EcoHealth Alliance is the world’s leading conservation and health organization, driving forward advancements in the protection of human, animal, and environmental health.

Our revolutionary One Health approach takes into consideration the needs of humans, animals, and the living environment around us, to ensure a safe and secure future for all. Founded in 1971 as the Wildlife Trust, EcoHealth Alliance has worked to promote conservation and prevent pandemics worldwide for over 50 years.

A Letter from our President

Peter Daszak, PhD

Dear EcoHealth Alliance Supporters,

We find ourselves living in the Pandemic Era. Our scientists estimate that there are 1.67 million unknown viruses waiting to emerge. The danger of these viruses and zoonotic disease spillover is heightened by human encroachment on the environment and the knock-on effects of climate change. These issues, already cascading into widespread ecological damage, also pose grave dangers to global health security. In recent years, we’ve seen just how devastating a global pandemic can be. COVID-19 led to tremendous loss of life and left behind trillions of dollars in economic losses in its wake. While it may have declined in severity from its earliest days, we still feel the long-term impacts of this disease in our global health systems and economies. At EcoHealth Alliance, our mission isn’t just to respond to this epoch of crisis – it’s to halt the Pandemic Era in its tracks.

Our passionate scientists are on the front lines of conservation and health research, running projects in more than 30 countries around the world. With our in-country partners, we work to discover and characterize new viruses with the potential to infect humans, develop local capacity to detect and contain outbreaks, engage with communities to encourage sustainable behaviors to mitigate the risk of pathogen spillover, and implement programs to address environmental drivers of pandemics, such as the illegal wildlife trade and deforestation. From South Africa to Vietnam to Liberia to Brazil, we are working tirelessly to stop the next pandemic in its tracks. EcoHealth Alliance’s biologists, veterinarians, public health professionals, ecologists, and many more are working on the cutting edge of One Health practice. In this report, take a closer look at the work we’re conducting in Brazil, and how we’re working to realize our bold vision of a world without pandemics.

Cheers,

Peter
Where We Work

EcoHealth Alliance works globally where the threat of spillover is greatest and research is most needed.

In each of the countries in which we work, our scientists partner with local scientists and community leaders to foster global relationships that solve global problems.
Our Mission

EcoHealth Alliance leads scientific research into the critical connections between human, animal, and environmental health. We develop solutions that prevent pandemics and promote conservation.

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Every day, EcoHealth Alliance’s dedicated scientists are conducting groundbreaking research at the intersection of human, environmental, and animal health. Our team comes from diverse backgrounds of scientific expertise – epidemiology, ecology, medicine, conservation, public health, statistics, biology, mathematics, virology, and more. Get a closer look at how we put One Health into practice with our work in Brazil.

**THE BRAZILIAN ATLANTIC FOREST**

Ecosystem services are the benefits people obtain from the environment, such as clean water, raw materials, food, crop pollination, disease regulation, and many others. The Atlantic Forest region is extremely important in providing these services to 70% of the Brazilian population. It is home to more than 100 million people, as well as the major cities of São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro. The incredible biodiversity and tens of thousands of species that call the Atlantic Forest home are all essential for human livelihoods.

Despite the importance of this ecosystem, it retains less than a third of its original area. Deforestation and other forms of land-use change are making it harder to live on planet Earth, and they increase zoonotic disease risk too. Research shows that land-use change can be linked to more than 40% of emerging infectious diseases, emphasizing the need for direct and timely intervention.

Forest restoration is an ideal solution to many of the problems land-use change can create, but it must be approached through the One Health lens to ensure safe and sustainable solutions to these issues.

This graphic shows how deforestation can increase zoonotic disease risk significantly — and how forest restoration can mitigate that risk.
Despite the importance of this ecosystem, it retains less than a third of its original area. Deforestation and other mechanisms of land-use change are making it harder to live on planet Earth, and they increase zoonotic disease risk too.

The EcoHealth Alliance Conservation & Health team is investigating whether forest restoration efforts influence the risk of zoonotic spillover. They suggest that as the forest returns, the risk of zoonotic spillover will decrease. Their work is critical in understanding the potential of forest restoration to recover functional biodiversity, regulate disease, and other ecosystem services.

**ATLANTIC FOREST ANIMALS**

The Brazilian Atlantic Forest, south and east of the Amazon, is a wonder of biodiversity. In this region alone, there are more than 1,000 species of birds – 200 of them found nowhere else on Earth. It is also home to 625 species of amphibians, which represents more than 50% of all amphibian species recorded in Brazil. More than a third of all known Brazilian reptiles – 312 species – are also found in the region. The Atlantic Forest is home to 334 species of mammals, 24 of which are threatened according to the IUCN Red List. The Atlantic Forest is also a hotspot for the most diverse order of mammals, one with more than 2,000 species worldwide: rodents. Rodents are prolific hosts of infectious diseases worldwide. Their populations are kept in check by mammalian predators like the crab-eating fox and the ocelot, who in turn help regulate disease spillover. This tremendous biodiversity, coupled with high rates of habitat loss, makes the Atlantic Forest a hotspot for emerging infectious diseases.

Indigenous lands help conserve biodiversity, and can protect human health, bringing great social and economic benefits. EcoHealth Alliance researchers have found that by preventing large swaths of forest from being developed for agriculture and burned, protected Indigenous lands not only protect surrounding regions from haze and smoke damage, but also absorb many of the air pollutants generated by forest fires. This ecosystem service protects the health of millions far and wide. Our scientists’ research estimates that protected forests in Indigenous territories save the Brazilian health system almost $2 billion annually in costs related to cardiovascular and respiratory diseases. These territories are essential for protection of biodiversity and human health, and protect more than just the forest – they provide security for the culture and history of persecuted Indigenous and rural peoples.

**INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES**

Forest fires do not occur naturally in the Amazon. The rainforest is very humid, and specific conditions are necessary for fires to break out. When the Amazon does burn, those fires are strongly linked with deforestation for slash-and-burn agriculture. Over the last two decades, 1.5 million square kilometers of Brazil have burned at least once – almost 20% of the entire forest.

Protected Indigenous lands in the Amazon are shielded from industrial development, and play a crucial role in preserving tropical forests and the ecosystem services they provide. They can prevent deforestation and associated greenhouse gas emissions, and consequently, mitigate the effects of climate change.

Over the last two decades, 1.5 million square kilometers of Brazil have burned at least once – almost 20% of the entire forest.
Financial Statements

**FY2022 INCOME:**
- **79%** Government Grants: $11,695,015
- **4%** Non-Government Grants: $562,402
- **7%** Foundations and Corporations: $1,003,878
- **1%** Individuals: $113,935
- **-3%** Investment Income: $(415,582)
- **5%** Other Income: $817,077
- **1%** Special Income: $127,564

**TOTAL INCOME:** $13,904,289

*Includes investment losses of $511,878

**FY2020 EXPENSES:**
- **89%** Program: $13,336,280
- **3%** External Relations: $317,033
- **7%** Administration: $1,117,998
- **1%** Special Events: $149,512

**TOTAL EXPENSES:** $14,974,823

**CHANGE IN NET ASSETS:** $(1,070,534)

The firm of BKD CPAs & Advisors audited the Consolidated Statements of EcoHealth Alliance as of June 30, 2022 including the Consolidated Balance sheet, Consolidated Statement of Activities, Consolidated Statement of Functional Expense, and Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows. The above presentation has been derived from those audited financial statements. Copies of the audit as well as the Internal Revenue Service Form 990 tax return are available upon request to Armine Arustamyan, Chief Financial Officer at EcoHealth Alliance, 520 8th Avenue, Suite 1200, New York, NY 10018

EcoHealth Alliance stands among only four percent of charities evaluated by Charity Navigator to receive at least eight consecutive 4-star evaluations.

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