¹) and social movements in 11 countries in Latin America, Africa and Asia, as well as internationally.

The programme has the long-term goal of ensuring tropical forests and forest landscapes are sustainably and inclusively governed to mitigate and adapt to climate change, fulfil human rights and safeguard local livelihoods. The programme's Theory of Change (ToC) takes an intersectional and gender transformative approach and revolves around three mutually reinforcing pathways of change:

- Pathway A: Strengthening IPLC governance over increased areas of forest.
- Pathway B: Government and agro-commodities, extractives, energy and infrastructure sectors no longer drive deforestation.
- Pathway C: Citizens enjoy human and women's rights and safely participate in social movements.

In 2022, the second year of the programme, we were able to implement the programme activities at full capacity. Refer to annex B for a complete overview of GLA partners and landscapes in 2022. Compared to 2021, the countries faced fewer Covid-19 restrictions. National and international travel and meetings were possible again, which enabled our partners to make a big leap forward in working with communities and capacity strengthening. It also meant that important national and international policy processes, like the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) CoP15, could finally take place after two years of delay.

Apart from more enabling external circumstances, we were also able to pick up speed because the starting-up process in new countries (Malaysia, Colombia, Cameroon), the baseline study and the full integration of new Alliance members and technical partners - who joined in 2021 - were all realised by the end of 2021. The

¹ The current international consensus is to not place Indigenous people and local communities in the same acronym, but make a clear distinction between the two groups, which is more in line with reality. The GLA already makes this distinction in its activities and strategies and decided to start using it in this and all plans and reports going forward. Please note, the acronym IP&LC replaces the previously used IPLCs that was used in our ToC, programme document and reports. A request to formally change the term will be made when we review the ToC after the mid term review.

Alliance members and our partners around the world could therefore fully focus on their goals and work plans, resulting in a large number of outcomes reported in the 2022 annual reports.

Aim and scope of this report

As input for this report we used information from:

- eleven country annual reports, one report focusing on activities in the Netherlands and two reports from the technical partners
- six GLA local-to-global-to-local (LGL) annual reports addressing work that connects the local context to international (policy) processes and vice versa. This work is captured in two thematic programmes of Milieudefensie/SDI: 1. just energy transition (JET) and 2. community rights and deforestation drivers (CRDD). And four policy dossiers: 1. Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD); 2. EU deforestation legislation; 3. UN binding treaty and due diligence legislation; 4. UNFCCC and nationally determined contributions (NDC).

Inclusivity

Gender justice and inclusion are important aspects of the GLA programme. We aim to use inclusive language in our interventions and reports, recognising that communities and other groups are not homogeneous but consist of people of all genders, ethnicities, ages, varying abilities and different socio-economic and cultural status. However, for reasons of readability and to limit the length of this report, it is not always possible to use inclusive language throughout the text. We remind the reader that where we refer to communities, groups or villages, we understand and recognise their local diversity.

Sections and chapters

This annual report is structured as follows.

Section I describes a general overview of our progress in 2022. The section covers contextual developments and progress on the three reinforcing pathways of change, as well as overarching issues such as gender and inclusion. In this section we also review our internal collaboration and planning, monitoring, evaluation and learning (PMEL) systems. The information presented is complemented by a series of annexes, including an overview of progress in annually collected indicators (annex C) and an overview of risks and mitigation measures, updated for the current period (annex G). Annexes D, E and F provide brief summaries of the country reports and LGL thematic programmes and policy dossiers.

Section II presents a summary of the 2022 financial report and provides a brief narrative financial overview of the main trends. The complete financial report is included as annex A.



2. Changes in context and risks in 2022

Photo credit: Workshop on Water Resources in Comunidad de Ramada (Santa Cruz, Bolivia).

2.1 Economic impact, inflation and development

In all countries, inflation and rising commodity prices, such as for petroleum, food and transport, had significant impacts on people as well as the programme budget and the planned activities. The GLA programme partners mitigate the impact of rising programme costs and general economic decline by monitoring the budget closely and adjusting where necessary as well as looking for ways to reduce costs. Programme investments in enabling communities to sustainably manage their land and forest, protecting natural resources and establishing sustainable businesses will reap long-term benefits and make communities more resilient to external shocks like economic crises. In addition, our focus on women's leadership, youth, Indigenous people and gender equality aims to mitigate the disproportionate effects the crisis has on these groups.

Unfortunately, many governments as well as international financial institutions seek a way out of the crisis by pushing more extractive and large-scale agricultural projects for development and economic recovery, without understanding or acknowledging the value of natural landscapes.

For example, in **the Philippines** the government has opened up more Indigenous territories for mining, plantations and dams. These projects are threatening the forests, watersheds and food production and have put environmental human rights defenders (EHRDs), especially women, at risk. These developments have also resulted in polarisation among the Indigenous people. Owing to their impoverished situation (e.g. the price for a kilo of onions has risen to 10 EUR), the promises of money, employment and other benefits lure them into supporting extractive and destructive projects. The existing community-based livelihoods cannot always compete with the money being offered by mining companies and government-backed projects. The GLA partners in the Philippines will step up efforts to work and build trust with communities, raising awareness as well as lobbying and advocacy to ensure the protection of Indigenous territories in which IP&LCs can thrive.

In **Cameroon**, inflation and the country's high debt level has prompted the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to intervene in the management of public finances. This situation will likely make way for companies to gain the right to use the forests and land for industrial purposes, reducing the usable area for communities. This situation increases the need to enable villages to manage their land themselves as well as ensuring communities access benefits from companies who are active on their land.

The dire economic situation in many countries is often used by politicians to promote the myth that investments in fossil projects will contribute to development, for example in **Uganda** where the government promotes the East African crude oil pipeline project (EACOP) through the Support EACOP group. This group, in which TotalEnergies plays an important role, promotes the alleged economic benefits the EACOP will have on Uganda. However, research shows that most of the profits from fossil projects in low-income countries flow to

the international companies who own the projects and the financial institutions that finance them. The country hardly benefits, but still suffers the consequences of the detrimental environmental and social impacts of the project. We address this risk by exposing these myths via evidence-based research and disseminating the counter facts in advocacy activities, media and community mobilisation work.

2.2 War in Ukraine and energy security

The Russian invasion in Ukraine in February 2022 had severe worldwide impacts, including in the GLA countries. It affected global power dynamics and impacted massively on the worldwide economy, leaving no time to recover from the impact of Covid-19. The war contributed to high inflation, an increase in energy and food prices with disastrous effects on poor people and poor countries. In addition, the war showed the risks of Europe's dependence on Russian gas and forced European leaders to look for other energy sources. As a result, investing in new fossil projects returned to their political agenda.

There is an increased focus on domestic exploitation of fossil fuels in countries such as the US, the UK, Germany and the Netherlands (North Sea), and we have also witnessed a rush for gas exploitation in Africa, who believe new fossil projects can spark their economy (see above). This focus on new fossil projects does not only negatively affect the natural environment but also serves to further fuel the climate crisis. The International Energy Agency has stated we cannot afford any new fossil projects if we want to stay under 1.5 degrees of global warming. GLA partners responded to this changing context by supporting the fight against gas and other dirty energy projects on the African continent even more strongly and advocating in Europe against African gas.

The war in Ukraine also has the potential to accelerate the energy transition. However, acceleration can lead to even less stringent requirements for the production of wind turbines, solar panels and electric vehicles, and the raw materials required for this. Mining of the transition minerals often takes place in areas of unique biodiversity and of high climate importance such as tropical forests, including in GLA landscapes. In Sulawesi, Indonesia for example, [nickel mining is causing large-scale deforestation](#). Since over [half the world's energy transition minerals are on Indigenous lands](#), the impact on IP&LCs is also huge. Research has highlighted the gender-differentiated risks, such as sexual and gender-based violence, which are associated with extractive industries. To mitigate this risk we lobby and advocate for binding rules on extraction and circularity, and the establishment of no-go zones for mining as well as environmental and human rights laws and regulations for businesses.

2.3 Climate and water crises are worsening

In 2022, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) published its sixth assessment report (AR6) on climate change which painted a terrifying picture of the state of the climate crisis and the urgency and scale of the changes that are needed to address the crisis in time. The forests the GLA intends to protect may perish due to rising temperatures. We also see an increase in extreme weather events around the world, for example strong typhoons and the shear line effect in **the Philippines** which brought torrential rains triggering floods and landslides. Both the climate crisis and extreme weather events affect structurally excluded and disadvantaged groups (e.g. women, ethnic minorities, disabled people, people living in poverty) differently, often disproportionately, and this highlights the importance of taking a gender responsive and intersectional approach in the programme. To mitigate the impact of extreme weather, GLA partners are increasingly providing direct relief assistance and/or link affected communities to groups that provide support when GLA landscapes are affected.

In many places in the world, including Europe, access to water is a growing problem. This shows the strong interconnections between climate change, biodiversity loss, water, industrial agriculture and human rights. For example, in **Bolivia**, meat export has risen from 1.4 million kilos in 2018 to 19.5 million kilos in 2022. 74% of the cattle ranches authorised for meat exports are located in the three provinces of Chiquitania. The advance of deforestation in Chiquitania has a direct impact on water sources. Livestock companies divert surface water courses, dig wells affecting aquifers and build dams illegally. This is a clear violation of the local water rights and impacts the livelihoods of communities in Chiquitania, who suffer from water scarcity and low water quality as a result. Water rights issues are an important topic on the community agenda, and water committees have been created and/or strengthened to carry out actions for the protection of their water rights and

management of their water resources. The Bolivian GLA partners invest in strengthening the capacity of data and information collection, and lobbying and advocacy in these water committees.

2.4 Root causes remain under addressed

As the urgency increases, the push for controversial nature-based solutions grows. For example, booming carbon markets and unproven and speculative technologies to cool the planet in the future. Addressing the root causes of climate change and drastically reducing greenhouse gas emissions, continues to lag behind. CSOs at the UNFCCC CoP27 (2022), including GLA partners, strongly opposed any progress in agreeing the details of carbon markets and other controversial nature-based solutions, and instead pushed for a loss and damage finance facility to be established. In addition, we see an increasing presence of companies or corporate capture solutions at global policy events such as the CBD and UNFCCC conferences. These companies influence the discourse about what is needed to save biodiversity, focusing on their own interest instead of the rights and interests of IP&LCs and current and future generations. To mitigate this risk, Milieudefensie, Friends of the Earth International (FoEI) and GFC strengthened their focus on exposing and campaigning against corporate capture and what they identify as false solutions.

In Asia, the GLA partners warn that the forestry sector across the region is looking to access climate finance for projects that are ineffective and ignore IP&LC rights. For example, in **Indonesia**, the draft presidential decree on acceleration of social forestry has a potential to be misused for carbon trade by restoration companies. Continued lobbying and advocacy, as well as international collaboration and exchange between CSOs to influence relevant parties at all levels, are ways to mitigate this risk.

2.5 Laws, policies and regulations

Positive developments

In many of the GLA countries we have seen promising developments in new laws, policies and regulations that were pushed by GLA partners and other CSOs. These developments pave the way for IP&LCs to sustainably govern their land and benefit fully from its natural resources. For example, in **Colombia**, the newly installed progressive government ensured the participation of Indigenous peoples in the initial development of the new government's programme. As a result, representatives from various Indigenous peoples were active participants in drafting the national development plan (PND) 2023-2026. In addition, the new government put an end to Operation Artemis, which was launched in 2019 with the aim of halting deforestation through military and legal action, and invested in developing conservation strategies in collaboration with local communities. In the **Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)** the validation of the land use planning policy document and the drafting of the NDC document, which address the rights and welfare of IP&LCs, represents significant opportunities for the achievement of the programme's objectives. Also noteworthy is the promulgation of the law on the promotion of Indigenous Pygmy peoples, which reaffirms the rights of Pygmy people who have been long-time victims of inhuman and degrading treatments. Also, the current land reform process is bringing hope for securing customary land through the proposed institutionalisation of a rural land register. The election of Lula da Silva in **Brazil** and his promise to halt deforestation is another important positive development for the region and the world. Under his presidency Indigenous representatives have taken leadership roles in various governmental bodies.

In the **Netherlands**, the government presented a policy to stop new financial support from Dutch export credit agency (ECA) Atradius to fossil fuel projects from 2023 as agreed in Glasgow at CoP26 (2021). Even though the new policy still includes some loopholes and exemptions, this is a major step forward.

In 2022 at the international level, the GLA contributed to important policy frameworks that we expect will positively influence the next few years of project implementation. These policy processes are described in more detail in chapter 3. They include the EU deforestation regulation (Pathway B); the post-2020 biodiversity framework of the CBD, which includes a stand-alone target on gender and recognises Indigenous territories as management units that contribute to biodiversity protection (Pathway A); the ASEAN guidelines on recognition of customary tenure in forested landscapes (Pathway A); and the IPCC loss and damage fund for vulnerable countries (Pathway A).

These international policy developments can be considered major successes for the environmental and climate movement and IP&LCs around the world. Through the different LGL programmes, the GLA partners will push for the full implementation of these new policies and commitments at all levels.

Worrisome developments

Despite these positive advances at the global level, we also see worrisome developments at country level that hinder progress in the sustainable governance of forested landscapes. In **Asia**, a regional learning session on the status of extractive, destructive and intrusive projects and programmes in the GLA Asia countries (September 2022) showed governments are using the pandemic to justify development (more dams, plantations, etc.). For example, in **the Philippines**, the 2022 elections saw the defeat of progressive candidates, making it harder to push for policies on forest conservation and protection. The new administration believes the mining industry holds the greatest potential to be a key driver in the country's economic recovery and long-term growth. The GLA partners also witnessed an increase in development activities in the form of tourism, land leasing to non-IPs, land grabbing and monocrop plantations. The Kaliwa Dam tunnel boring has started despite complaints from the Indigenous peoples. The role of the GLA to mitigate these risks is to strengthen communities to resist and carry their fight to the wider and higher level.

In **Ghana**, a new law was passed that allows mining in globally significant biodiversity areas (GSBA). This is a huge threat to Ghana's forest reserves. Although mining was previously permitted, it was supposed to be restricted to 2% of the reserves, but this restriction does not appear in the new regulation. In **DRC**, government discussions on lifting the moratorium on the allocation of forest concessions to industrial loggers present a major challenge, as this would deprive IP&LCs of usage rights of their forests. This also applies to a call for tenders for the auction of 30 oil and gas blocks, which adversely affects the forest and environmental rights of IP&LCs and compromises their access to ecosystem services. All these developments confirm the need for the GLA programme to strengthen and mobilise IP&LCs and CSOs to resist and lobby and advocate against harmful laws and rights violations.

2.6 Safety, security and repression

At the end of 2022, the GLA carried out an internal baseline survey to get a more in-depth and nuanced overview of the situation of civic space experienced by GLA partners in the countries and landscapes where the FfJF programme is implemented. The data was analysed in early 2023, also taking into account other external sources to complement the information gathered. The results from the survey and what is reported by the country teams in their annual reports, show a further deterioration of civic space in many GLA countries, with others indicating the situation remained the same. In terms of perceived changes in civic space in 2022, it is worth highlighting the following.

Colombia is the only GLA country where the new government seems to bring an opening of civic space and actively promotes the participation of Indigenous communities in policy development. However, at this point in time, Colombia still remains the most deadly country for W/EHRDs.

In **Uganda** the administrative burden on CSOs continued to be heavy with the implementation of the NGO Act, 2016, requiring CSOs to sign strict MoUs in all the districts where they operate. This severely limits the activities of CSOs as well as rapid interventions. In addition, the team leader of GLA partner Friends of Zoka (FoZ) was put under surveillance for arrest, which was only stopped after diplomatic and religious leaders' engagement with the persecutors. At policy level, two new laws have been passed that will further curtail civil society and free press: the Computer Misuse (Amendment) Bill and the Anti-Money Laundering Bill. These restrictive laws, combined with tribal divisions advanced by politicians for self-gain, created tough working conditions for civil society. We work closely with the Dutch embassy in Uganda to address the issue of shrinking civic space.

The latest Civicus survey has ranked **the Philippines** as one of the more repressed civil societies in the Asia-Pacific. Red tagging continues, especially in areas where people are opposing government projects. Security issues in both the northern and southern Sierra Madre have heightened, which resulted in difficulties to conduct fieldwork activities. In the last quarter of 2022, there has been a spike of killings of local officials and politicians in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) because of heightened

political tensions in the post-2022 elections and the division of the Maguindanao province. GLA partners have strengthened their security measures.

The situation of civil society in **Indonesia** is also getting worse. The constitutional court decided in November 2021 that the formation of Law No. 11 of 2020 on Job Creation (Omnibus Law) was unconstitutional. The effect of this ruling is that the government needs to rectify the omnibus law within two years of the court's decision. However, the government refuses to implement the court's decision. Instead, the government issued the same regulations without opening up space for civil society to express their opinions. The new [morality laws](#) are also seen by many as an attempt to stifle dissent.

In **DRC**, the expected civic space benefits of the new Sacred Union of the Nation government (2021) have not materialised. Efforts by the General Inspectorate of Finance and the judiciary to track down and convict perpetrators of corruption were rendered futile in 2022 by judicial rulings that reflected a manipulation of judicial power. The political space has narrowed with the repression of public demonstrations, the arrest of rights activists and attacks on freedom of the press. Despite this, there is a great deal of activism by CSOs and citizen movements and even by musical artists. However, environmental concerns are not very high on their agenda. Also, the security situation in and around Goma deteriorated because of the presence of the M23 rebel group. IUCN NL provided emergency funding and WECF partners refocused their activities on displaced communities in refugee camps.

In **Bolivia**, the GLA partners note that the deepening economic crisis generates increasing pressure on forests from mining or agro-extractivism. To silence the resistance against these projects, various policy proposals are being put forward that amend the penal code to criminalise protest.

The shrinking of civic space and insecurity go beyond the mitigation options that GLA partners can provide. However, the GLA activities can reduce the impact of repression on CSOs and IP&LCs, and hopefully slow down the further deterioration of civic space. Strengthening national and international collaboration, lobbying and advocacy, and monitoring of rights violations all contribute to this.

2.7 Programme level risk and mitigation

The matrix on risk analysis and mitigation measures presented with the programme document has been updated and included as [annex G](#).

Worth noting that at programme level, none of the risks related to financial mismanagement, corruption or sexual harassment materialised. The only issue that occurred was in **Liberia** where financial transactions between the Liberian Bank for Development and Investment (LBDI) and the intermediary bank used by Milieudefensie were stalled for a long time. The ministry was duly informed at the time. More information on this can be found in section II of this report.



3. Overview of progress made in 2022

Photo credit: Kitagasa IP&LCs and ETA staff next to one of the established *mysopsis eminii* gardens discussing the nature of species required within an agro-forestry estate as well as partnerships. Uganda - ETA

The overview presented here offers a general overview of the progress made at local, national, regional and international level and is not a complete description of all outcomes and output achieved in 2022, but is intended to provide a good impression of what has been achieved. We refer to annex D, E and F for more detailed progress reports. The progress boxes at the beginning of each Pathway include quantitative PMEL data for relevant indicators (see annex C). The narrative text includes selected qualitative examples. Overall, 2022 has been a very productive year. The GLA progress was on track, sometimes slightly behind, but often ahead. We did not encounter serious concerns that would require significant programmatic changes. The following sections present progress per pathway of the theory of change.

Pathway A: IP&LC governance



Indigenous peoples and local communities sustainably govern increased areas of forest.

Under this pathway, GLA partners in all GLA countries invest in supporting IP&LCs in a variety of ways to strengthen their capacity to govern their lands and claim their (land) rights effectively. Mapping Indigenous lands and monitoring deforestation and rights violations is an important part of this. GLA members, CSO partners and IP&LCs carry out advocacy to encourage governmental actors to legally recognise, ensure and protect the rights of IP&LCs, including their right to participate meaningfully in policy processes.

Progress 2022: consolidated overview monitoring data Pathway A

In 2022, the programme contributed to 55 reported changes in policies and practices contributing to inclusive governance structures and sustainable IP&LC forest management (**GLA indicator 4**), in nine countries and at international level. Of these, 12 policies were adopted, 33 policies were (better) implemented, and ten policies were blocked or drafted. These changes in policies or practices were relevant at different government levels, mainly local or subnational (87%), national (40%) and international (11%), with several policies relevant at multiple levels. In 39 cases, the policy represented a change in gender equality, justice and/or inclusiveness of marginalised groups.

All the pathways of change for the programme aimed to build and increase the capacities of civil society. In 2022, GLA strengthened the capacity of 88 CSOs/CBOs (**GLA indicator 9**). Of these, 36 are first ring GLA implementing partners that reported an increase in their capacity. An additional 52 other CBOs/CSOs were strengthened.

Pathway A is at the heart of the FfJF programme. The majority of the work by GLA partners takes place under this pathway, focusing on enabling IP&LCs to govern their lands. The activities and outcomes have strong connections with Pathway B and C. In 2022 we noticed most of the results under Pathway A are achieved at the local and subnational level. Achieving results at national level proves to be more complicated as national governments are likely to prioritise their economic agenda over their environmental agenda. This requires ongoing attention and is closely linked to activities under Pathway B (drivers of deforestation) and C (civic space).

Strengthening IP&LCs to govern their lands and claim their rights

In many of the GLA countries and landscapes, with the support and guidance of GLA partners, communities and Indigenous peoples have acquired more rights to govern their lands (result 1) by registering and legalising their community governance structures and/or acquiring formal land rights. In all countries, establishing IP&LC governance structures is an important step. For example, with the support of the community rights support facility (CRSF) seven communities in **Liberia** formalised and adopted their community by-laws on the management and use of their lands and the Liberia Land Authority validated the community self identification (CSI) in these communities.

Once IP&LC structures are in place, the next step is to ensure their formal recognition and rights to manage their land (result 4). A lot of progress has been made in this area at the local and area level. For

example, in **DRC**, 13 local community forest concession (LCFC) titles were granted in the Mwenga territory, Kahuzi Biega area with the support of Tropenbos DRC. This allows communities to effectively protect the forests on their land. In two other territories, the process towards LCFC titles is underway. In **Indonesia**, 2,097.33 hectares (ha) of customary areas in Mekar Raya village KLU landscape have been registered as Indigenous community conserved areas (ICCA). In Lariang, three out of eight identified areas targeted as ICCA have been verified. Also, three social forestry (SF) approvals were acquired for Simpeng Ulon Bulongon forest, Kaltara Bersatu forest and the Senguyun forestry partnership. Moa village received a recognition decree for an Indigenous forest of 1460 ha. These achievements were made with the support of several GLA partners: Tropenbos Indonesia, YAPHSI/NTFP and Sawit Watch. In **the Philippines**, Indigenous peoples from Baggao and Palau Island in northern Sierra Madre and from Narra, Aborlan and Puerto Princesa in Palawan formulated, completed, verified and adopted their ancestral domain sustainable development and protection plan (ADSDPP). Also, the Barangay local government units (LGUs) of Isugod and Aramaywan in Quezon formally adopted the ADSDPPs of the IPs in the area. The total land coverage of all the ADSDPPs is now 188,686.07 ha. The involved GLA partners are Mabuwaya, NTFP, KIN, Samdhana and IDEAS. In **Viet Nam** the forest land allocation process to IP&LCs differs per province. In Kon Tum province, forest land allocation with participation of local authorities, communities, CSOs and consultants led to the project's first ten complete applications for community forest tenure (479 ha of forest), all including a sustainable community forest management plan. In Dak Lak province, the provincial people's committee approved a plan for participatory forest land allocation with a sustainable forestry village model. In **Uganda**, four collaborative forest management (CFM) agreements have been completed between the national forest authority and IP&LCs.

Inclusivity

A key element of the GLA Theory of Change is ensuring the inclusivity of governance structures for the sustainable management of forested landscapes (result 2). The full and meaningful engagement of women and youth, in particular, in governance structures is a central part of capacity building in the communities. A priority in all countries, this is partly done through mainstreaming women and youth participation in workshops, meetings and structures. In addition, the programme also focuses on women and youth empowerment by strengthening their capacity in women- and youth-only groups. This is often necessary to ensure women's and young people's voices are heard, since they may not (yet) have the confidence to speak up in mixed groups due to social norms.

For example, in **Liberia**, the establishment of inclusive community land development and management committees (CLDMCs) included special educational sessions for women and youth groups, women-only by-law drafting meetings, and motivation and leadership training. In **the Philippines** six Indigenous women's organisations were established in Rizal, Palawan and one municipal wide-federation of women's organisations was formed in Rizal, Palawan (IDEAS, NTFP, LILAK). In **Indonesia**, a network of women's champions has been formed in seven GLA model villages in Ketapang, West Kalimantan, after a feminist participatory action research (FPAR) training facilitated by the Indonesian gender technical partners in 2022 (Tropenbos Indonesia). The trained women led the transformation in their respective villages, including by actively encouraging other women to be more courageous in expressing their opinions at village meetings, and documenting the transformation of women that took place in their own village.

In **Bolivia**, IBIF and SAVIA contributed to the establishment of ten youth groups, consisting of 200 young people who take action against threats to their territories. In addition, the Monkox Indigenous women's organisation of Lomerío (OMIML, organised with the support of IBIF) has decided to become an autonomous organisation with its own vision and management. It has the support and recognition of the Indigenous headquarters of original communities of Lomerío (CICOL). In **Cameroon**, CED facilitated the participation of young Indigenous and non-Indigenous women in local and national meetings, where they were able to express their views and make themselves known as points of contact for the authorities. The project also supported the creation of an Indigenous youth organisation to enhance Indigenous youth leadership. In **Viet Nam**, female Indigenous farmers engaged in research on IP&LCs customs in forest management. Consequently, they were trained in storytelling and shared their stories at the landscape restoration forum.

Land mapping and monitoring

Mapping Indigenous and community-owned lands and monitoring illegal activities and deforestation in the GLA areas is another important element of the Theory of Change. These maps form the basis for IP&LCs

land governance agreements and evidence of violations are essential for forest protection (linked with Pathways B and C). In **Indonesia** achievements have been made in village spatial planning with the support of all Indonesian GLA partners. Several village boundaries have been mapped and in the case of overlapping boundaries, dialogues with neighbouring villages were held to come to boundary agreements. The established maps include customary areas that can be used for ICCA proposals. In addition, the village maps become an important data source for village development planning.

In all countries, community monitors have been trained and supported in 2022 with important results. Monitoring is often effective to stop illegal deforestation activities. For instance, IP&LCs in Zoka central forest reserve in **Uganda** discovered illegal settlements inside the forest reserve and successfully demanded the responsible agency demolish the structures and evict the illegal settlers. In **Ghana**, the forest services division of the Forestry Commission has responded to reports by community monitors by arresting over 40 people in the Western North region and arraigning them before court. Four of these illegal forest operators were given jail sentences, while others were fined.

Through the CRDD thematic programme, we support CSOs and IP&LCs in local monitoring and research to identify violations and link local struggles to national and international processes (See Pathway B). In 2022, hundreds of reports have been sent by local forest monitors to FoE groups in **the Philippines, Liberia, Cameroon** and as mentioned above in **Ghana**.

Sustainable livelihood strategies

In 2022 much progress was made in establishing livelihood strategies that are aligned with sustainable forest management. Improved livelihoods have many positive side effects in terms of social cohesion, resilience and (women's) empowerment. In **Malaysia**, the youth and women of Long Meraan established community-based NTFP enterprises (CBNE) as a livelihood through conservation, rehabilitation and farming activities. During the lockdown in 2021, NTFP-EP Malaysia was able to deliver vegetable seeds to the IP&LCs, which became the main source of food for them during the movement restriction order. Some of the women began to sell their crops to fellow villagers in 2022 and are motivated to continue gardening not only for themselves but also to earn extra income for their family. In August 2022, the women initiated a community garden which shows a growth in confidence and enables women to have a space where they are free and comfortable to share ideas.

In **Viet Nam**, CBNEs and IP&LCs gained better knowledge and skills in sustainable production and business operations thanks to a number of national and international training and exposure events. As a result, IP&LCs can produce and sell more and higher quality forest-originated products to the market. This contributes to improving their livelihoods with climate smart, forest-friendly livelihood options, reducing pressure on forest resources and improving the deforestation situation. A network called CBNE Viet Nam was established with the initial participation of 22 CBNEs from nine provinces. The development and sharp increase of CBNEs in 2022 is remarkable and can bring a new energy into the communities, especially to young people and women. There is high potential of using NTFPs to improve local livelihoods, forest-friendly production and forest conservation, and vitalising the local culture which has eroded in the current socio-economic development context.

In **DRC**, 25 households in Bukoma were supported in the implementation of climate-resilient agricultural practices, including agroforestry, mulching, row seeding and using organic fertiliser. This group passed on the acquired knowledge to 125 new households who are now applying drought-resilient techniques in their fields, to the point of increasing their production by 20% to 60%. Also, a beekeeping cooperative in Kanyabayonga was legally registered in 2022 and supports its members with the marketing of their products, contributing to the improvement of their income and the protection of forests for the survival of bees.

In **Indonesia**, the Sijunjung forest management unit issued a decree for the formation of four social forestry business companies in beekeeping, social forestry and oyster mushrooms (WARSI). Also in 2022, a woman from Kenanga village initiated the establishment of an NTFP craft group named Odop Baukir with 17 members of Dayak Kommi carving craftsmen (Tropenbos Indonesia). This strengthens the production and marketing of local crafting and carving products. In **Ghana**, we have also witnessed improved agroforestry practices by farmers in Atewa and Juaboso-Bia. In Juaboso-Bia cocoa farmers expanded agroforestry practices to about 400 hectares of cocoa lands between May and August 2022 and trees have been integrated in 719.96 hectares of farmlands in the Atewa landscape.

Lobbying and advocacy for improved legal recognition and protection of IP&LCs rights

Collaboration and coalition building to exert power

Strengthening collaboration of CSOs and IP&LCs and coalition building are important strategies to effectively exert power on decision makers and are essential parts of the GLA work in every country at the regional and international levels (result 10 and 12). The GLA coalition itself, with dozens of partners around the globe and its engagement in national and international networks, is an example of strengthened collaboration and coalition building. In 2022 the visibility of the **North Amazon Alliance (ANA)** as a unified voice of CSOs and IPs who promote the safeguarding of ecosystems and sociocultural connectivity in the region north of the Amazon river, has been increased, building consensus around joint positions. ANA played an important role in the negotiations of the new global targets of the CBD to leverage the importance of IPs and the Amazon, as key to meeting the new global targets, as well as halting biodiversity loss (see below). In this context, the recognition of Indigenous territories as spatial strategies that contribute to biodiversity protection was achieved. This process confirmed the relevance of a territorially-interconnected alliance to advocate for the recognition of Indigenous rights within global processes (Gaia Amazonas).

Also at the country level, collaborations and networks were established to build a more unified approach. For example, in **DRC** the communities of Barumbi Tshopo, Bapondi, Bafwomogo, and Bafwabula formed an inter-LCFC platform to better defend their rights to natural resources and to work together to find positive resolutions of conflicts (e.g. illegal occupation of the LCFCs, plundering of resources, illegal mining, poisoning of water, etc. by local authorities and other third parties). They did this by writing letters of denunciation. In **the Philippines**, 20 Indigenous youths from Sierra Madre, Palawan, Northern Mindanao and Visayas formed the **Ugnayin**, a national network of Indigenous youth that will lobby and advocate for Indigenous peoples' issues. In addition, five Indigenous youth groups established platforms for coordination and organised activities such as an IP youth camp and tree planting. These youth networks drafted their action plans and participated in landscape decision-making processes (Mabuwaya, NTFP). In **Bolivia**, the community land of origin (TCO) Turubó Este (an Indigenous organisation that brings together five communities in San José de Chiquitos), with the support of PROBIOMA, formed the committee for the defence of the Turubó Este TCO's catchments, that aims to defend and manage the municipality's water resources.

Strengthening collaboration and joint decision making is not easy however. In **Cameroon**, CED attempted to strengthen the representation of IPs at the Senate by proposing candidates for the 2023 elections. Unfortunately because of the community's inability to find a consensus around names of representatives this initiative failed and communities will be witnessing another term without a single Indigenous member in the Senate.

Lobbying and advocacy capacity building

To ensure IP&LCs right to participate in sustainable forest governance policy development and implementation, it is important IP&LCs are aware of their rights and existing or planned policies. Many courses, workshops and exchange fora were conducted in 2022 to strengthen IP&LCs capacity in this respect (result 9). For example, CENSAT in **Colombia**, designed a degree course on the green economy. Fifty representatives from different Indigenous peoples' and community organisations, monitoring bodies, universities and NGOs from Latin American countries and Colombia learned about the functioning, instruments and risks of the green economy and the financialisation of nature, and have committed to take action to confront [this narrative](#) and its effects. In addition, 45 Indigenous women from the Inga and Kamentsá peoples in Putumayo, have improved their understanding of reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+) projects, and identifying potential threats to their implementation. Approximately 400 members of six Indigenous councils in Alto Putumayo obtained information about carbon markets, including data that can be used to counter the information provided by project promoters.

In **Ghana**, advocacy training specifically for women's groups on current issues in natural resources and cocoa, proved to be effective for advocacy as well as women's empowerment. A women's cocoa farmer cooperative was able to engage with the cocoa health and extension division of the Cocobod within the Adjoafoa cocoa district (Juaboso-Bia) to provide direct inputs instead of routing them through their male counterparts. Together with two other women cocoa groups within the area, came together to urge the government to

expedite action on reforming the tree tenure arrangement to give them benefits from trees they nurture on their farms. In **Liberia**, SDI established the Western Region Women Network Association (WEWONA) that advocates on sustainable and rights-based natural resource governance in Bomi, Gbarpolu and Cape Mount counties, including addressing gender-based violence and women's rights in relation to agro-commodity concessions. In **Bolivia**, with support from SAVIA, the water promotion committee of San José de Chiquitos drafted a proposal for a municipal water catchment law that proposes an environmental pause in the drilling of deep wells and policies to preserve groundwater sources. It also incorporates a vision of effective protection of forests as a guarantee of the sustainability of the ecosystem service of water supply. In **the Philippines**, members of SOS Yamang Bayan, a multi-sectoral alliance of Indigenous peoples, CSOs, youth and artists who are pushing for the alternative minerals management bill, approved the inclusion of a gender-just framework in the proposed bill.

Lobbying and advocacy outcomes

Lobbying and advocacy activities have contributed to noteworthy policy developments at different levels. For example, NTFP-EP supported the ASEAN working group on social forestry and the ASEAN secretariat to facilitate the formulation of the ASEAN guidelines on recognition of customary tenure in forested landscapes, with support from the Mekong region land governance project and the GLA. The ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (AMAF) formally adopted the guidelines during their 44th meeting last October 2022 in Lao PDR (Laos). In **DRC**, the national land policy and bill was adopted by the council of ministers following the contribution of GLA players in land reform actions. In **Cameroon**, an evaluation of the impact of large-scale concessions on the rights of the population and the forest was used to fight against forest conversions. The data showed the main challenges and issues created by large-scale land concessions and served to enrich the land reform advocacy process and to demand an end to the allocation of land concessions. Ultimately, the parliament endorsed the need to improve the protection of local and Indigenous communities' land and resources, during the November 2022 parliament-government dialogue on land governance.

Often we find that lobby and advocacy results are easier to achieve at the local level. For example, in **Viet Nam** the local government of Gia Lai province approved the implementation of smart agroforestry models in three communities in K'Bang district. The process towards this result taught us the importance of supporting the local government to develop policies that include community perspectives and are in line with the law. In **Ghana**, the **Okyehene**, the king of Akyem Abuakwa traditional area in Atewa, called for Atewa forest reserve to be made a national park as a result of lobbying and advocacy work of A Rocha Ghana and partners. This strengthens the advocacy to exclude the Atewa forest reserve from the government's plan for bauxite mining.

LGL policy dossiers related to Pathway A: International Biodiversity and Climate action

Under this pathway, we worked on two relevant international policy dossiers to ensure IP&LCs participation in these policy processes and to include support for sustainable IP&LCs forest management.

Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

After three years of negotiations, one of the highlights of 2022, is the **Kunming-Montreal global biodiversity framework (GBF)** that was adopted at the UN CBD CoP15 (December 2022), with 23 goals - including specific self-standing gender targets - aimed at halting global biodiversity loss and restoring biodiversity by 2030. In the context of the negotiations, many GLA partners persuaded the recognition of local ownership and governance and the role of IP&LCs to reach biodiversity targets.

In 2022, a wide variety of lobbying and advocacy activities took place in relation to the CBD at all levels, targeting different elements of the GBF. [North Amazon Alliance](#) (ANA), coordinated by **Gaia Amazonas**, aimed to position the importance of Indigenous territories for biodiversity protection at the CBD. As technical partners of the Coordinator of the Indigenous Organizations of the Amazon Basin (COICA) during the negotiations and through the Indigenous Caucus (IIFB), they informed the discussion around the most relevant aspects of the GBF for this bio-region. **NTFP-EP Asia, SDI and MD/FoEI** focused on ensuring that Asian and African IP&LCs, including women and youth, were able to engage and advocate for rights-based, inclusive and community-based strategies. At the international and global level, **MD/FoEI and FoE organisations** advocated for the adoption of ICCAs as a legitimate alternative to classic nature conservation and to

advance food sovereignty and agroecology. They also advocated for regulations to restrict economic sectors that drive deforestation and effect IP&LCs rights (see also the CRDD thematic programme under Pathway B). **IUCN NL** focused on the CBD process in the Netherlands and internationally by supporting ICCAs and other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs), monitoring and evaluation and resource mobilisation. **WECF/GFC** focused on the inclusion of feminist and gender-just demands in the GBF, including promoting detailed gender-based indicators to provide an opportunity to better understand women's contributions to biological and cultural biodiversity, and the gender differentiated impacts of biodiversity governance. The specific self-standing gender targets to ensure gender equality in the implementation of the framework is a significant step forward to ensure a gender responsive approach, contributing to the objectives of the convention.

Despite significant wins in the new global biodiversity framework in relation to recognition of IP&LCs' rights, there is concern that the GBF continues to be consumer-centred and based on the idea of nature positive. This constitutes the idea it is okay to destroy nature in one place if it is restored in another. This fundamental support for offsetting as a solution combined with the vision of biodiversity being in function of the climate is highly controversial and is a threat to forests ecosystems and IP&LC's rights, especially to women, youth and elders. From 2023 onwards we will closely monitor how the GBF will play out on the ground and document potential negative impacts.

UNFCCC and nationally determined contributions (NDCs)

Under this policy dossier we aim to strengthen the recognition and position of IP&LCs, women and youth in the discussions, design and implementation of climate action, in particular in relation to the NDCs and NAPs (national adaptation plans) which are the main instruments guiding climate action in the countries where we work. Activities include strengthening capacities of IP&LCs, women and youth groups to participate in national and international discussions on climate action (Result 8).

In relation to NDCs, a hybrid learning session was organised in 2022 under the GLA regional collaboration meeting in Asia: ***Beyond recognition: How can we amplify meaningful participation and contribution of IP&LCs in realising nationally determined contributions (NDCs)***. At least 26 GLA country partners and Alliance members were able to participate online and in person (Bogor, Indonesia). The learning session provided a space for CSOs to increase their knowledge and understanding of NDCs and their potential contribution to strengthening meaningful participation of IP&LCs, and was useful in determining their learning needs and potential joint/regional lobby and advocacy activities.

In November 2022 UNFCCC CoP27 took place in Egypt. The CoP took place in a context of civil society repression and threats to activists, and with a high presence of fossil fuel representatives. In this context it was all the more important that CSOs and representatives of IP&LCs were present and heard. GLA partners organised many activities and events to ensure the voices of IP&LCs were listened to. **WECF** co-organised the 7th edition of the annual Gender Just Climate Solutions award celebration during CoP27, which was attended by over 200 people, and more online. The awards identify outstanding grassroots climate actions which centre on women's leadership and gender justice. These best practices are shared with government representatives, institutions and other CoP delegates to encourage adoption and funding. Winners are mentored to scale their projects and actively participate in international climate negotiations. An [article](#) about the event was published in the IISD Earth Negotiations Bulletin, and a [video](#) was made.

GFC held four events at CoP27: [Livestock and feed crops impact women and communities](#); [Deindustrialisation for transformation](#); [No More Omissions: real policy action on land use, animal agriculture and GHGs](#); and [Build a future of real solutions, not a fossil fuel house of cards](#). In addition, GFC organised a panel discussion [Carbon markets: A barrier to real solutions and real zero](#) to discuss a decolonised approach to climate solutions and published the op-ed [Beware of climate colonialism at CoP27](#) in **Ms. Magazine**. Together with the NGO Corporate Accountability and FoEI, the report [Conflicted beyond credibility: analysis of big polluters ties to global net zero initiatives](#) was launched to analyse the corporate ties of three of the most prominent net zero initiatives.

NTFP-EP and its partners organised a CoP27 side event entitled: ***Amplifying IP&LCs voices and the security of territories of life and customary tenure towards meaningful climate action***. This event supported IP&LCs and CSOs to raise their voices and presented [key recommendations](#) developed by the CSO forum on

social forestry in ASEAN to support ICCAs, customary tenure and safeguards as mechanisms for achieving climate targets.

In addition, an important advocacy outcome of CoP27 was the establishment of a loss and damage fund, which was long demanded by (grassroots) civil society groups in countries most affected by the climate crisis, yet the progress on climate finance remains slow.

Ghana's forest guardians use innovative app to expose illegal deforestation

In the Bia West district of Ghana, local communities are harnessing the power of a mobile app to help authorities detect and locate illegal logging.

The app, called Timby (This Is My Backyard), was developed by the GLA programme and given to the local community so they could help Ghana's under-resourced forest services division (FSD) protect and manage the forests.

This innovative tool not only collects crucial data on the primary causes of deforestation but also provides compelling evidence to support lobbying efforts for forest governance reforms.

Friends of the Earth Ghana delivered training to the community members on forest monitoring, and using the Timby app, they were able to capture and report illegal forest logging activities to the FSD of the Juaboso district.

Over 40 arrests

Using the app's online reporting system, the local forest monitors shared the evidence they had collected with the FSD, and in a joint effort with the Ghana military, 40 arrests were made.

The illegal operators appeared before the magistrate court in Sefwi Wiawso, Western North region of Ghana. Four were given custodial sentences, while the remaining offenders were given fines ranging from 1,200 to 6,000 Ghanaian cedis (100-500 EUR).

Identifying prominent causes of deforestation

The data collected through the app reveals agricultural expansion into forest reserves and illegal mining, two major factors which contribute to deforestation. This information allows the team to work with local communities to design appropriate interventions to address the issue. The app data also serves as strong evidence to support advocacy for legislative reforms in inclusive forest governance.



Photo credit: Illegally sawn lumber reported by forest monitors. Photo by one of the forest monitors



Photo credit: Local community members interact with FoE team on use app

Pathway B: Drivers of deforestation



Governments and agro-commodity, extractives, energy and infrastructure sectors no longer drive deforestation and address citizens' concerns to protect forests and human rights.

Under this pathway we target local and national governments and intergovernmental bodies as well as private sector initiatives and actors to halt deforestation. We aim to strengthen the influence of governments over the private sector through regulations and enforcement of environmental and human rights policies. The drivers of deforestation are addressed at different levels and through different constituencies of Alliance members and CSO partners that collaborate in specific short-term interventions or longer term collaborations.

Progress 2022: consolidated overview monitoring data Pathway B

In 2022, the GLA observed that 41 policies and regulations addressing drivers of deforestation by public and private actors were implemented and complied with or blocked (**GLA indicator 3**). The main focus of the policies were on community-driven management of land and forests, management regulations for the financial and economic sectors that drive deforestation, biodiversity loss and nature conservation, oil, palm oil, soy, mining, human rights and the rights of (W)EHRDS. 26 reflected a change in policies of public actors, four of private actors, ten by community leaders and one by an international human rights organisation. Of the 41 changes in policies or practices, 73% were relevant at a local level, 49% at national level and 34% covered the international or regional, comprising several countries (with some issues relevant for multiple levels). 25 policies represented a change in gender and/or inclusiveness.

The programme contributed to the adoption of 12 standards and regulations by public and private actors to address the drivers of deforestation in a gender responsive way and to protect the rights of (W)EHRDS (**GLA indicator 5**). Seven of these reflect a change in public actors and five policies reflect a change in policy by local (Indigenous) authorities. Ten out of 12 policies represent a change in gender equality, justice and/or inclusiveness of marginalised groups. The changes in policies or practices were relevant at different levels: local (100%) national (62%) and international or regional (23%). Multiple levels are possible per issue.

Social movements, constituents and media took up 65 relevant issues covering environmental IP&LCs and deforestation drivers in 11 countries including the Netherlands (GLA indicator 7). In 14 (22%) cases, the report explicitly sought to more equally distribute power or access to resources between women and men. Additionally, in 17 (26%) cases, the report paid explicit attention to differences between women and men, but not to the extent of a more equal distribution of power or access to resources between women and men. In the remaining 34 cases (52%) gender is not covered in the report. Of the 65 issues taken up by social movements, constituents and media, 9% received limited coverage, 29% moderate coverage, 46% good coverage and 15% high profile coverage. In 51% issues or reports were local, in 46% were national level and in 26% it covered the international level (multiple levels are possible per issue).

Governments and private sector actors are held accountable for deforestation and rights violations

At the country level, the GLA works with IP&LCs and CSOs to prevent deforestation and to hold governments and private sector actors accountable for deforestation and rights violations (result 3). The GLA efforts to strengthen networks and coalitions (result 10), to monitor

violations (result 8), work with the media (result 7) and lobby and advocate for forest protection and human and women's rights (result 5) reaped small but also more significant results in 2022. Examples are highlighted below.

In **Bolivia**, CEDIB and PROBIOMA gained more knowledge of the problems linked to the structural causes of the water crisis in Chiquitanía. They achieved this based on two studies in the municipality of San Ignacio de Velasco, with one using a remote sensing methodology and the other based on direct information gathering in the communities. This information is used for community workshops, municipal events and printed and virtual outreach material. After accessing information on the critical situation of water resources and its causes - e.g. large cattle farms for meat export - representatives of communities in the municipality of San Ignacio de Velasco, proposed joint actions to demand the municipality and other authorities enforce environmental protection regulations.

In **Cameroon**, CED and other CSO partners noticed that a [private road was being constructed into the Ebo forest](#) without consultation with local communities. The road would open up the forest for illegal logging and poaching. Supported by the CRDD thematic programme of Milieudefensie, GLA partners initiated a lobbying campaign targeting the government and its donors, including the EU and the US, which successfully led to the suspension of the road construction.

Secondly, in the court case of [Cameroon farmers against Bolloré in France](#), the judge decided that Bolloré has to provide documentation on its corporate relationship with the Socfin plantation company to the lawyers of the local communities. The plaintiffs accuse Socfin of abusing their rights and harming the environment.

In **Colombia**, GLA partners invested in establishing fluid, structured and systematic communication with FEDEGAN (Colombia's main livestock association), prioritising issues of traceability, areas suitable for activity development and the exchange of detailed information.

In **DRC**, partners took action against illegal exploitation and trafficking of wild fauna and flora in the Virunga, Upemba and Salonga areas. Through a mix of pressure strategies, including court cases, nine environmental criminal networks were dismantled. This experience helped to strengthen a judicial and administrative strategy to protect the integrity of protected areas.

In **Ghana**, the Atewa CREMA executive committee stopped an investor who wanted to establish a cattle ranch within the buffer zones of River Densu. The committee first encouraged him to leave the area, then wrote to the district assembly and the Forestry Commission to force him to leave. The court case to prevent the government from mining bauxite in the Atewa forest reserve has progressed through pretrial processes, with the court hearing commencing in January 2023. Related to this, GFC, in collaboration with A Rocha Ghana, conducted [research on the gendered impact of mining in Atewa forest](#).

In **Indonesia**, WALHI pushed for the evaluation and withdrawal of illegal permits to palm oil companies. In March 2022 local communities and women's groups in Solok Selatan Regency, West Sumatra, managed to regain control of their land (1,200 ha) which was previously controlled and managed by the palm oil company PT. Ranah Andalas Plantation (PT. RAP). This company has stopped operating. Also, in 2022 the governor of Central Sulawesi issued recommendations related to resolving a dispute between palm oil company PT. Agro Nusa Abadi (PT. ANA) and communities in six villages of the East Petasia sub-district. The governor conducted an evaluation of PT. ANA's permit and reported the company to the Ministry of Agrarian Affairs and Spatial Planning.

In **Liberia**, the Ministry of Justice committed to working with SDI/CSO oil palm working group on the Liberia national action plan on business and human rights. SDI holds a leading position in the working group, which led a one day information sharing and engagement meeting that brought together state and non-state actors in May 2022. The event was to initiate a multi-stakeholder and inclusive partnership between state and non-state actors for the effective implementation of business and human rights policies in the natural resource sector. GFC and RICCA wrote [a publication on the gendered impact of palm oil plantations](#).

In the **Netherlands**, Milieudefensie runs a programme aimed at introducing binding rules to prevent Dutch companies and financial institutions from contributing to human rights violations, deforestation and climate

change, and to remove legal obstacles for access to justice and remedy for victims. In November, 2022, the Albert Heijn supermarket chain, part of Ahold Delhaize, announced an improved climate path with a 45% emission reduction in 2030 and a protein shift to 60% plant-based-40% animal. The main interventions that contributed to this outcome were [research with Profundo](#) on Ahold Delhaize's contribution to climate damage, direct actions in cooperation with Milieudefensie young department and Indonesian activists, public petitions and letters with criteria to reduce emissions and deforestation, and media coverage.

IUCN NL also published a [practical guide](#) for responsible (including deforestation-free) plant protein chains. This guide helps companies to assess and prevent risks and contains minimum requirements that vegetable protein chains should meet. IUCN NL also contributed to [research](#) about the impact of Dutch insurers on biodiversity. The research showed that six of the nine largest insurers have inadequate biodiversity policies, despite being aware that biodiversity loss is a financial risk.

In the **Philippines**, the GLA partners note that progress at national level is problematic, but at local level we have witnessed positive developments under Pathway B. In southern Sierra Madre, two companies: the Mount Purro nature reserve and TeaM Energy Foundation, provided financial support to the Indigenous peoples for their livelihoods, resource management and management of the ancestral domain (NTFP). A congressman from the province of Oriental Mindoro, filed house bill No. 3891: ***An act declaring the island of Mindoro a mining free zone, prohibiting all forms of mining operations and providing penalties thereof***, in November 2022. And the South Cotabato governor vetoed the amendment to the provincial environment code, which would allow open pit mining in the province after massive protests from different sectors and groups (ATM, ELAC, IDEAS, NTFP).

In **Uganda**, through litigation and advocacy, GLA partners were able to sustain public and political attention to stop the EACOP oil project, because of its negative impact on forested landscapes and community livelihoods. The case, which was heard in the European Court of Justice, supported the need to keep EACOP in the public consciousness and sustain the pressure to save the forest. In addition, the oil refinery court case against TotalEnergies in the French high court, pressured the Ugandan government to provide land titles and restoration programmes for the people affected by the oil refinery.

In **Viet Nam**, GLA partners worked with the Dak Lak Rubber Company (Dakruco) which led to 1,100 hectares of rubber to be produced in a sustainable way, meeting the international standards of FSC certification on ecological restoration and biodiversity conservation and community consultation.

Media engagement

Media plays an important role in all three pathways and is an important strategy to exert power and hold governments and private actors accountable (result 7). In **Indonesia**, WALHI implemented a media campaign targeting local and national media to inform the public of the detrimental effects of ending the palm oil moratorium and the proposed job creation law. Both policies will lead to the expansion of extractive industry permits including palm oil, scarcity of cooking oil, mining, climate change and ecological disasters. In **Liberia**, the investigative journalism website and GLA partner the DayLight conducted approximately 50 interviews and investigated 20 incidences of deforestation, rights violations, and non-compliance with Liberian laws and international regulations by individuals, businesses, civil servants and public officials in the agriculture, forestry and mining sectors. This resulted in the publication of more than ten news articles and features on issues and conflicts in the oil palm sector of Liberia. These publications led to police investigations into illegal logging and subsequent court cases against more than ten people. The stories also drew the attention of international regulators and CSOs.

Local-to-Global: Regional and international progress in addressing drivers of deforestation

At the regional and international levels, we addressed the drivers of deforestation through our two LGL thematic programmes: CRDD and JET; our work on one policy dossier: EU deforestation legislation; and regional collaboration in Southeast Asia in particular.

Community rights and deforestation drivers (CRDD)

Through the CRDD thematic programme, Friends of the Earth (FoE) groups organised their work with IP&LCs and allies to connect IP&LC rights and corporate driven deforestation struggles to national, regional and international fora and social movements. The programme provided strategic capacity building and lobbying and advocacy interventions to build and execute international grassroots and rights based forest campaigns. The outcomes relate to both Pathway A and Pathway B.

The CRDD main intervention strategies are dissent strategies that focus on the mobilisation of IP&LC-based social movements and documenting, exposing and filing grievances on harms inflicted by industrial deforestation drivers. We also built coalitions with scientists to analyse and expose the systemic abuses in land based industrial concession models for agro-commodities and timber production. Key projects under this programme include local forest monitoring, campaigns against the expansion of monoculture plantations, advocacy with southern partners on the European anti-deforestation regulation (see also LGL policy dossier on EU deforestation regulation) and support of EHRDs.

In 2022, key achievements were:

- **Divestments and suspension from controversial monoculture plantations.** In February 2022, FMO and other European development banks withdrew from a controversial palm oil plantation Feronia-PHC in DRC. Also during 2022, six international consumer goods companies, at least two international traders and one Dutch investor divested from Indonesian plantation company Astra Agro Lestari over adverse environmental and social impacts.
- **New legislation adopted in Sierra Leone.** In September 2022, the Sierra Leone parliament enacted two land laws: the National Land Commission and the Customary Land Rights bills, which greatly improve and formalise the land rights of local and Indigenous communities.
- **Local forest monitoring halts deforestation.** Hundreds of reports are sent yearly by local forest monitors to FoE groups in the Philippines, Liberia, Cameroon and Ghana. These are used for advocacy. For example, in Cameroon where after international pressure, research, exposure and diplomatic interventions, the road building in Ebo forest was suspended.
- **Influencing the EU deforestation law by bringing in the voices of campaigners active in countries where deforestation is happening.** The CRDD programme facilitated meetings with EU policy makers, including a lobby tour, and letters from representatives from the global south with the support of FoEE, Fern and FoE Netherlands.
- **Resisting corporate capture in the CBD.** In response to increasing evidence of corporate capture and influence in many aspects of the CBD process and the global biodiversity framework, FoEI and GFC initiated a campaign to address this specifically. FoEI commissioned research to analyse and expose the strategies companies are using to lobby for their interests. The report, [The Nature of Business](#) and [Corporate Capture versus Rights and Governance](#) were launched on the 5th of December in advance of the CBD CoP15. The report received attention from civil society, the media and raised awareness with parties to the CoP.

Just energy transition (JET)

The JET thematic programme connects local to global struggles to support a just energy transition by halting deforestation and related human rights violations around fossil and renewable energy-related mineral extractivism. During 2022, the JET programme focused on supporting international collaboration in lobbying and advocacy, and mutual capacity building (campaigning and community mobilising) around fossil energy and renewable energy-related mineral/raw materials extractivism. In particular, the JET programme advocated for improved regulation of fossil businesses and their financiers, in order to halt ongoing and expanding fossil support, and to ensure responsible, i.e. just, renewable energy alternatives.

During 2022, FoEI's climate justice and energy programme continued to **denounce false solutions** to the climate crisis - such as carbon markets, net zero and geo-engineering. FoEI campaigning and communications work has influenced the narratives in mainstream media, which showed a greater degree of scepticism about net zero plans and offsetting schemes during 2022.

FoE Europe, Milieudefensie and several European FoE partners worked closely with FoE Mozambique (JA!) to advocate and campaign against the **Mozambique LNG project**. During 2022, key advocacy sources were launched during JA!'s European speakers tour: [Fueling the Crisis in Mozambique](#) which provides a detailed overview of the environmental, social, economic and climate impacts of the LNG projects; the financial support they receive from export credit agencies (ECAs); and the flaws in ECAs' decision-making procedures. The website [Say No to Gas in Mozambique](#) collects key information about the LNG projects in Mozambique. JA! and Milieudefensie also engaged with responsible Dutch decision makers and Dutch media about the escalated situation in Mozambique and the need to stop the ECA's support for the LNG project. Milieudefensie engaged with the researchers for the independent evaluation of the Dutch ECA's support for the project, commissioned by the Dutch parliament in 2021.

A major result achieved in 2022 was the **implementation of the Glasgow agreement by the Netherlands**. Milieudefensie, OCI and Both ENDS were successful in their joint advocacy and campaigning to push the Dutch government to come up with an ECA policy by the end of 2022 to stop its fossil support abroad. The Dutch policy came out just before CoP27. Despite this success, we note the new policy still includes loopholes, such as exemptions and a long transition period that would still allow for new fossil finance through Atradius. Milieudefensie and international NGOs will continue to collaborate closely to push for full implementation of the Glasgow agreement and to expose broken promises.

During the second half of 2022, **the Africa JET network was formally established**, consisting of seven JET partners in Uganda, Ghana, Togo and Liberia. The JET Africa partners in Uganda and Ghana immediately started implementing JET initiatives, while the partners in Togo and Liberia used this period to develop their 2023 plans. In 2022, the Ugandan JET partners generated [evidence on the importance of EACOP-affected forests](#). The research and accompanying campaign materials have been used by thousands of EACOP campaigners inside and outside of Uganda. JET partners also debunked misinformation disseminated by the pro-EACOP group. AFIEGO exposed misinformation by publishing counter articles that reached nearly two million people within and outside Uganda (see articles: [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#)). We also worked with MEPs to pass [a resolution](#) against EACOP.

In **Latin America**, through an [online exhibition](#) and in dialogue with policy makers, CENSAT (Colombia) engaged in intensive public awareness raising on communities' renewable energy alternatives. The Centre for the Study of Environment, Society and Energy (CEASE) / Southern Petroleum Observatory (OPSUR) carries out JET work in Argentina and at the regional (Latin America) level. OPSUR conducted case studies, documenting the small-scale renewable energy initiatives of local communities as well as workers' cooperatives. Workshops on JET and the right to energy were organised with CSOs, including indigenous organisations (Mapuche), in the provinces of Buenos Aires, Río Negro and Neuquén. Online courses were rolled out at the regional level together with feminist news agency Latfem. In terms of advocacy, meetings were organised with energy workers in Argentina, as well as trade union representatives from Uruguay and Mexico. The work led to increased civil society awareness and networking around JET in Argentina, in order to place it firmly into national debates.

EU deforestation legislation

Fern, Tropenbos International, IUCN NL, Milieudefensie and WECF/GFC are all working on ensuring effective EU deforestation legislation. In an important breakthrough, the European parliament and council reached agreement on a final version of the European anti-deforestation regulation (EUDR). The EUDR prohibits the placing of certain products on the EU market if they are not produced according to relevant national laws in producing countries, or if they have led to deforestation or forest degradation. Traders and operators placing products on the EU market, including soy, palm oil, cocoa, beef, coffee, rubber or timber, have to assure traceability to plot level, and must have proof of compliance to these new requirements.

The council of ministers, the European parliament and the European commission also agreed to include a clause in the EUDR instructing the commission to evaluate the role of financial institutions in preventing financial flows contributing directly or indirectly to deforestation and forest degradation and they must assess the need to provide for any specific obligations for financial institutions in EU legislation.

This very positive result was the fruit of intense collaboration between several coalitions across the EU supported by groups outside the EU. GLA partners have been engaging actively to make this happen through intense strategic advocacy work as part of the Brussels NGO coalition - the [#Together4Forests coalition](#) - and the NGO smallholders' coalition. For example, public campaigning led to more than 206,000 messages being sent to the European parliament in summer 2022 and over 50,000 letters to national governments of member states in spring 2022. Intensive and well coordinated advocacy work was conducted which included weekly, or more, coordination meetings to share information; webinars with NGOs in EU member states and in the south; meeting MEPs, EC policy makers and the private sector on a regular basis; facilitating policy tours of southern partners and developing joint position statements. Specific attention was given to the inclusion of smallholders and supportive measures to producing countries. Also, GFC published [a gendered perspective](#) on the regulation.

Although the EUDR will help to clean up EU supply chains, products could still be sold in other consumer markets like China or Indonesia. To reduce this risk, Fern has campaigned for the EU to build agreements with governments in forested countries to tackle the root causes of deforestation, such as weak forest governance and unclear land tenure. Such agreements could also help producer countries and small producers comply with the regulation. Fern, in collaboration with GLA partners, other NGOs, resource organisations and experts in the south, worked on [a discussion paper on partnerships](#) throughout 2022, which was published in January 2023.

Under this policy dossier we also address specific commodities such as cocoa. In December 2022, the [cocoa barometer](#) was launched by the VOICE network (Voice of organisations in Cocoa). Tropenbos Ghana and TBI both contributed insights on deforestation, climate change and agroforestry. Fern and partners in Ghana, Ivory Coast and Cameroon were actively engaged in the cocoa talks in 2022, supported by the EU in these three cocoa producing countries.

Regional collaboration and advocacy towards ASEAN governments

The regional collaboration of Asia GLA partners identified the topic group on **extractive, destructive and intrusive projects and programmes: mining, dams, oil palm plantations** to protect and promote the rights of IP&LCs from extractive mining and destructive projects. Joint activities are conducted to form a strong and cohesive regional platform for advocacy against destructive projects. Long-term outcomes include: (i) ASEAN comes out with a clear position on the legally binding treaty and United Nations guiding principles on business and human rights (BHR); and (ii) four governments (GLA countries) produce national action plans on BHR.

For 2022, a learning session on the ASEAN comprehensive recovery framework (ACRF) was conducted to review the content and strategies of the ACRF. This was to discuss the implication of the ACRF strategies for GLA advocacies, and how the ACRF will respond meaningfully towards a just future for forests and people. Another learning activity focused on the United Nations guiding principles on BHR and how to incorporate a gender lens in BHR. A regional learning session on the status of extractive, destructive and intrusive projects and programmes in the GLA Asia countries was also held.

Indigenous territories recognised as global protectors

Indigenous territories in Colombia have been formally recognised as management units in the new global biodiversity framework (GBF).

The recognition is a result of three years of work by the confederation of Indigenous organisations of the Amazon Basin (COICA) and Gaia Amazonas foundation (Fundación Gaia Amazonas)*, and was presented at COP15 in Montreal, Canada.

It demonstrates that Indigenous territories contribute to biodiversity protection and were included as a third category in the protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs) in target 3.

After many delays, this achievement is significant and comes in the final round of negotiations to protect biodiversity. It addresses the doubts and uncertainty of decision makers, civil society and citizens, who have struggled to reach an agreement around the new targets.



Photo credit: The Indigenous Territory of the Tiquié river, in the Colombian Amazon - Juan Gabriel Soler.

The delegation consisted of David Flórez, Lena Estrada, and Harold Rincón Ipuchima, who represented the Amazonian indigenous peoples from COICA, along with Luisa Bacca and Mariana Gómez from the Gaia Amazonas team who provided valuable technical support. Working together, they were able to prove the environmental importance of these regions and demonstrate the knowledge needed to manage them sustainably.

The participation of the delegation in Montreal marked the culmination of a partnership that started in 2019 and symbolised the progress made since the initial stages of the global biodiversity agreement.

Harold Rincón Ipuchima said, "This recognition is essential to maintaining ecosystem connectivity. Without it the territory and the forest collapse, the same way it would happen to the body if the heart stopped working."

Lena Estrada added, "Guaranteeing this connectivity depends on providing Indigenous territories with other strategies of protection."

Throughout the negotiations the role of Indigenous peoples as key and effective actors for safeguarding biological and cultural diversity was reiterated. Today, 80% of the planet's biodiversity is protected by Indigenous communities in their territories, and the Amazon is a strong example of this. With 40% of the world's remaining tropical rainforests and 25% of the Earth's terrestrial biodiversity, this region has long been governed and preserved by Indigenous peoples who have successfully upheld its remarkable diversity throughout the ages. Today, 87.5% of deforestation in the region occurs outside Indigenous territories and protected natural areas.

After this historic achievement, the team representing more than 500 Amazonian Indigenous peoples, is making a clear call. There is a real opportunity ahead for Amazonian countries if they acknowledge the importance of actively engaging in dialogue and collaboration with Indigenous peoples to ensure the preservation of this region. By working together, they can fulfill these commitments and safeguard the integrity of this invaluable ecosystem.

* Gaia Amazonas Foundation was COICA's technical partner on behalf of the North Amazonian Alliance, a network that brings together seven civil society organisations from five countries, who work with indigenous peoples in the northern Amazon region to secure ecosystem and sociocultural connectivity, where 70% of the area is already under some form of protection: natural protected areas and/or Indigenous territories.

Learn more about our achievement: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WqStY07I5f4>



Photo credit: COICA and Gaia delegation that traveled to Montreal December 2022 - Juan Gabriel Soler.

Pathway C: Civic Space



Citizens enjoy human and women's rights and safely participate in social movements.

Under this pathway, Alliance members, partners and other CSOs and human rights defenders work together to monitor, secure and expand civic space, which is an important precondition for achieving results under Pathway A and B. Our main approaches are analysing, monitoring and documenting abuses and human rights violations, setting up effective safety and security strategies, advocating for improved women and human rights protection and ensuring access to justice for impacted communities and (W)EHRDs.

Progress 2022: consolidated overview monitoring data Pathway C

In 2022, the GLA contributed to 56 spaces in 11 countries for IP&LCs, including women and youth, to have increased participation in decision-making processes, and were more active in monitoring and enforcement, and increasingly recognised by governments (**GLA indicator 8**). The groups that reported increased presence in these spaces were CSOs (five), community-based organisations (two), social movements (eight), women's groups (20), Indigenous communities (14) and local communities (seven). Achievements ranged from creating spaces in policy dialogues on land policies at national, regional and community levels, enabling oil and mining affected communities to defend their rights, and creating spaces at international conventions such as CoP27 UNFCCC and CoP15 Convention on Biological Diversity, among others.

GLA civic space survey and report

The baseline study, consisting of an online survey and key informant interviews, conducted in 2022 aimed to determine the civic space experience and situation of GLA partners in 11 countries. It focused on the following areas of enquiry: (1) civic space components (civic freedoms, CSO enabling environment, citizen/CSO participation); (2) safety and security; (3) participation. Preliminary results show GLA partners experience most difficulties in their civic freedoms in access to information, activist/HRDs protection and freedom of expression. GLA partners also experience direct physical and political retaliation related to their work under GLA. A separate summary of key findings from the report will be shared with the ministry once finalised in 2023.

Addressing CSO and IP&LC repression and insecurity

Repression of civil society and IP&LCs, including threats, violence and murder, [remained highly problematic in 2022](#). Environmental rights defenders and Indigenous peoples, particularly women, are most at risk and [Colombia was the deadliest country](#) for rights activists, with 186 killings, followed by the Philippines. Tropenbos reported that the expected results regarding security and self-protection in **Colombia** could not be achieved in 2022 as local communities did not feel comfortable talking about their risks in a territory with a large presence of illegal armed groups. Instead, workshops were held on legal first aid and an internal organisational protocol was constructed, which includes a contextual risk analysis to ensure the presence of Tropenbos in communities does not pose a risk. At national level, however, space for CSOs and IP&LCs is expanding, with the new government being more open to collaboration and participation. This will hopefully lead to an improved situation on the ground.

In high-risk countries, **safety and security protocols** have been developed and continue to be updated. In **the Philippines**, ALIMUS, a confederation of Indigenous peoples in seven ancestral domains in the Sierra Madre and nearby ancestral domains, designed security

protocols that included assigning a security focal person who will connect with the military personnel in the area. Engaging in dialogue with the military proved to be an effective strategy in 2021 to stop red tagging of activists (NTEP).

In **Malaysia** and **Indonesia**, Save Rivers and WALHI are engaging in the development of **anti-SLAPP regulation** to protect civil society and activists from strategic lawsuits against public participation (SLAPP) that are often used to silence and intimidate critical voices through expensive and baseless lawsuits. In Malaysia, Save Rivers is the victim of such a lawsuit: logging company Samling filed a defamation lawsuit in July 2020 after the CSO reported rights violations by the company. The case is scheduled for hearing in May 2023.

In addition, **strengthened collaboration and solidarity to build counter power** is an important protective strategy and added value of the GLA. GLA partners in **Uganda** report that through their partnership and collaboration, the partners have been able to support each other in both good and bad times, continuously strengthening the partnership. For example, when the team leader of Friends of ZOKA (FoZ) was under surveillance and facing arrest, the GLA team in Uganda, headed by ETA, engaged with the Dutch embassy to intervene for the safety and security concerns of FoZ members. More recently, the executive director of FoZ was blocked by Rwanda Air from leaving Uganda at Entebbe airport while scheduled to travel to Oslo for the Oslo Freedom Forum. Immediately, the executive director of AFIEGO coordinated with IUCN NL to ensure his safety.

At a global level, **IUCN NL** managed quick response funds for legal and network support to partner CSOs, (W)EHRDs and IP&LCs faced with threats and intimidation. In Asia, this is done in collaboration with **NTEP EP**. Dozens of (W)EHRDs were supported in the **Philippines, Uganda** and **DRC**. At the end of 2022, IUCN NL made an emergency payment to partners in and around Goma, **DRC**, because the security situation was getting worse. Curfews had been installed and many villagers were displaced due to intensified conflict. The emergency funds were primarily to cover communication and fuel costs in case the M23 rebel group entered Goma. Although partners mostly carried on with their work in the best way they could, this obviously presented a risk. WECF's partners prioritised supporting newly displaced people in the areas. Their unstable living situation in refugee camps raised concerns they would engage in harmful forest practices for fuelwood and income. An additional consequence for the programme was that the monitoring of the mountain gorilla population in the combat zone came to a complete stop.

IUCN NL also implemented the first year of its safety and security capacity strengthening trajectory with Protection International to strengthen the capacity of 14 GLA partners and IP&LC communities in **Ghana, Uganda, Bolivia, the Philippines** and **Indonesia**, to address issues such as red tagging, threats and intimidations in their landscapes. The GLA partners in **Bolivia** report that the work with Protection International deepened their analysis of institutional risks and vulnerabilities and the elaboration of institutional protocols.

Through the CRDD thematic programme, **Milieudéfensie** supported (W)EHRDs from Cameroon, Sierra Leone and Indonesia who were under threat by providing financial support for legal costs, protection measures, health care costs and exposure/advocacy. In addition, **SDI** (Liberia) spoke at the African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights in Gambia during the general session in 2022 and initiated a discussion on the adverse impacts of monoculture plantations on human rights and EHRDs. Together with national and international networks, **WALHI** (Indonesia) succeeded in intervening in the EU parliament to include protection of the human rights of Indigenous and local people in the text of the EUDR.

Monitoring and documentation of rights violations and access to justice

One key strategy to protect (W)EHRDs is monitoring and documenting rights violations to raise awareness and support, and to enable access to justice (link with Pathway A). In **Ghana**, we witnessed a positive development. Unlike in 2021 where there were reports of attacks on informants of illegal forest activities or community monitors, these monitors undertook their work in safety in 2022 with no reports of attacks. In the Atewa area however, this continues to be a challenge with some monitors being threatened by illegal operators.

In **Indonesia**, WALHI together with the CSO coalition campaigned for the urgency of protecting (W)EHRDs through a campaign that was built around 42 community cases and facilitated the handling of the legal process of nine environmental or criminalisation cases. In **the Philippines**, the documentation of violence against women and other human rights violations, conducted by the TK3 women's collective, is included in the peace

and order reports submitted to the different platforms and venues within the BARM. This also shows that the critical role of the TK3 women is recognised as the primary source of information for the different cases of violations in the area (LILAK). Also in **Liberia**, women play an important role in the documentation and sharing of cases. Community women actively participated in the documentation of rights violations and shared their stories in an organised and coherent manner for advocacy and campaigning.

LGL policy dossier related to Pathway C: Human Rights and Due Diligence

To strengthen human rights protections, we also worked on international policy related to the United Nations binding treaty (UN BT) on business and human rights, and mandatory human rights and environmental due diligence (mHREDD) at the EU level.

UN binding treaty and EU due diligence legislation

This policy dossier concerns advocacy for mandatory legislation on business and human rights at different levels (UN, EU and the Netherlands) to ensure businesses are obliged to perform due diligence on their business and related (international) value chain, particularly in relation to (potential) violations to human rights, the environment and the climate. The work carried out by IUCN NL and Milieudefensie on mHREDD legislation aims to contribute to the realisation of ambitious mHREDD legislation in the Netherlands and EU. For the UN binding treaty the aim is to influence the content of the draft treaty to include ambitious mHREDD legislation. This is done through advocacy targeting policy makers in the Netherlands, the EU and policy makers in countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America. For the Netherlands, GLA partners IUCN NL and Milieudefensie are members of the NL4Treaty Alliance.

In February 2022, the **EU directive on corporate sustainability due diligence (EU CSDDD or EU CS3D)** was published by the European commission and in November 2022 the general approach of the European council on the CSDDD was published. IUCN NL and Milieudefensie both worked directly and in coordination with other organisations and platforms (MVO platform, Focus EU DD coalition) to influence Dutch politicians and MEPs to push for a strong legislative text and by suggesting additional language to make the directive stronger. As part of the FOEI network, Milieudefensie published [a complementarity study](#) on the EU directive and the UN BT.

In November 2022, a renewed version of the **Dutch corporate sustainability draft law** (Initiatiefwet verantwoord en duurzaam internationaal ondernemen) was submitted to the Dutch parliament by six political parties. Milieudefensie and IUCN NL worked directly, and in coordination with, other organisations and the MVO platform to influence the contents of this law. This included among others the following subjects: climate, civil and administrative liability, access to justice for victims and stakeholders involvement.

Owing to the fact the EU CSDDD was published and the Dutch corporate sustainability draft law was submitted, there was not much traction on the **UN binding treaty** as all attention went to influencing the contents of these two proposals. However, both partners continued their participation in the UN treaty-EU coalition.

In November 2022, the human rights situation in the Netherlands was discussed by the Human Rights Council in Geneva during the [universal periodic review \(UPR\)](#). **IUCN NL, Milieudefensie** and Stand Up For Your Rights jointly submitted a report in March 2022 to draw attention to human rights violations taking place in the value chain of Dutch businesses. The aim was to obtain recommendations from UN member states that would lead to Dutch businesses having to investigate potential human rights violations and harm to nature in their (international) value chain. Nine countries (Butan, Cape Verde, Chile, Costa Rica, Germany, Ecuador, Philippines, Panama and Vanuatu) provided recommendations. At the end of March 2023, the final report of the Dutch UPR will be published, including the recommendations that have been accepted by the Netherlands. We expect the recommendations on introducing binding human rights regulations for business and developing climate plans by businesses will be taken up.

Rebuilding Cultural Heritage: The Story of Chau Ma's Longhouse (Outcome 7)

In the Dong Nai River Basin in southern Viet Nam, the Chau Ma Indigenous community has long celebrated their heritage through the traditional longhouse, a central gathering place for the villagers. However, over time, this cultural tradition has slowly faded leading to only a few remaining traditional longhouses in the region.



Photo credit: Grand opening ceremony of Chau Ma long house - NTFP EP Viet Nam

Recognising the loss of their local culture, a group of determined young people from the Chau Ma community in Loc Tan commune, Lam Dong Province embarked on a mission to revitalise their traditions.

Led by K'Phap, the project mobilised and organised group members, assigning tasks to collectively work towards a shared objective. K'Tang, fueled by his passion for traditional architecture, collaborated closely with village elder K'Bros to design the longhouse, while K'Dôn oversaw material and tool management.

A crucial role was also played by experienced village elders, including K'Bros, K'Broeh, and K'môl, who possessed the necessary knowledge and skills in stilt house construction. Together with the youth leaders, they served as the primary designers, ensuring adherence to traditional techniques and cultural heritage. The group approached Caritas Đà Lạt and NTFP-EP Viet Nam for support, who provided guidance through site visits, community discussions, expert consultations, and co-funding to ensure the project's feasibility and long-term sustainability.

With the support of the community, the project took shape. Local villagers contributed wood and materials while additional resources were harvested from the forest. The commune people's committee allocated public land for the project. Caritas Đà Lạt and NTFP-EP Viet Nam, through the GLA project, provided key funding of USD 10,000 in addition to contributions from private enterprises. Most of the funding was used to purchase materials that could not be offered by the local villagers.

Construction began in October 2022 and was completed by December. The grand opening was attended by representatives from the local government, churches, nearby communities, tourists and civil society organisations. The new longhouse will serve as a cultural centre for local communities in events such as meetings,

festivals, tourism services and the promotion of local products.

The story of the Chau Ma longhouse serves as a powerful example of collaboration and community-driven initiatives. The longhouse not only revitalises cultural heritage, it also acts as a catalyst for community engagement and discussion on environmental issues. This exemplifies GLA Pathway C which focuses on ensuring the operational space and security of key actors such as Indigenous leaders, civil society activists and environmental human rights defenders (especially women). Within the longhouse, community members can gather and share their concerns, ideas and knowledge regarding environmental challenges they face.



Photo credit: Gender-Just Forest Governance Capacity Building and Knowledge Sharing, RICCE, Liberia. November 15, 2022

Transversal to all pathways: Inclusivity

GLA is committed to addressing historic gender imbalances and the under-representation of women, youth and other marginalised forest people in decision-making roles and processes. We aim to ensure that gender transformative policies and actions are embedded in overall planning, structures and organisational culture of the consortium and local partners (result 11). This is key to achieving our ultimate goal: the inclusive governance of forests.

Progress 2022: consolidated overview monitoring data on inclusion

All the pathways of change in the programme aim to contribute to gender transformative actions (**GLA indicator 11**) both at organisational level as in the implementation of their programme. In 2022, 30 Alliance partners have paid special attention to gender in their strategies and actions in 12 countries. These partners reported a total of 76 campaigns and other advocacy strategies using a gender and social inclusion lens. Main strategies include capacity building of implementing partners and CSOs on gender mainstreaming; lobbying and advocacy of different state actors at the national and international level to implement binding human and women's rights in forest, climate and biodiversity policy; calling for attention on feminist perspectives in the JET and ASEAN guidelines on recognition of customary tenure; and for women's participation and leadership in development and land-use plans such as the ancestral domain sustainable development plans, and in other decision-making spaces. Additionally, 27 Alliance partners reported on having developed/strengthened their organisational gender action plan (GAP).

In the FfJF programme, gender equality and inclusion goals have been prioritised from the start in the planning and monitoring framework. Together with the engagement of WECF/GFC at global level and gender partners at national level we see this prioritisation is effective in integrating a gender lens across the board (result 11). All countries have developed a GAP to advance gender equality within their organisations

and consider gender and inclusion of young people in their activities and strategies. For the GLA partners in **Viet Nam** (Tropenbos, PanNature, Caritas Da Lat and NTFP-EP VN) this included establishing a new code of conduct that applies to all staff and all activities, including male, female and youth leaders of IP&LCs involved in the project. Under Pathway A, B and C we included more examples of activities and outcomes that contribute to gender equality, women and youth empowerment and participation and the inclusion of other marginalised groups, such as Indigenous peoples.

In all countries, CSO partners aim to ensure (more) equal representation of men, women and youth in training workshops and decision-making structures - women-only and youth trainings and groups excepted - with varying success. Power structures and gender and age-related roles and behaviour are deeply ingrained in society, families and people's thinking. Changing this takes reflection, learning and time. For example, in **Malaysia**, GLA partners report they are all aware of the importance of equal participation of women and men in all planned activities. In 2022, positive changes in the active involvement of women and youth were initially noticed, but because of the female role in the community, women's motivation decreased towards the end of 2022. The women struggled to balance their time as mothers and wives, and also wanted to carry out activities in the community such as selling their handicrafts or managing the community garden. It is crucial for women and youth to have support not only from their family but also from their partners and the community as a whole. In **Colombia**, FCDS made progress in including a gender focus in forest management approaches, but the challenge remains to incorporate a gender analysis into all of the organisation's projects and lines of work, and to extend the gender analysis to the drivers of deforestation such as cattle ranches and oil palm plantations.

WECF/GFC plays a key role in strengthening GLA's capacity on gender approaches as well as in engaging women effectively in lobbying and advocacy at the international level (e.g. CBD, EU, UNFCCC). WECF/GFC advocates towards the Dutch government to improve gender awareness in international policies. In October 2022, WECF launched a policy analysis entitled [Forest feminist frameworks: Why gender matters for Dutch forest and biodiversity policy](#). The publication presents a feminist analysis of key (international) forest and biodiversity policies, regulations and strategies of the Dutch government, (plus relevant EU and international policies) and provides concrete recommendations. At the end of 2021, WECF gave input to the development of the Dutch feminist foreign policy. In May 2022, a [reaction](#) to the first commitment was published and in November a [written response](#) to the ministry's online consultation was submitted. A consultation meeting for international stakeholders was held in December, also on behalf of the GLA, where the intersection between gender equality/feminism and forest, climate and biodiversity issues were highlighted.

Congolese women's association champions drought-resilient farming

A women's association in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) is inspiring farmers to use drought-resilient farming techniques. The techniques which include agroforestry and soil health, are being popularised by the Union de Femmes pour le Progrès Social (UFPS) on the outskirts of Virunga national park.

Under the inspiring leadership of UFPS president, Saanane Odette, they are making a big impact among women farmers in the area.

"With the support of CEPED, I educate my members about mulching techniques in the field, row sowing, the use of organic fertiliser and agroforestry", says Saanane. "This enables my organisation, as well as members of the local communities, to adopt the same farming technique as us. Techniques against drought are essential as we experience more and more prolonged dry spells."

As a result of underlying inequalities, women are disproportionately impacted by the climate crisis. Gender roles, particularly in the domestic sphere, result in differentiated needs, priorities and knowledge in relation to natural resource use and management. Seeking to implement

gender-responsive activities is a key interest of the GLA partners.

With a clear conscience

Odette explains how using drought-resilient farming techniques have reduced the tendency to seek other fields to cultivate inside the park. "Long before, when we were afraid of drought, we went towards the park. It has fertile ground, but cultivating the park exposed us to arrest by the eco-guards as the park is protected. Also not using the lands of the park allows us to live with a clear conscience."

In the past two years, efforts to acknowledge the need for agricultural practices which are resilient to climate change have been successful. The agricultural production of 67 UFPS members and 85 non-members (including 54 women) has gone up from 20%



Photo credit: Odette and members



Photo credit: Odette and members

to 60%. In DRC and other GLA countries, thanks to the presence of female role models, women increasingly implement sustainable practices which have less impact on the forests. Creating spaces such as associations or women-only meetings, where women feel comfortable to share knowledge, advocate for their rights and strengthen their capacities, has proven valuable.

Peaceful coexistence

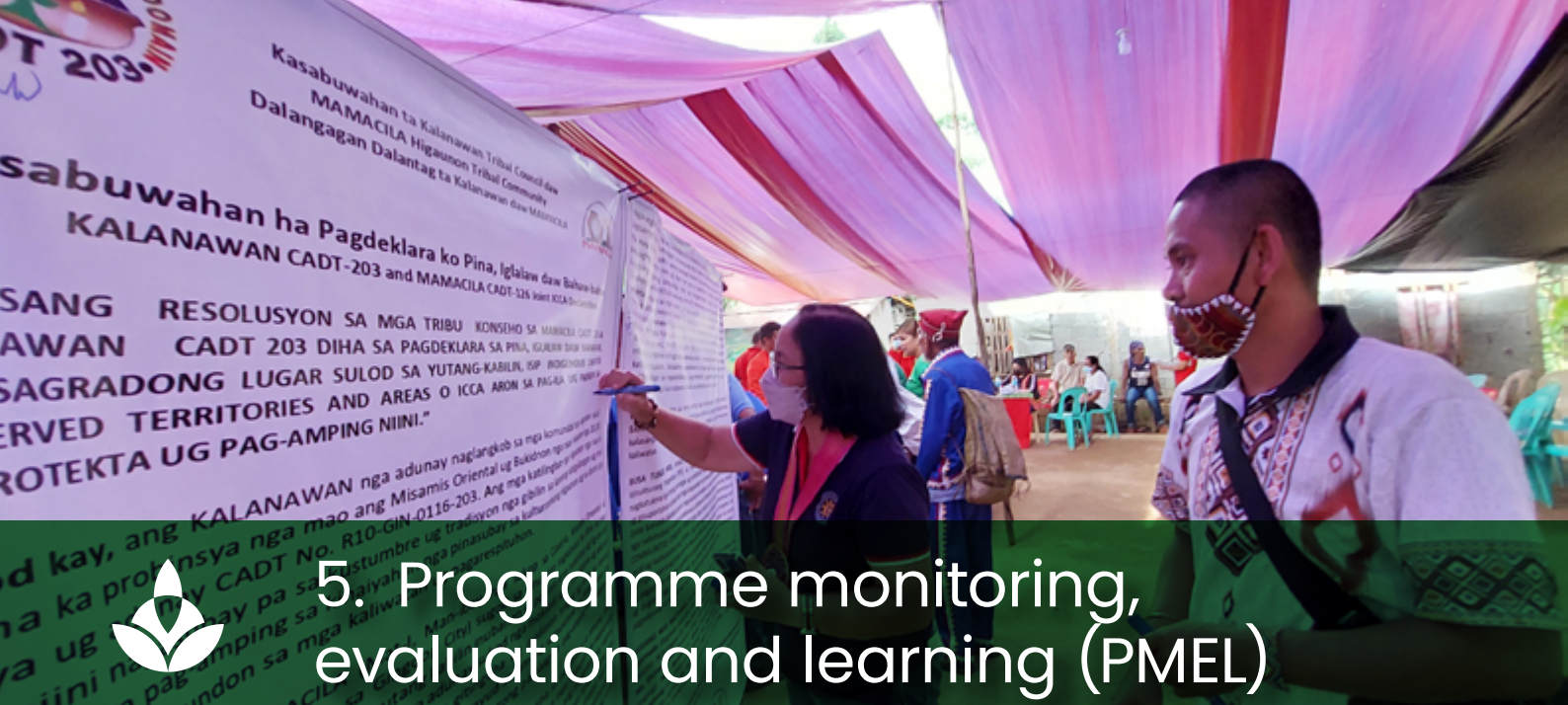
“Our members have committed to no longer working in or seeking fertile fields inside the park following the application of this very simple approach adapted to local realities”, Odette

said. “It allows them to reduce the agricultural pressure on biodiversity, and to participate in protecting the forest of Virunga. This approach facilitates peaceful coexistence between the park and the local communities, and protects peasant women from the retaliation of eco-guards, as well as the harassment and sexual abuses by armed groups.”

For Odette, the area covered by her organisation remains insignificant compared to the entire cultivable area of the park. For this reason, she wants to spread these drought-resilient farming techniques to other villages and groups in the territory.



Photo credit: Odette and members



5. Programme monitoring, evaluation and learning (PMEL)

Photo credit: MAMACILA and Kalanawan, two indigenous organisations from Northern Mindanao, Philippines, declare adjoining Indigenous Community Conserved Areas (ICCAs). Photo credit: NTFP EP Philippines.

Programme baseline and mid term review

After submitting the baseline report at the end of 2021, a meeting took place between the ministry and the GLA to walk through the report and key findings. Formal approval of the baseline report was received in February 2022.

In the second half of 2022, work began on the development of the Terms of Reference (ToR) of the mid term review (MTR). The PMEL team elaborated on these in early Q3 and tried to incorporate the guidance sent by the ministry in October 2022. During the process, the GLA led a joint request from all the SPC climate alliances to meet with the DSO M&E team to jointly discuss some issues and concerns related to the MTR. Members of the GLA PMEL team also joined several meetings facilitated by Partos to exchange experiences on early stage processes related to the MTR. The [GLA MTR ToR](#) was published in December 2022.

Improving GLA monitoring systems for planning and reporting

In the 2021 annual report we stated we had received substantial feedback from different countries and partners highlighting the baseline process was very labour intensive and that it impacted heavily on people and organisations. It was noted that many of the GLA country partners are already under great pressure and there was a need to strike a balance between effective monitoring and programme implementation, including flexibility when needed. In 2022 Q2, a temporary working group was created to explore what could be done to lighten the monitoring and reporting burden for the partners, while still making sure that information is captured. A number of steps were taken and followed up accordingly. This included a revision and simplification of some of the (internal) annual planning and reporting processes, including the outcome and output harvesting data gathering tools. It also led to a review of the annual planning and reporting guidelines and templates. It is worth noting that the templates for reporting to the ministry remained largely unchanged to ensure consistency throughout the programme.

An additional consequence of this was the [review and adjustment of the GLA indicator framework](#). This was discussed with our contact from the IGG department before formally proposing the changes. The letter formally proposing the changes was sent in December 2022 and received approval from the ministry in March 2023. For reference, the adjusted matrix is attached in [Annex H](#).



6. Global alliance coordination and collaboration

Photo credit: Members of Community Network for Natural Resource Management participated in forest restoration event. Van Ho commune, Van Ho district, Son La province, Viet Nam.

Collaboration within the GLA

Internal coordination and collaboration among the GLA members remained positive throughout 2022. The collaboration within and between the different governing committees and working groups has been very positive and professional.

At the global programme coordination level, the supervisory board (SB) and programme coordination group (PCG) came together in November 2022 for a face-to-face meeting for the first time since the FfJF programme began. The aim was to build further collaboration within the Alliance, and allow Alliance members and technical partners to get to know each other better, build trust and have some in-depth conversations on the programme and beyond. It was a positive encounter and allowed members to hear each other's progress and discuss its future in the coming three years and beyond 2025. It also gave the SB and PCG time to discuss collaboration and ways of working together. This included complex issues such as decision making, trust and power balance. We revisited our vision of collaboration and equity (VoCE) document and decided to adjust some of our guiding principles to take into account our experiences from the last two years of implementation. This exercise will be carried out in 2023.

Collaboration at the country and thematic programme level has also continued to mature and grow. Progress varies according to their selected country-level coordination structure, number of partners and context. Some insights into this are found in the country reports and briefs (Annexes D-F).

Regional collaboration and exchange

At regional level, exchange and collaboration (result 9) was mostly organised through the Asia regional programme, the JET thematic programme (Africa) and other regional collaborations. In 2022, several south-south exchanges took place, for example, **Liberian and Indonesian partners** participated in the community-based monitoring (CBM) exchange programme in Liberia in June 2022. At this event, partners increased their knowledge and skills around CBM, built a common agenda and joint tool for CBM Indonesia and Liberia, and drafted a coordinated strategy to use CBM data to ensure affected communities get redress and justice. **Uganda and DRC** continue to collaborate and exchange information in the fight against oil exploitation in protected areas through the JET programme.

In **Asia**, the GLA regional collaboration meeting in Bogor in September 2022 was used by the Asian partners for several learning sessions and exchanges. Twenty-six GLA partners (including gender technical partners and consultants) from Asia participated in the meeting. The Asian partners took the opportunity to organise

the first NDC learning session where key messages and recommendations (policy and practice) on NDC for the forest governance and tenure rights (FGTR) topic were developed by the group. Another learning session focused on food sovereignty and sustainable livelihoods and another learning session was held on gender and defending WEHRDs. This learning session included topics like gender inclusion in forest governance implementation, gender and intersectionality, and false solutions to climate change and biodiversity conservation and how it affects women, youth and IP&LCs. These gender sessions were facilitated by a small working group including representatives from the country partners and WECF/GFC. The Asian partners valued the joint learning, collaboration and solidarity.

In **Latin America**, Gaia Amazonas took the lead in encouraging and facilitating regional collaboration and exchange. Key results are the strengthening of the North Amazonian Alliance (ANA) to consolidate a regional agenda and organising and strengthening regional dialogues around territorial strategies that contribute to safeguarding the ecosystem and sociocultural connectivity. At the [second knowledge exchange regional meeting](#) of the ANA, 14 territorial governance experiences, involving 45.8 million hectares and 57 Indigenous organisations, were shared. The Indigenous delegates unanimously [expressed their interest in consolidating a joint regional vision](#). ANA's work at the CBD has contributed to the understanding that [Indigenous knowledge systems are key for biodiversity protection](#), and the Amazon is central to the new global targets. This confirmed the relevance of joint advocacy actions at a global level (see also Pathway A). TBI, together with its partners in Latin America, organised a regional exchange where 26 representatives from Indigenous, tribal and peasant communities had the opportunity to share their experiences in how to best manage their lands.

Collaborative learning and exchange

In May 2022, the GLA started organising a monthly exchange and learning space (ELS) where all country partners and members interested in hearing and sharing experiences on issues related to the programme could come. Each session is generally hosted by a country team, team members working on a specific LGL policy dossier or a GLA working group who present a story or experience as a starting point for the exchange. Everybody involved in the GLA is invited to participate but people can opt in or opt out based on interest in the selected topic. In 2022, session topics were diverse and included exchanges on gender actions plans, UN CBD and the global biodiversity framework, and strategies for youth integration in territorial governance.

Collaboration with others

In addition to strengthening internal collaboration, the GLA also recognised the importance of working with others and invested in these collaborations. Examples were collaboration with NGO/CSO networks and (global) coalitions as well as engagement with multi-stakeholder platforms as described in chapter 3 and within the country briefs (Annexes D-E).

In November 2022, we organised a mini policy tour during the visit of the supervisory board and PCG members on the policy dossier, EU deforestation legislation. The directors of GLA Alliance members, especially NTFP-EP, SDI and Gaia, shared their views from the perspective of CSOs from the global south about EU action to step up deforestation, including related gender analysis. The aim of the tour was to encourage key policy makers in the Netherlands to engage with countries producing forest risk commodities through inclusive partnerships and incorporate a more gender-balanced approach. Meetings took place with relevant Dutch and EU institutions working on this portfolio.

In the Netherlands, an exchange of information on the programme and collaboration with the ministry (mostly IGG) took place on a regular basis, mostly online, to ensure non-Dutch partners were able to equally participate. Quarterly coordination meetings also took place with the other SPC climate alliances, mainly GAGGA, VCA and AACJ.

At the country level, there was contact with all the **Dutch embassies**. In most cases, this was only an exchange of information, but in some cases the GLA partners were supported by the embassy to resist civic space restrictions, including the arrests of (W)EHRDs, such as in **Uganda** (see Pathway C).



7. Planning and reporting

Photo credit: Community members of Barangay Renti plant seedlings for their sulagad agro-ecological demonstration farm. Barangay Renti, Upi, Maguindanao, The Philippines.

In 2022, the following reports and plans were developed and submitted.

Planning and reporting requirements 2022	Period covered	Deadline	Status
IATI		Quarterly publications (Jan 31, Apr 30, Jul 31, Oct 30).	Published: quarterly
Annual narrative and financial report 2021	Jan 1 to Dec 31, 2021	Jul 1, 2022	Sent: Jul 1, 2022 Approved: Oct 10, 2022
Annual audit 2021	Jan 1 to Dec 31, 2021	Jul 1, 2022, with extension approved to Jul 8	Sent: Jul 8, 2022 Approved: Jan 27, 2023
Annual plan & budget 2023	Jan 1 to Dec 31, 2023	Dec 1, 2022	Sent: Dec. 1, 2022 Approved: Jan 10, 2023

1. Introduction

The 2022 financial report of the GLA annual expenditure with respect to the budget division as requested by MoFA is found in Annex A. This includes expenditures 2022 per budget line (A.1), per pathway (A.2), per country (A.3) and country/pathway (A.4). Expenditures are reported in relation to the budget included in GLA annual plan 2022 formally approved by MoFA on March 18, 2022.

Per pathway: All activities and related expenditures correspond to one of the three core programme pathways or to the coordination of the programme:

- Pathway A: Indigenous peoples and local communities (IP&LCs)
- Pathway B: Drivers of deforestation
- Pathway C: Civic space
- Organisational coordination

Per country: All activities and related expenditures are also reported along the following divisions:

- Per country: GLA work at the country level
- Regional, international and thematic: GLA work at the regional and international level
- Organisational coordination: GLA coordination, administrative and PMEL costs

The rest of this section will provide a narrative overview of the financial report 2022 (section 2) providing explanations for deviations in actuals versus budget per budget line, country and pathway, the disbursements and liquidity overview (section 3) and in section 4 we report the financial irregularities and the mitigation measures that were implemented. Section 5 presents the expenditures and budget cumulative for the first two years of the project and section 6 provides a conclusion on the financial progress of the programme so far.

Explanations are given for deviations of:

- more than 25% on the subtotal of a budget line and above 15.000 EUR
- more than 10% on the subtotal of a country/region and above 15.000 EUR
- more than 10% on the subtotal of a pathway and above 15.000 EUR
- more than 25% on the subtotal of a pathway per country and above 15.000 EUR

2. Financial overview expenditure 2022

The Green Livelihoods Alliance programme spent 8.034.644 EUR of the 2022 annual budget of 9.432.631 EUR. The advance fund received from MoFA for 2022 is 8.518.000 EUR, totalling to an amount of 17.378.000 EUR for the period 2020-2022. The GLA liquidity statement at the end of 2022 had a cash balance of 704.517 EUR based on reported payments.

All amounts in the financial report relate to the reporting year 2022 unless otherwise indicated.

In 2022, there is a difference of 15% between the budget and the expenditures. This is mainly due to some partner contracts that were included in the 2022 budget, but already signed in late 2021. The expenditures were included in the 2021 annual report. When comparing the cumulative budgets for 2021 and 2022 with the expenditures for these two years, the difference between the total budget and expenditures is 8% (see table 5.1).

Overview actuals versus annual budget 2022

Table 2.1 Budget versus actuals per budget line (see also section A.1 of financial report for full report)

Per budget line	Budget	Actuals	Difference in %
I. Direct staff costs			
A. Staff costs	2.067.959	1.921.298	-7%
B. Local staff costs	22.097	22.093	0%
C. Consultants and advisers	0	123.989	
Subtotal I	2.090.057	2.067.379	0%
II. Other direct programme costs			
A. Activity costs	5.899.684	4.811.359	-18%
B. Costs of consortium partners and local NGOs	123.000	67.115	-45%
C. Activity-related travel costs	181.721	161.840	-11%
D. Project office costs	10.500	21.852	108%
E. Equipment and investments	26.949	4.554	-83%
F. Monitoring, evaluation and auditing	66.135	81.349	23%
Subtotal II	6.307.989	5.148.068	-18%
III. Overheads/indirect costs			
Overheads/indirect costs	1.034.586	819.197	-21%
Total (EUR €)	9.432.631	8.034.645	-15%

I. C. Consultants and advisers. IUCN NL and global coordination hired external support from consultants on the programme management which was not included in the budget and explains the deviation. For 2023, it is included in the budget.

II. A. Activity costs. The major difference in the activity costs is with IUCN, which reported actuals of 76% lower than the budget. This is due to the contracting for 2022 which was almost all done in late 2021, so these costs were reported in the financial report of 2021. This included spending exceeding the 2021 budget by 118%. Other organisations, such as TBI and SDI, show expenditures around 25% lower than the budget.

II. B. Costs of consortium partners and local NGOs. The 45% difference on this budget line is fully with the global coordination budget. Overall, for the five year period, this is on schedule. The budget for this budget line was originally equally divided over five years, while in reality there will be a budget peak in 2021, 2023 and 2025 due to the baseline, mid term review and end evaluation. This is properly reflected from the 2023 budget onward.

II. E. Equipment and investments. For IUCN NL, VMD and TBI no investments were made or equipment procured, where this was budgeted. Gaia reported a 59% difference between the budget and actual, this was because of a delay in procurement planned due to limited availability of specialised technological equipment required for the geo-referenced information system. This is postponed until 2023.

III. Overheads/indirect costs: The lower direct costs resulted in lower overheads/indirect costs.

List of abbreviations

ADSDPP	Ancestral domain sustainable development and protection plan
AMAF	ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry
ANA	North Amazon Alliance
ASEAN	Association of SouthEast Asian Nations
BARMM	Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CBNE	Community-based NTFP enterprise
CEASE	Centre for the Study of Environment, Society and Energy
CFM	Collaborative forest management
CICOL	Indigenous headquarters of original communities of Lomerío
CLDMC	Community land development and management committees
COICA	Coordinator of the Indigenous organisations of the Amazon Basin
CoP	Convention of the Parties
CRDD	Community rights and deforestation drivers
CREMA	Community resource management area
CRSF	Community rights support facility
CSI	Community self identification
CSOs	Civil society organisations
DGIS	Directoraat Generaal Internationale Samenwerking / Directorate General International Cooperation
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
EACOP	East African crude oil pipeline
ECA	Export credit agency
EHRDs	Environmental and human rights defenders
EU	European Union
EU CSDDD	EU directive on corporate sustainability due diligence
EUDR	EU deforestation legislation
FfJF	Forests for a Just Future
FGTR	Forest governance and tenure rights
FoE	Friends of the Earth
FPAR	Feminist participatory action research
FPIC	Free, prior and informed consent
GBF	Global biodiversity framework
GFC	Global Forest Coalition
GLA	Green Livelihoods Alliance
GSBA	Globally significant biodiversity areas
ICCA	Indigenous community conserved area
IEA	International Energy Agency
IIFB	International Indigenous forum on biodiversity
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IPLC	Indigenous people and local communities
IP	Indigenous peoples
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
IUCN NL	IUCN National Committee of the Netherlands Foundation
JET	Just energy transition
LBDI	Liberian Bank for Development and Investment
LCFC	Local community forest concession
LGL	Local-to-global-to-local
LGU	Local government unit
LNG	Liquefied natural gas
MEP	Member of the European Parliament
mHREDD	Mandatory human rights and environmental due diligence
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MP	Member of Parliament

NAP	National adaptation plan
NDC	Nationally determined contributions
NTFP-EP	Non-timber forest products - exchange programme
OECM	Other effective area-based conservation measures
OMIML	Monkox Indigenous Women's Organisation of Lomerío
OPSUR	Southern Petroleum Observatory
PCG	Programme coordination group
PMEL	Planning, monitoring, evaluation and learning
PT. ANA	Palm oil company PT. Agro Nusa Abadi
PT. RAP	Palm oil company PT. Ranah Andalas Plantation
SB	Supervisory board
SDI	Sustainable Development Institute
SF	Social forestry
SLAPP	Strategic lawsuits against public participation
TBI	Tropenbos International
TCO	Community land of origin
ToC	Theory of Change
UN BT	United Nations binding treaty
UNFCCC	United Nations framework convention on climate change
UPR	Universal Periodic Review
WECF	Women Engage for a Common Future
(W)EHRDs	(Women) environmental and human rights defenders
WEWONA	Western Region Women Network Association



Green Livelihoods Alliance

Alliance members

Gaia Amazonas



Technical partners



In partnership with



Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands