

# Saving the Cardamoms in perpetuity for the planet

Protecting the natural environment is the cheapest and most effective solution to the climate emergency. However, tropical forests continue to be lost particularly in high biodiversity-low governance countries in the Global South such as Cambodia. Wildlife Alliance implements a proven and effective model of tropical forest protection centered around hands-on field-based protected area management and law enforcement. We have protected the southern Cardamom Rainforest Landscape since 2001; this idea scales-up our proven model and addresses two obstacles: a preference for policy making over practical action and a global mindset that prioritizes technology over nature-based solutions.

## Wildlife Alliance in the Cardamom Rainforest Landscape

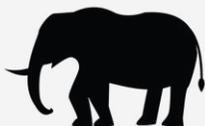
**131**

trained, supervised,  
equipped, & insured forest  
rangers operating 24/7

**3,000**

annual patrols conducted  
across 8,000-km<sup>2</sup> of  
tropical rainforest

### Demonstrated Success



Zero Asian elephant  
poaching in the  
landscape since 2006



<0.3% annual deforestation  
compared to >3%  
elsewhere in Cambodia

## Benefits of Intact Rainforest



Access to clean water – generated from the planet's great rainforests – is critical for the health of humanity. Increasing global water scarcity, the ultimate problem which we are solving, impacts the poorest aspects of society.

## \$10M

We will expand our law enforcement and protected area management infrastructure and capacities across the entire 17,358-km<sup>2</sup> Cardamom Rainforest Landscape thus scaling up our operations. This will provide the resources and management capacity to protect this vast intact forest landscape.

## \$5M

We will promote the approach of Wildlife Alliance, the Cardamom Rainforest Landscape, and Cambodia as a model biosphere watershed for sustainable rainfall and water supply, underlying the value of Nature Based Climate Solutions.

## \$1M

We will secure law enforcement and community engagement efforts within Southern Cardamom National Park.

“  
Forests are critical for humanity. We know how to protect them yet it isn't being done with the urgency and focus required. This is the mission of Wildlife Alliance.  
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—Suwanna Gauntlett  
Founder & CEO of Wildlife Alliance

Suwanna is one of Asia's leading female conservationists and the only female conservation leader in Cambodia. She is an inspiration to many young Cambodians, particularly women.



## The Cardamom Rainforest

The Cardamoms form a Global 200 EcoRegion – one of the most significant places on the planet for wildlife and ecosystem services. Located in South-West Cambodia, the Cardamom Rainforest Landscape is a 5 million acre reef-to-ridge forest wilderness supporting more than 50 species of threatened animals and providing clean water for more than 3 million Cambodians.

## Wildlife Alliance: who we are

Wildlife Alliance was founded to solve urgent wildlife and forest conservation crises. Our mission is to provide direct protection to threatened rainforests and to combat deforestation and poverty through practical hands-on field programs. We were invited to the Cardamom Rainforest by the Royal Government of Cambodia in 2004 to conduct emergency interventions during an elephant and tiger poaching crisis. We were subsequently asked to design and deliver a long term Protected Area Management Plan to protect the landscape, its forests, and wildlife. We have been embedded in the Landscape ever since.

## Our unique approach

We implement a uniquely effective boots-on-the-ground law enforcement model focusing on professional, trained, supervised, and equipped law enforcement rangers. We are proud that we directly supervise and manage all law enforcement. We ensure our rangers are well paid, receive full health and life insurance, and have the equipment and capacity to work safely and effectively. We create a culture of excellence in conservation, high performance, and zero tolerance for corruption. Our direct management and supervision of rangers ensures they work effectively and means we exert good governance over all activities. We use intelligence, from confidential informants, to proactively prevent illegal activity, particularly deforestation and illegal logging, and actively work with courts and the judiciary to ensure legal penalties against forest and wildlife offenders.



## Sustainable Development Goals



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