



**Global
Nature
Fund**

ANNUAL REPORT 2024

GLOBAL NATURE FUND
International Foundation for
Environment and Nature

4,191,962

**TREES**

have been planted by GNF and its project partners over the last 25 years.

825,000

**CUBIC METERS**

of wastewater are cleaned annually by the green filter systems that GNF has built worldwide together with its project partners.

141,029

**PEOPLE**

have gained access to clean drinking water thanks to our projects over the last 12 years.

128

**HECTARES**

of mangrove forest have been reforested by the GNF and its project partners in 2023/24, which in the future will be able to store up to 192,000 tons of CO₂.

33

**NEW WILD BEE SPECIES**

were discovered in Saarland in the framework of our LIFE project "Insect-responsible Sourcing Regions".

960

**FAMILIES**

have gained alternative, climate-friendly sources of income through GNF project work in 2023/24.

50,000

**HECTARES**

of wetlands are being protected as part of our Biodiversity & Climate Project.

150

**COMPANIES**

were advised by GNF on measures to protect biodiversity.

850,000

**DONATIONS**

received by GNF in 2023/24.



→ Creating sustainable prospects

The World Economic Forum has published the Global Risk Report 2024 at the annual economic summit in Davos. It states that the loss of biodiversity is one of the largest future risks for the economy and society, alongside environmental and climate change. Therefore, we must act urgently and protect biological diversity to prevent a worst-case scenario. For over 25 years, GNF has been working in countries in the global south with local environmental organizations, authorities and companies on the sustainable use of natural resources and improved living conditions for the local population.

The protection and restoration of ecosystems through those partnerships with affected people, works particularly well. One successful example is the restoration of mangrove habitats: Our projects create habitats for flora and fauna whilst at the same time form an important carbon sink to help address climate protection. In addition, new sources of income are created for local people, i.e. through environmentally friendly shrimp farming in the re-emerging mangrove forests.

This shows that business and nature conservation can be intertwined. One more example among many: if the food industry is willing to offer fair and sustainably produced products – such as shrimps from sustainable mangrove aquaculture, and customers here in Europe demand these products, a long-term perspective for the protection of mangrove forests emerges.

For many years, GNF has been committed to a transformation of the global food industry. We are convinced that many agricultural businesses want to contribute to the preservation of biodiversity, because it provides the basis and the future of their economic activity. However, measures often generate additional costs. GNF has therefore launched a wide range of initiatives to promote effective biodiversity protection measures and create incentives for sustainable production. This commitment has positive impacts: a remarkable result in 2024 was the discovery of 33 new species of wild bees in one of our insect-friendly project regions, the Saarland.

In our 2024 activity report and on our new webpage (www.globalnature.org), you will find many more innovative and exciting project examples. We look forward to your questions, suggestions and comments.

Yours sincerely,

Udo Gattenlöhner
Managing Director

Stefan Hörmann
Managing Director

02 FACTS AND FIGURES

03 PREFACE

06 PROJECT WORLD MAP

32 THE INTERVIEW

34 FUNDRAISING

35 COOPERATION PARTNERS

36 PRESENTING THE ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

38 THE GNF TEAM

39 IMPRINT

LIVING LAKES & WATER



08

10 THE FUTURE OF LAKE PROTECTION

11 THE TONLE SAP LAKE: A UNIQUE NATURAL PHENOMENON IN DANGER

12 THREATENED LAKE IN THE HEART OF EUROPE

12 LIVING LAKE 2024: THE ENVIRONMENT AS A SILENT VICTIM OF WAR

13 SUCCESSFUL COOPERATION FOR THE PROTECTION OF EUROPEAN LAKES

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



14

16 A BETTER FUTURE FOR WELVERDIEND

18 INDIGENOUS WOMEN COOK FOR FOREST CONSERVATION

BUSINESS AND BIODIVERSITY



20

22 SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY AND BIODIVERSITY: OUR COMMITMENT TO A BETTER FUTURE

24 MORE BIODIVERSITY IN AGRICULTURE

NATURE CONSERVATION



26

28 1,000 KM THROUGH THE MONGOLIAN STEPPE: NATURE CONSERVATION AT BUIR LAKE

29 SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE IN GEORGIA: TRADITION MEETS INNOVATION

30 LATIN AMERICA: A WORLD FULL OF COLOUR AND BIODIVERSITY

→ OUR PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES AROUND THE GLOBE



We are connected to 115 partner lakes and wetlands around the world through the Living Lakes network. Find out more at <https://livinglakes.org/living-lakes/>.



LIVING LAKES & WATER

- 1 Living Lakes Network Germany/ Germany
- 2 Blue Lakes – Microplastic in inland waters/ Germany, Italy
- 3 European Living Lakes Association (ELLA)/ Germany, Estonia, Hungary, Spain
- 4 Living Lakes Biodiversity and Climate Project (LLBCP)/ South Africa, Rwanda, Malawi, India, Sri Lanka, Philippines, Cambodia, Mexico, Colombia, Peru

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT & DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

- 5 Welverdiend food security project/ South Africa
- 6 Drinking cups for drinking water/ Ivory Coast, Malawi, Tanzania
- 7 School education and drinking water supply in the Mwaro province/ Burundi
- 8 Strengthening the socio-ecological resilience of rural communities in Maputaland/ South Africa
- 9 Improving access to clean water to improve living conditions for disadvantaged population groups in Ulamba/ Western Kenya
- 10 Environmentally sustainable solutions for UNRWA schools in the Palestinian Jordan Valley/ Palestine
- 11 Multi-stakeholder partnership for the protection of mangroves in shrimp aquaculture/ Bangladesh & India
- 12 Mangrove and coastal protection in South Asia/ Bangladesh, India, Maldives/ Sri Lanka
- 13 Forest regeneration and indigenous self-administration in the mountains of Guerrero/ Mexico
- 14 Protection and conservation of fish stocks in the middle reaches of the Río Magdalena/ Colombia
- 15 Sustainable development of the Mbaracayú forest reserve in Paraguay/ Paraguay

BUSINESS & BIODIVERSITY

- 16 Companies and Biodiversity – UBi/ Germany
- 17 ELAN: Deforestation-free Supply Chains/ Germany
- 18 Investments for Forest and Biodiversity Conservation/ Germany
- 19 Insect-responsible Sourcing Regions/ Germany
- 20 Fair Rubber Association/ Global
- 21 Fair Wear Works/ Germany
- 22 Food for Biodiversity Association/ Germany
- 23 European Business & Biodiversity Campaign/ EU
- 24 Biodiversity in global agricultural supply chains/ EU & Colombia
- 25 Carbon neutrality? Analysis and evaluation of the voluntary carbon market in the forestry sector/ Germany
- 26 Visionary – Towards more sustainable food provision/ Germany, Spain, Italy, Romania, Poland, Hungary, Denmark, UK

NATURE CONSERVATION

- 27 Nature without Barriers! /Germany
- 28 Accessible Protected Areas/ Poland
- 29 Mitigating Human-Elephant Conflicts in the Himalayan Foothills/ India & Nepal
- 30 Sustainable Tourism and Ecosystem Conservation in Hovsgol National Park/ Mongolia
- 31 Climate adaptation, habitat restoration and pro-biodiversity business at Manglares de Bajo Yuna National Park/ Dominican Republic
- 32 From farm to fork: bananas and pineapples/ Costa Rica, Dominican Republic
- 33 Poverty alleviation, reforestation and sustainable agriculture/ Guatemala
- 34 Development and introduction of an international certification system for peat substitutes/ Germany, India, Sri Lanka
- 35 Promotion of organic farming in Western Georgia/ Georgia
- 36 Improvement of living conditions through pastureland protection at Lake Buir/ Mongolia

Living Lakes & Water



→ The “Living Lakes Biodiversity & Climate Project LLBCP”, our largest project to date for the global protection of lakes and wetlands, is picking up speed: around 3,500 participants from a wide range of communities at ten partner lakes and 2,500 activists from environmental organizations, administrations and universities from ten countries have taken part in diverse measures. 25 young people have successfully completed a trainee program, and ten have received a certificate from the Living Lakes Academy. Ten pilot projects are being implemented, and five replication projects were launched in 2024. We have reached several million people with our public relations work, including 200,000 directly through the new website www.livinglakes.org.

[illegible]

→ THE FUTURE OF LAKE PROTECTION

Dr. Thomas Schaefer



The next generation of lake protectors at the Sustainable Leadership Journey 2023 in the Philippines. Here, the focus is on community-based conservation work and habitat restoration.

The future of our planet lies in the hands of the younger generation. Around 50 percent of the world's population is under 35 years of age. It is these young people who will have to solve the pressing environmental problems of our time. The challenges are not new: environmental pollution, water scarcity, species extinction and climate change. However, these problems are becoming increasingly complex as globalization progresses and the pressure of use increases. At the same time, digitization and new technologies can also offer new solutions. What was unthinkable 25 years ago is now reality: drones provide a quick overview of protected areas, smartphones and apps make it easier to record biodiversity, and modern statistical methods can use every data point for information. Ultimately, it will be young people who drive innovation and make it usable for nature conservation. A great potential therefore lies in connecting young, active people across countries and continents.

Dr. Thomas Schaefer

is a biologist, sustainability manager and has been active in nature conservation for 37 years. As head of the Living Lakes and Nature Conservation departments at GNF, his heart beats for living lakes, in Germany and worldwide.



Taking responsibility together

To involve even more young people in activities to protect ecosystems, lakes and wetlands, we invited them to the third Sustainability Leadership Journey (SLJ) in September 2024. A diverse and exciting program awaited the 30 young experts from all over the world, aged between 25 and 35. A central goal was to bring the young people into contact with each other and to foster the exchange of ideas. The venue was well chosen: the iSimangaliso Wetland Park on South Africa's Pacific coast offers unforgettable encounters with nature and species such as hippos, crocodiles and fish eagles.

Soft skills for nature conservation

At the camp, located directly in St. Lucia on the Pacific Ocean, "soft skills" were an important focus. The Wildtrust South Africa team organized interactive workshops on leadership, communication and conflict management. During excursions to the iSimangaliso Wetland Park, the group learned about approaches to community-based conservation work and the opportunities it offers. Nature-based solutions and habitat restoration were further topics of the seminar. The goal of the leadership journeys is to move forward into the future as a global Living Lakes team and to continue to support each other in coming decades, in line with the Living Lakes concept.



www.livinglakes.org/

→ THE TONLE SAP LAKE: A UNIQUE NATURAL PHENOMENON IN DANGER

David Marchetti

Smoked fish, floating house guest rooms, locally produced honey and distilled spirits—what do they all have in common? They are the result of our decade-long collaboration with FACT, our local partner organization in Cambodia. Together, we have created a protected area in the southern part of Tonle Sap Lake that provides new employment opportunities for local people and improves nature conservation.

A life in tune with the tides

Lake Tonle Sap is the largest lake in Southeast Asia with a unique natural phenomenon: during the rainy season, the lake expands to five times its size and floods an area of more than 15,000 km². The local population is well adapted to the changing water levels and lives in floating houses. During the monsoon season, all life takes place on the water. Ninety percent of the local population make their living from fishing. Overfishing, illegal fishing, deforestation and climate change are endangering the livelihoods of the people living on the Tonle Sap.

Strengthening local communities

The Global Nature Fund has been working in the region since 2018. As part of our "Living Lakes Biodiversity & Climate" project, we have currently demarcated 921 hectares of ecologically valuable area at Lake Tonle Sap to protect these zones. Together with FACT, we support local communities in the sustainable management of fish stocks and the development of alternative income. For example, local women now smoke the fish caught in the lake. The smoked fish is sold in the capital city at a significantly higher price than locally, thanks to a female team adding value. Ecotourism is also playing an increasingly important role and is providing additional income for many families. All these



activities create a virtuous cycle that benefits both the natural ecosystem and the local communities. The long-term protection of the area allows local fishermen to catch enough fish to make a living. In addition to the smoking of fish mentioned above, the fermentation of fish also creates an additional valued product. Fermented fish is considered a delicacy, particularly among the local population.

Women from the project villages clean the fish before smoking or fermenting it. The fish are then sold in the capital, Phnom Penh, via a female intermediary.



www.livinglakes.org/tonle-sap-lake/



David Marchetti

has been working for GNF in the Living Lakes and Nature Conservation department since 2019. Since 2024, he has been deputy head of the Nature Conservation department.

→ THREATENED LAKE IN THE HEART OF EUROPE

Katja Weickmann



Many breeding birds depend on the Szczecin Lagoon. Thousands of migratory birds rest here.

The Szczecin Lagoon, part of the Oder Delta, covers an area of 70,000 hectares on both sides of the German-Polish border and plays a key role in maintaining biodiversity in the southern Baltic Sea. It is one of the few large untouched natural areas in Central Europe. As a crossing point on the East Atlantic Flyway, it is of crucial importance for migratory birds. The blue heart of one of the first rewilding areas in the EU beats here. The term “rewilding” refers to an ecological concept for restoring original wilderness areas.

For decades, pollution from surrounding industrial zones and nutrient inputs from intensive agriculture affected and threatened the Szczecin Lagoon. The Oder River, which flows into the Szczecin Lagoon, gained sad notoriety in August 2022 when a mass fish kill made headlines across Europe. Climate change is putting additional pressure on the wetlands. With the nomination of this European wetland as Threatened Lake of the Year, the GNF and the Living Lakes network are drawing attention to the urgent need for action within the EU and calling for the timely implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive and related legislation, as well as close transboundary cooperation for the benefit of European waters.



www.globalnature.org/threatened-lake-2024

→ LIVING LAKE 2024: THE ENVIRONMENT AS A SILENT VICTIM OF WAR

On some days, Lake Crivitz is so clear that you can see many meters down. If you are out in a boat, you can see the outlines of strange objects in the water: the remains of sunken military equipment. In the years after 1945, Lake Crivitz was unfortunately misused to dispose of weapons from the Second World War, as were many other lakes worldwide. During the era of the German Democratic Republic (GDR), the lake was used as a wastewater collection basin for many decades. In recognition of the

continuous efforts of committed citizens to restore the heavily polluted lake, Lake Crivitz in Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania received the “Living Lake 2024” award. A newly founded association called “Zu neuen Ufern” (To New Shores) unites citizens’ initiatives and is taking over the planning of the renaturation process and a socio-cultural development concept for the lake and the region. “This award is a promise for the future of Lake Crivitz,” says Corinna Cwielag, state manager of the Bund für Umwelt und Naturschutz Deutschland (German Association for the Environment and Nature Conservation) in Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania.



www.globalnature.org/living-lake-2024

Katja Weickmann

has a master’s degree in European studies and has been working as a project manager for the Global Nature Fund since 2009.



→ SUCCESSFUL COOPERATION FOR THE PROTECTION OF EUROPEAN LAKES

Laura Böttges

The European Living Lakes Association (ELLA) started as an EU-funded project in 2021. After successful implementation and completion of the project in October 2023, the newly established association now has ten member organizations from Germany, Spain, Estonia, Hungary, Italy, Poland and Turkey. The main objective of ELLA is to protect lakes and wetlands in Europe and to preserve their biological diversity and natural resources. The association has implemented several activities in the past year, in particular protective measures for European water bodies.

The power of teamwork

In 2024, ELLA has organized webinars on a wide range of topics and conducted several biodiversity checks for the business sector. With the help of the checks, companies can find out how they can better protect biological diversity. In addition, the association has organized events on the topic of water protection and advocated for improved protection legislation. In 2023 a study was published that highlighted the effects of climate change on lakes and wetlands in Europe. These diverse activities were possible thanks to the commitment of a wide range of organizations and research institutions, all working towards the same goal: to save Europe’s lakes and wetlands. According to a 2018 report by the European Environment Agency, over 60 percent of Europe’s surface waters require increased protection or even restoration measures to meet the requirements of the European Water Framework Directive.

Knowledge sharing

In September 2023, the members of ELLA met in Rome for the association’s constitutional conference. The event was co-organized with the EU project Blue Lakes, which addresses



the effects of microplastic pollution on European lakes. More than 50 participants discussed solutions for Pressing environmental problems and how to protect Europe’s valuable freshwater ecosystems, which are exposed to numerous threats. International cooperation through ELLA has already proven to be an effective approach to promoting more sustainable practices in lake regions and actively contributing to climate protection.

From Estonia to Turkey: ELLA members travelled to Rome from seven European countries to exchange ideas on the protection of European lakes and wetlands.



www.livinglakes.org/ella

Laura Böttges

has a master’s degree in Biodiversity, Ecology and Evolution and works as a project manager for the Global Nature Fund in the field of Living Lakes and nature conservation.



Sustainable Development

A woman with dark hair in a braid, wearing a pink long-sleeved shirt, is focused on shaping a piece of clay on a pottery wheel. She is standing in front of a wall made of light-colored, rough-hewn bricks. To her right, a large red plastic bucket is visible. The background shows a wooden structure with a corrugated metal roof and some green foliage. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting a sunny day.

—→ In 2023, GNF's development cooperation continued to be dedicated to the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations. From working with indigenous communities on forest conservation, as here in Mexico, to sustainable shrimp production in the Sundarbans of Bangladesh, strong partnerships with local organizations are at the heart of our work. Together, we create innovative solutions for sustainable development.

—→ A BETTER FUTURE FOR WELVERDIEND

Udo Gattenlöhner



For many children in the economically weak region of Welverdiend, the meal at kindergarten is the only nutritious food they get that day.

The eleven villages that form the “Greater Welverdiend” community are situated in the far northeast of South Africa, not far from the famous Kruger National Park. Welverdiend is Afrikaans and means “well-deserved”. The villages themselves have traditional African names such as Hlahlakahle, Hlavekisa and Hluvukani. The region is characterized by wild and fascinating nature, but suffers from economic underdevelopment, poverty and high youth unemployment. Half of the population lives below the poverty line and only about ten percent of households earn above the minimum wage. For many children from poor families or orphans in Welverdiend, the meal they receive in primary schools and daycare centres is the only nutritious meal of the day. This is where our project comes in: Together with our partner organization Wild Impact, we have created ten large vegetable gardens since the end of 2023, which form the basis for feeding the pupils. The vegetable seedlings are grown in the central Bohlabela development centre. From there, the schools and kindergartens are supplied with seedlings, which they plant or propagate in their gardens and greenhouses or shade houses. This distribution system ensures that all kindergartens and schools are supplied with fresh vegetables.

From water shortage to education: a wide range of tasks in Welverdiend

It is common for the villages to have no electricity for days. The water supply has also become more unreliable due to climate change. Irregular and decreasing rainfall leads to longer periods of drought. Many people have no access to appropriate sanitary facilities. One solution for the long dry periods is the storage of rainwater. As part of the project, we have purchased a central water tower with a capacity of 90,000 litres, several 18,500-liter water tanks and two 2,500-liter water trailers for water transport. Wild Impact works with a local network of 26 kindergartens, 11 primary schools and seven secondary schools in Welverdiend. Young adults complete a one-year internships at the institutions and support the project activities. During the first year, 28 young people were trained. These newly trained stewards take on a wide range of tasks, from maintaining the buildings and planting native trees to preparing meals and supervising younger children.

Sustainable future prospects

In times of climate change and population growth, thousands of children and adults benefit from the improved food and water security provided by the project. A training centre offers future prospects and employment opportunities through training and education. The project particularly benefits students in kindergartens and primary schools. A total of 3,184 scholarship holders and 5,770 primary school students benefit from this project.

Since our foundation in 1998, we have been committed to protecting the environment and nature in South Africa, always focusing on the needs of the local population.

Our partner, Wild Impact, was founded in 1992 as the Africa Foundation and was renamed ‘Wild Impact’ in mid-2024. The main objectives of the charity are to protect nature and support disadvantaged people in Africa, for example by improving food security and creating educational opportunities. Wild Impact has been working in the project region for over 25 years. Together, we are committed to improving living conditions for the people of Welverdiend and shaping a sustainable future.

A movement that extends far beyond Welverdiend

Our long-term goal is for every kindergarten and primary school in the municipality of Welverdiend to have its own vegetable garden and to grow about half of the food it needs itself. In addition, we are committed to improving the political environment in South Africa so that even more kindergartens and schools in rural, disadvantaged communities receive support and funding to operate their own gardens. The model developed by Wild Impact is based on the Yes4Youth program, which is financially supported by South African companies. We will gradually transfer this successful approach to other villages in the region. To achieve this, Wild Impact is building local capacity and putting together project teams to support implementation on the ground. Through these initiatives, we not only want to improve food security, but also promote sustainable development and education in the region. Our goal is to create momentum that extends far beyond Welverdiend and can improve the lives of many people.



www.globalnature.org/vegetable-gardens-south-africa

These seedlings will be planted in ten newly created vegetable gardens, which will supply the schools and kindergartens in Welverdiend with fresh vegetables every day. A total of 5,770 children will benefit from the project.



Udo Gattenlöhner

is an agronomist and has been working for GNF since 1999, as executive director since 2001. He coordinates various projects for sustainable development in countries of the Global South.

—> INDIGENOUS WOMEN COOK FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE FOREST

Katharina Gehrig



The indigenous Me'phaa people have traditionally lived off the forests of the mountainous region of Montaña. However, excessive deforestation and extreme weather events are increasingly causing landslides that bury houses, roads and fields.

The Mexican state of Guerrero, where our project region Montaña is located, is severely affected by natural disasters such as earthquakes and storms. As recently as fall 2023, Hurricane Otis hit here, leaving severe devastation and destruction. These disasters exacerbate living conditions, which are already strained by the overuse of natural resources, particularly deforestation. The natural disasters made it clear that the increasing deforestation and unsustainable use of the mountain forests lead to more landslides, which bury cropland, streets and houses. Furthermore, the deforestation significantly increases the problem of water scarcity in the dry months. To address these challenges, the GNF partner organization Cooperación Comunitaria has been working with the indigenous Me'phaa community in the mountainous, inaccessible region since 2013.

The indigenous Me'phaa community

In Mexico, 14 percent of the population is indigenous, and in the La Montaña region, this figure rises to 70 percent. Over the centuries,

local communities have developed ways of life that are closely linked to the use of forest products. Examples include food, medicine, firewood, timber, natural fibres and remedies. Excessive logging, combined with the slow regeneration of many tree species in the region, is posing a massive threat to the natural forest ecosystem. As a result, many forests have been severely thinned and their ecological stability disrupted. Deforestation for livestock farming is an additional factor. This deterioration of the natural environment and the disruption of the social structures of the indigenous population are forcing many young people to migrate to cities. Unfortunately, the state does not react to the concerns of indigenous people or foster their participation in political decision-making processes. This threatens the preservation and transmission of indigenous cultural heritage.

The wood-saving stoves “Juana”

In the morning, before sunrise, the Me'phaa women start baking their staple food, tortillas, on traditional wood-fired stoves. Gas stoves are no option due to the high fuel costs, and solar ovens are unfortunately unsuitable for

baking tortillas.

The indigenous red oak was used, which led to the deforestation of valuable mountain forests due to the growing population. In 2021, we started building sustainable wood-burning stoves in an effort to find a more sustainable solution that allows the Me'phaa to uphold their traditions while protecting the mountain forests – and thus also reduces the risk of landslides and water scarcity in the dry months. The Me'phaa women design and build the stoves themselves under the guidance of experts. This approach ensures that the stoves meet the needs of the people and will be accepted and used in the long term. In addition, the women gain a great deal of expertise and can pass on their knowledge to others. The result of the project is the “Juana” stove. The stove is safe and ergonomic and has an efficient flue. Compared to the old stoves, around 50 percent less firewood is used. So far, the women in the project have made around 50 of these stoves. Many other families have already asked if they can get support to build their own stoves. That is why we are now expanding this program to other communities.

Promotion of indigenous self-government

Our project also aims to strengthen a twelve-member indigenous self-government committee, which is elected for a term of three years. Since the Me'phaa are not familiar with private land ownership, all landmark decisions regarding the management of the forests are made by self-government committees. Participatory workshops are used to raise awareness of sustainable use and management skills. Our partner organization Cooperación Comunitaria works with great skill and enjoys a high level of trust in the communities as a result of years of work. The fact that some of the team come from the Me'phaa community themselves also helps. We will continue to work with Cooperación Comunitaria and other indigenous communities to strengthen indigenous self-government and



forest protection. The next project is already in the starting blocks. The focus here is on water protection measures and, in addition to the construction of sustainable wood-burning stoves, adopts other nature-based eco-technologies to protect Guerrero's unique mountain forests.

The women of the community were involved in the development of the new stoves. Compared to the old stoves, around 50 per cent of firewood is saved.



www.globalnature.org/forest-restoration-mexico



Katharina Gehrig

is a geographer with a master's degree in peace and conflict research. She has been working as a project manager in the field of sustainable development and development cooperation for the Global Nature Fund since 2022.

Business & Biodiversity



→ Biodiversity is our business – this simple slogan gets to the heart of the matter: only when companies take care to preserve biodiversity along their supply chains, is their business model fit for the future, as here, with the biodiversity-friendly, fair-trade rubber that ends up in German bicycle tires. The GNF offers numerous services to help companies assess their impact on nature, source raw materials sustainably and implement strategies for biodiversity conservation.

—→ SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY AND BIODIVERSITY:
OUR COMMITMENT TO A BETTER FUTURE

Stefan Hörmann, Louisa Lösing & Andrea Reuter



As the coordinator of two associations – Food for Biodiversity and Fair Rubber – we work together with our members to transform the food and natural rubber industries.

Around 20 years ago, a study by the United Nations clearly showed that the private sector is the biggest lever if we want to stem the loss of biodiversity. Since then, the Global Nature Fund has been helping companies to assess their risks and impacts in terms of biodiversity and to take the right measures to conserve nature. The companies come from all sectors, but particularly from the food industry. But we are also working with the financial sector, fashion companies and hardware and DIY stores as part

of the project “Unternehmen Biologische Vielfalt – UBi” (Business Biological Diversity).

A wide range of offers for companies

Our cooperation with companies is as diverse as their needs. We share our expertise with managing directors, CSR-, quality- and purchasing managers, and suppliers, among others, in training courses, workshops and lectures.

As an example, we conducted a web seminar with the NRW-Bank with over 40 company representatives. Together with the VfU, a network of sustainability experts from over 60 financial companies, we are developing biodiversity-related criteria for lending that will be published in 2025. In total, we have informed over 2,000 people in 60 training sessions. Our Biodiversity Check is a good starting point for a company to understand the importance of biodiversity and create an efficient biodiversity action plan. Companies are increasingly taking advantage of that offer to comply with the new EU legislation. In this context, GNF has also published an information-sheet on biodiversity reporting.

Effects in the supply chain

The largest impact on nature arises usually in the supply chain. An important aspect of biodiversity protection is the avoidance of deforestation. According to a new EU regulation, products such as coffee, cocoa or palm oil must in future only come from areas that have not previously been deforested. Together with OroVerde, the tropical forest foundation, we have published a knowledge portal “www.entwaldungsfreie-lieferketten.de” for small and medium-sized companies in Germany. Hundreds of companies have already used the portal. Seminars and consulting help to find out what measures companies can take to protect vital forests.

Many companies trust in solid standards and quality seals. We advise certifiers on including biodiversity protection in their criteria. More than 30 standards in the food industry such as Rainforest Alliance, Fairtrade and GLOBALG.A.P. have already taken up our recommendations. In addition to the food industry, we have recently scrutinised the certifications of ornamental plants and textile industry on biodiversity criteria.

If a company has its own purchasing specifications, we examine these and make specific recommendations for an improved consideration of biodiversity. We also support and advise the suppliers of companies in fulfilling their purchase requirements (see article “More biodiversity in agriculture”).



Thanks to our strong partnerships and an improved legislation that is increasingly taking biodiversity into account, the protection of biodiversity is more in the focus of the private sector. Together we can achieve a sustainable transformation of our economy actively contributing to the preservation of biodiversity and ultimately to its own future.

In training courses, workshops and lectures, we have informed more than 2,000 stakeholders from the private sector about biodiversity conservation, i.e. on deforestation-free supply chains.



www.globalnature.org/en/for-companies/

TOGETHER FOR SUCCESS – HOW WE WORK	
For biodiversity	The aim is to enable companies in all sectors to implement measures to protect biodiversity. We go beyond legal requirements.
At eye level	We are not the typical company consultants, but we work in partnerships with companies to develop concrete steps towards effective biodiversity protection.
Critical	We also ask the uncomfortable questions, such as the relevance of specific processes or missing resources.
Confidential	We do not practice “naming and shaming”; we handle information from our business partners and all meetings with confidentiality.
Pragmatic	Concerning biodiversity, many companies are still in the early stages, and it is not always the most ambitious approach that prevails. We develop effective but realistic measures that people in the company can easily implement.
Long term	We believe in long-term partnerships that have a large impact by building trust and knowledge within the organization and among suppliers.
Innovative	We use innovative, practice-oriented methods and instruments and support companies in their approaches and applications.



Stefan Hörmann
is an administrative scientist and heads the GNF’s Business & Biodiversity division. He has also been Managing Director of the GNF since 2024 and has been committed to for the protection of biodiversity.



Louisa Lösing
is a political scientist with degrees in European Studies and Global Environmental Governance. She is the deputy head of GNF’S Business & Biodiversity division.



Andrea Reuter
is a business economist (M.Sc.) specializing in sustainability management, controlling and finance and works as a project manager for GNF.

→ MORE BIODIVERSITY IN AGRICULTURE

Stefanie Donovan & Jenja Kronenbitter



GNF project manager Oliver Peters inspects a beneficial organism area. As part of our project “LIFE Insect Promoting Regions”, we are testing measures that can reduce the use of pesticides together with eleven pilot companies.

Biodiversity is an essential prerequisite for the production of food. Intact ecosystems provide services such as pollination, fertile soils and clean water. Despite this obvious dependency, the land-use sector is one of the main drivers of the loss of our biodiversity. At the same time, this sector has an enormous potential to make a significant contribution to solve the biodiversity crisis. This is where GNF comes in, working nationally and internationally with companies from the food industry, their suppliers, farmers and food standards to make value chains more biodiversity-friendly.

Insect-promoting regions

The LIFE Insect-responsible Sourcing Regions project promotes and supports insect-friendly biodiversity measures at the agricultural level. In our regional work, we network with stakeholders, implement insect-friendly measures together with farmers and local authorities, and offer trainings. By the end of 2023, a total of more than 1,400 hectares of measures had been implemented in the eight active insect-friendly regions and over 800 farmers and other interested parties had been trained.

Beneficial insect strips for natural pest control

Beneficial insect strips in arable farming are a concept for the promotion of beneficial insects such as pollinators and the reduction of pesticides. The strips are planted with flowering plants from special seed mixtures that attract pest-killing insects. We are testing this measure with eleven farms in and around the field in different regions of Germany. On one of the farms, a monitoring program is being conducted to investigate which beneficial insects settle in the strips and how they migrate to the adjacent arable land. Initial results show that the seed mixture attracts many hoverflies, that migrate in from surrounding areas. Many species of hoverfly, especially their larvae, are predatory and feed on aphids and other pests.

The strips are particularly effective when created in the middle of arable land. The added value for biodiversity lies in the subdivision of large arable areas and the networking of the landscape. Since this practice makes it more difficult to cultivate crops and is therefore unpopular with farmers, we have developed a financing model that rewards the creation of strips within the field, thus creating incentives for farmers. As a result, five companies have tested the model on arable land and provided 54 hectares of monoculture land with beneficial insect strips.

33 new wild bee species discovered in Saarland for the first time

Together with various agricultural businesses, we are also creating species-rich flowering areas on set-aside arable land as part of the LIFE Insect-responsible Sourcing Regions project. The farmers sow flowering mixtures with over 40 flowering plant species on their arable land – with as many native wild plant species as possible. This is intended to promote and enhance the diversity of our native insects. To measure the success of our sowings, we are conducting a wild bee monitoring project on various flowering areas in the Bliesgau Biosphere Reserve, among other places. This shows that the measures taken have had a lasting impact on the Saarland wild bee population list: 33 wild bee species were officially documented by an expert in the Saarland for the first time, including rare species such as the highly endangered French mason bee. Wild bees are particularly efficient pollinators because they pollinate a wide variety of flowering plants and are more specialized in individual flowers than, for example, honeybees, and pollinate them particularly effectively.

75 percent less herbicides in vegetable and herb cultivation

Whether orchards, hedges or rows of trees – in the cultivation of vegetables and herbs, we support the implementation of numerous biodiversity measures in northern and central Germany. Here, we have also managed to reduce the use of herbicides in leek cultivation by 75 percent. This is made possible by a new type of crop protection sprayer that uses sensors to apply herbicides precisely to the weeds instead of treating the entire area. Together with our local project partners, we are working on further improving the necessary algorithms for this technology to extend the use of these machines to other crops in the future. This work is made possible by a food company that invests



in its own supply chains and provides financial support to farmers in order to implement innovative measures to test and implement. In this context, it is also possible to implement new fertilization technology on farms, which can ultimately save fertilizer – a win-win situation for farmers and nature.

At home in the Bliesgau: the endangered rose sand bee. 33 new wild bee species were discovered for the first time in Saarland as part of our project, in which fallow fields are converted into flowering areas.



www.insect-responsible.org/en/



Stefanie Donovan

is an agricultural scientist (B.Sc.) and holds a degree in Ecological Economics (M.Sc.). She works as a project manager in the field of business & biodiversity for the Global Nature Fund.



Jenja Kronenbitter

is a graduate biologist specializing in agroecology and near-natural communal green spaces and has been working as a project manager for the Global Nature Fund since 2022.

Nature Conservation



→ The protection of biodiversity in remote areas of the world, such as here in Mongolia, and the improvement of the often harsh living conditions of people will remain one of our main focuses in the coming years. Everywhere we go, we meet committed people who share our goals with passion under difficult conditions - that inspires and motivates us a lot.

→ 1,000 KM THROUGH THE MONGOLIAN STEPPE: NATURE CONSERVATION AT LAKE BUIR

Dr. Thomas Schaefer



The inhospitable region is inhabited by only a few people.

We drove more than 1,000 kilometres over gravel roads and sandy tracks to Lake Buir with our Mongolian partners from Green Cavalry to discuss our project measures. These 1,000 kilometres were full of nature impressions: majestic steppe eagles, highland buzzards, countless Mongolian larks and a lonely but impressive little ringed plover. The long drive also provided plenty of opportunity to chat with Sara and Tstesgun, our dedicated and competent project partners.

Lake Buir is located directly on the Chinese border and, at around 610 square kilometres, is slightly larger than Lake Constance. Increasing tourism on the idyllic sandy beaches and overgrazing have led to the desertification and spread of sand and dunes. In an area the size of Bavaria and Baden-Württemberg combined, only ten people live in 100 square kilometres. The average annual temperature is just two degrees Celsius, and rain falls hardly ever in the region. This leads to endless, seemingly deserted expanses, as the conditions are too harsh even for nomadic livestock farming.

Windbreak hedges as a future prospect

As part of our project, we are planting hundreds of hedges on the dunes to slow down the strong steppe winds and prevent the sand from spreading further. As tree seedlings cannot simply be bought in Mongolia, we have set up tree nurseries on site. People from the surrounding villages and nomadic families from the surrounding area collect the seeds of native trees and shrubs and use them to grow robust seedlings that can withstand the extreme conditions.

Our project is one of the few development projects in Mongolia. It offers people in the region, especially women, additional income opportunities. There is a great need for trees. Wheat has been cultivated in milder areas for 20 years to make Mongolia less dependent on food imports. However, the soil here is also suffering from wind erosion. This is where our project comes in and helps to plant windbreak hedges that provide long-term protection. The people at Lake Buir benefit from their newly acquired skills and can continue to use and pass on their knowledge even after the project ends.

This project in one of the most remote and difficult regions of the world shows how sustainable solutions can be found through collaborative and innovative approaches that benefit both people and nature.



www.globalnature.org/windbreak-hedges-mongolia

Dr. Thomas Schaefer

is a biologist, sustainability manager and has been active in nature conservation for 37 years. As Head of Living Lakes and Nature Conservation at GNF, his heart beats for living lakes in Germany and worldwide.



→ SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE IN GEORGIA: TRADITION MEETS INNOVATION

Laura Böttges

Agriculture is one of the most important economic sectors in Georgia. With long cultivation periods, different climate zones and millions of hectares of arable land, Georgia has ideal conditions for growing valuable products. Many of the farmers run family farms that have been passed down from generation to generation along with traditional farming methods. Not only is the traditional agricultural knowledge part of the Georgian heritage, but also old cultivars that are difficult to find in other regions of the world. As a central aspect of the country's history and culture, agriculture is evolving into a more biodiverse and environmentally friendly practice through organic farming.

Protecting biodiversity and the climate

Organic farming methods help to maintain healthy ecosystems, enable soil regeneration, protect natural resources and promote biodiversity. By avoiding the use of synthetic pesticides and fertilizers, which are among the main sources of greenhouse gases, this approach also mitigates against climate change. Farmers in Georgia are showing increasing interest in learning modern organic farming methods and combining them with their traditional knowledge. As part of our project, which we implement together with our partner organization Sustain Caucasus International, we provided training and advice on biodiversity-friendly and climate-adapted agriculture to small farmers in the Samegrelo region. Thanks to cooperation with other stakeholders and authorities, the measures have achieved a high level of acceptance.

A demonstration centre for organic agriculture in Samegrelo

A key component of the project is the restoration of a three-hectare fallow plot and the



establishment of a demonstration farm for biodiversity-friendly agriculture. This long-abandoned area offers diverse terrain for growing a range of crops. The centre will bring together farmers and students for demonstrations of organic farming methods and create a space for sharing experiences, discussions, and the further development of ecological practices. This facility represents a unique opportunity for the local community to meet, teach, and learn to make food production in Georgia more sustainable.



www.globalnature.org/organic-farming-georgia

Laura Böttges

has a master's degree in Biodiversity, Ecology and Evolution and works as a project manager in the field of Living Lakes and nature conservation for the Global Nature Fund.



→ LATIN AMERICA: A WORLD FULL OF COLOR AND BIODIVERSITY

David Marchetti



Biodiversity instead of white beaches: In the Dominican Republic, we have restored 100 hectares of mangrove forest and created alternative sources of income for local people.

Since my childhood, Latin America has fascinated me as a world of different cultures, vibrant colours and diverse landscapes. A continent where football is a religion and music unites people. Latin America is rich in natural resources and offers a wide range of opportunities, but the continent also faces major challenges. Despite, or perhaps because of its enormous resources, the economic development threatens this valuable natural and cultural heritage and its breath-taking beauty. For many years, the Global Nature Fund has therefore been committed to a wide range of nature conservation projects in Latin America.

Dominican Republic: sustainable development through mangrove protection in Samaná

The Dominican Republic is a popular tourist destination, known for its picturesque beaches and diverse natural treasures. In the province of Samaná, in the northeast of the country, lies the Bajo Yuna National Park with its extensive mangrove forests. Mangroves are particularly species-rich and valuable ecosystems. They protect the coasts from hurricanes, provide a nursery for many marine fish and crustaceans, and bind up to five times more carbon dioxide than tropical forests. However, more than 30 percent of the

world's mangrove forests have already been destroyed by deforestation and overuse.

Since 2020, we have been working with our partner organization CEBSE to restore the mangrove forests in the province of Samaná. We are also creating alternative sources of income for the local population, for example through ecotourism or the sustainable production and marketing of mangrove honey and jam. From 2020 to 2023, we successfully implemented an initial pilot project in the region. As part of the project, we have, among other things, restored over 100 hectares of mangrove forest, launched kayak tours and supported the opening of a traditional restaurant in collaboration with the women's cooperative "La Sanchera". Now, our second project is starting in the Bajo Yuna National Park. For another four years, we will work to preserve the extraordinary mangrove habitats and create new sustainable sources of income for the population, supported by the Tui Care Foundation and the BMZ.

Guatemala: The beating heart of Mesoamerica

Lake Atitlán is located in the highlands of Guatemala, surrounded by volcanoes and hills. The lake and its surroundings provide a habitat for a variety of plant and animal species, including endemic fish such as the Atitlán perch. Various Mayan communities live around the lake. However, poverty in the region is high. Despite good agricultural conditions, malnutrition is widespread. Around 75 percent of people live below the poverty line. Since 2021, we have been working with Vivamos Mejor Guatemala (AVM) – one of our partner organizations for over 20 years – in the Atitlán region.

To improve the food situation of the people, we support AVM in making lost knowledge, such as the MILPA system, accessible to the local population again. MILPA is an ancient agricultural method that enables diverse food production and the long-term preservation of soil fertility.

In addition, the food spectrum and income of families are improved through mushroom cultivation and beekeeping as part of the project measures. Over 50 beekeepers have already been trained and organized into two cooperatives to better market their honey products. We are pursuing a similar approach for mushroom production. However, while there is already a great deal of traditional knowledge in the region on honey production, we had to start from scratch when it came to mushroom cultivation. Further, we have reintroduced an agroforestry system, which involves the agricultural use of an area while simultaneously growing shrubs and trees. It is already apparent that biodiversity is benefiting from the reforestation of 100 hectares of forest around Lake Atitlán, which includes more than 30 different tree species.

The importance of long-term cooperation for positive effects

Over 25 years of experience have confirmed that long-term cooperation with local organizations is the best way to achieve sustainable success. International cooperation enables our local partners to focus on the implementation of current projects and develop long-term visions. This allows them to work with a wide range of stakeholders and restore essential ecosystems in small steps. Another important aspect is the exchange of knowledge between partners. Virtual meetings, international conferences and regional exchanges help organizations such as CEBSE, Vivamos Mejor, Instituto Corazón de la Tierra in Mexico and Fundación Humedales in Colombia to learn from each other and incorporate traditional and new knowledge into their work.



www.globalnature.org/mangroves-lower-yuna



www.globalnature.org/sustainable-farming-guatemala

GNF Project Manager David Marchetti (centre) visiting Guatemala. We are reforesting about 100 hectares of forest with over 30 tree species around lake Atitlán and we improve the food and income situation of the local population.



David Marchetti

has worked at GNF in the Living Lakes and Nature Conservation department since 2019. He has been Deputy Head of the Nature Conservation Department since 2024.



Peter Zens is a third-generation farmer and Chairman of the Board of the Food for Biodiversity Association. The initiative is aiming at an improved protection of biodiversity along food supply chains. Peter runs an adventure farm near Cologne and has been committed to protecting biodiversity and sustainability in the region for decades.

When and how did you first become aware of biodiversity and how did it come about that you became Chairman of the Board of Food for Biodiversity?

As I have always been interested in sustainability, I became aware of the topic through a conference I attended, organised by the Ubi project ("Unternehmen Biologische Vielfalt"). When Food for Biodiversity was founded in 2021, I naturally found it very exciting, because it addressed exactly my topic, namely the food sector. If you can't get it there, where else can you get it and that's why it's no coincidence that Food for Biodiversity is the first strong industry association where the topic of biodiversity is played out with all players at the living round table. What I found really exciting about the initiative is that we are not operating in a niche or a bubble, but in the middle of the mainstream, with large companies, with the leading retailers, and that we can thus bring the whole thing forward.

You run the 'Gertrudenhof' adventure farm. How do you translate biodiversity there into everyday life?

We live in something of an idyllic setting. Right next to the farm, we have around ten hectares of agricultural land that is cultivated in small sections, with flower strips and meadows orchard. We show some of the simple ways in which biodiversity can be promoted. However, the farm is not only an eco-idyll, but also a commercial enterprise. Step by step, sustainability and biodiversity protection are becoming a measurable part of the Gertrudenhof business model. As a farmer, I have direct access to indicators in nature. When I notice a lot of

humming and buzzing in my orchards, my plum trees will be full of fruit, too. In other companies, where the supply chain is long and the company headquarters have no direct contact to the local situation, I think it can easily get somewhat lost, as is often the case with consumers. When you see it, when you experience it, when you feel it, you make different decisions and that's why I feel it's a real treasure to have this farm.

You have many thousands of visitors to your farm every year. Is biodiversity an issue for them?

You have to be honest and say that the topic of biodiversity has not yet reached consumer mainstream. That's why I take the opportunity to connect people who come here to that topic. We offer around 1,000 guided tours a year here on the farm for school classes, kindergartens and children's birthday parties. When people are on the fields, you instantly reach not only their heads, but also their hearts and that creates changes. We need to create that connection between people and nature again in many places, because most people can't engage with it so easily. That's why I believe that an experience on site, where you do something yourself, discover it and have a key moment for yourself that reaches your heart, creates a different understanding. That is what we want to promote on the farm.

In your opinion, what role do civil rights organizations like the GNF play in this whole process of promoting biodiversity protection?

An incredibly important one. NGOs like the Global Nature Fund, which work cooperatively with companies on biodiversity, are extremely important because many companies lack the expertise to find solutions. I believe that these partnership projects, which the Global Nature Fund carries out both locally and worldwide, are very important changemakers. The more you benefit from the knowledge of others, the more progress you can make.

It's buzzing and humming all around him: farmer and Food for Biodiversity CEO Peter Zens promotes biodiversity on his farm with flower strips.



If you had three wishes for biodiversity, what would they be?

Recently, at a conference, I found the sentence very beautiful that biodiversity conservation must become as self-evident as brushing teeth. That would be the one wish. The second thing I would wish for is that despite the seriousness of the situation, people should take pleasure in the subject, because anything you do with joy, you end up doing longer, more successfully and with more passion, and that will lead us to our goal. And the third thing is that we continue to walk on this collaborative path, especially

in the current political situation, where insults and radical untruths are often spread, tearing apart the community. That's why I'm so happy to be part of Food for Biodiversity, because this collaborative, goal-oriented, yet smart dialogue is at the forefront.

The interview was conducted by Eva Schellenbeck.



www.food-biodiversity.de/staerke-biologische-vielfalt-mit-deinem-einkauf/

The Food for Biodiversity campaign "Diversity in the shopping basket" informs consumers how they can support biodiversity with their purchases.



Eva Schellenbeck

has been working as Communications and Marketing Manager at the Global Nature Fund since 2022. As a trained journalist, she has been dealing with sustainability issues both professionally and privately for many years.

FUNDRAISING



One of our donation mailings sent out the end of 2023.

The wide range of successful projects that we implement every year with local partner organisations around the world are only possible with the appropriate financial resources. As a charitable foundation, we receive project funding from the public and private sectors, from other foundations and from individual donors. Without the support from all these areas, our project work would not be possible. That is why, in addition to funding applications, donation and fundraising activities are of great importance to the Global Nature Fund. In the

2023/2024 financial year, we were able to collect a total of 850,000 euros in donations from companies, foundations and individual donors. 640,000 euros of this was in the form of major donations, including from the Mercedes-Benz Group AG, the Postcode Lotterie DT gGmbH, Lonza Ltd., the Wilo-Foundation, Groundlake Partners and the Chrysantil Foundation. In the area of fundraising, we would like to give special mention to two partners: Sparkasse Hegau-Bodensee, which regularly supports us through various fundraising campaigns, and the team from “Drinking Cups for Drinking Water” and Hannover 96, which last year donated a record sum of 82,000 euros to our drinking water projects. Federal ministry, company, foundation or private individual – we would like to thank all

our supporters for what they make possible and for the trust they place in our work.

Transparency

As a foundation that carries out its projects with representatives of civil society, transparency is very important to us. We therefore use our annual activity report to provide detailed information about the development of our project work and finances. Since the formation of our foundation, we have been committed to a voluntary audit of the annual financial statements by an independent auditor. We prepare a profit and loss statement and a balance sheet in accordance with the German Commercial Code and foundation law. The preservation of the foundation’s assets and the statutory use of the foundation’s funds are essential criteria in this process. All audit results are documented in the audit report and disclosed to our supervisory authorities. We bear the seal of the Initiative Transparent Civil Society (ITZ) and fulfil our publication obligations under the initiative. The activity report and statutes are available on our website and our current donors receive the annual activity report by post. The relevant documents are available to download at any time or can be requested directly from us.

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK OUR PARTNERS:

Public Funds – Germany



European Union



Foundations / Associations



Business Cooperations



Other European Donors / Supporters



Standards



This year, we have once again worked together with a large number of project partners around the world in a spirit of mutual trust to achieve our goals for international nature and environmental conservation.

Find out more about our partners here:
www.globalnature.org/project-partners



Kristin Mehler

is an Asian studies and linguistics graduate (Master of Arts) with many years of NGO experience and works as a communications and marketing manager for the Global Nature Fund.

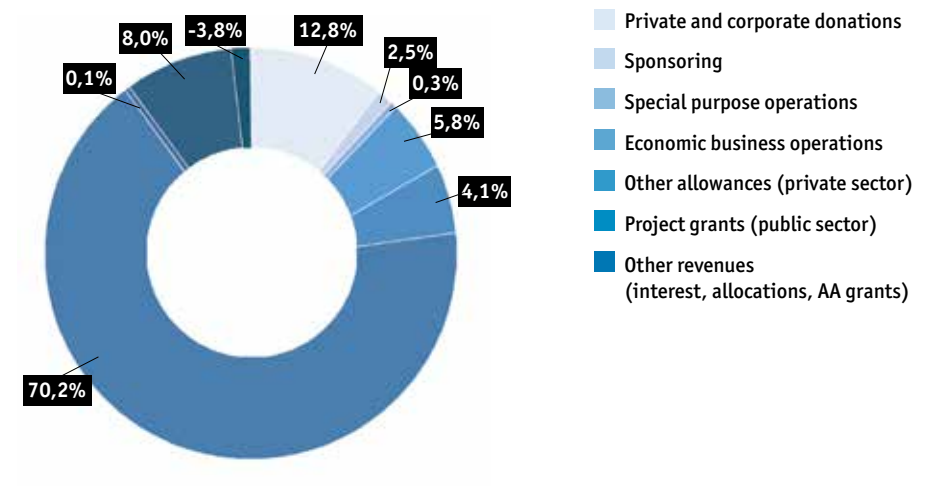


PRESENTING THE ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

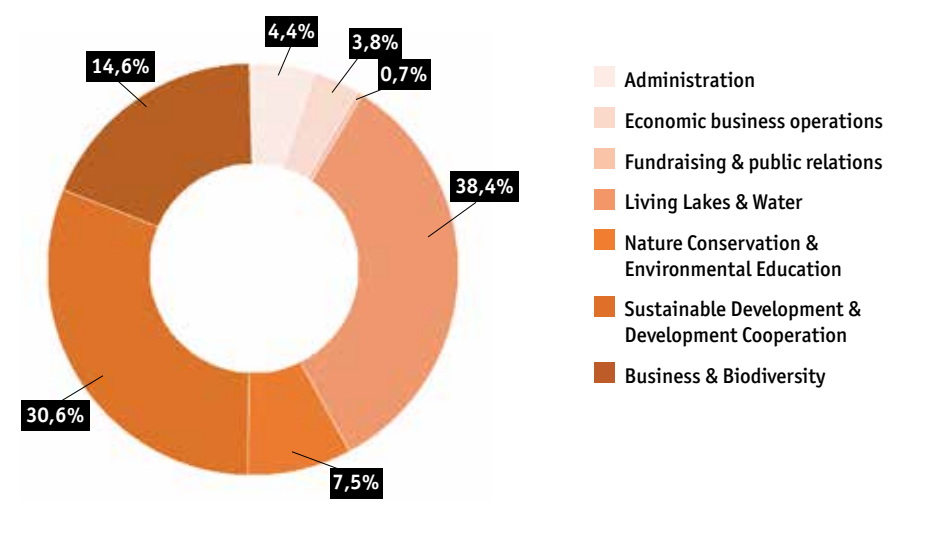
EXPLANATORY NOTE
ON THE FISCAL YEAR

For the 2023 financial year, the Global Nature Fund was issued an unqualified audit opinion by the independent auditing firm Koch & Eicken GmbH. The audit results are recorded in the report on the audit of the annual financial statements as of December 31, 2023 and in the corresponding explanatory report as of December 31, 2023.

The balance sheet total as of December 31, 2023 was 11,638,252.95 euros (previous year: 10,580,948.62 euros). The income from the profit and loss statement from January 1 to December 31, 2023 amounts to 5,310,728.02 euros. Taking into account the expenses, the balance is -230,163.10 euros (previous year: +626,191.36 euros). After taking into account the necessary accruals of €441,425.56 (previous year: -€651,313.17), the allocation to the reserves amounts to €211,262.46 (previous year: withdrawal from reserves of €25,121.81). The free reserves as of December 31, 2023, thus amount to 782,537.88 euros (previous year: 571,275.42 euros). The foundation capital remains unchanged at 437,638.04 euros.



Budget 2023 - Revenues in EURO		
	Euro	Prozente
Private and company donations	708.486,35	12,8
Sponsoring	140.369,90	2,5
Special-purpose operation (7 % VAT)	16.348,04	0,3
Economical business operation	319.882,10	5,8
Other allowances (private sector)	229.744,91	4,1
Project grants (public sector)	3.887.963,90	70,2
Other revenues (interest, fines, grants from job agency)	7.932,82	0,1
Accruals to the following year	441.425,56	8,0
Withdrawal from reserves	-211.262,46	-3,8
TOTAL	5.540.891,12	100,0



Budget 2023 - Expenses in EURO		
	Euro	Prozente
Administration	243.044,82	4,4
Economical business operation	208.619,05	3,8
Fundraising & Public relations	37.317,08	0,7
Living Lakes & Water	2.127.711,82	38,4
Nature Conservation & Environmental Education	417.078,73	7,5
Sustainable Development & Development Cooperation	1.697.959,24	30,6
Business & Biodiversity	809.160,38	14,6
TOTAL	5.540.891,12	100,0

BALANCE SHEET AS OF 31.12.2023

ASSETS	31.12.2023	Previous year
A. FIXED ASSETS		
I. Tangible Assets		
Operating and Office Equipment	7,14 €	7,14 €
II. Financial Assets		
Financial investments	306,78 €	306,78 €
B. CURRENT ASSETS		
I. Stocks		
Ongoing projects	9.213.277,35 €	7.152.536,58 €
II. Receivables and other assets		
- Receivables from deliveries and services	69.190,85 €	69.369,43 €
- Other receivables and assets	122.639,56 €	186.333,33 €
	191.830,41 €	255.702,76 €
III. Cash on hand and bank balances		
Cash on hand	265,69 €	582,53 €
Sight deposits	670.661,44 €	1.166.290,29 €
Time deposits	1.556.067,80 €	1.993.565,51 €
	2.226.994,93 €	3.160.438,33 €
C. ACCRUED ITEMS	5.836,34€	11.957,03 €
TOTAL of ASSETS	11.638.252,95 €	10.580.948,62 €

LIABILITIES	31.12.2023	Previous year
A. EQUITY CAPITAL		
I. Foundation Capital		
Endowment Capital	86.919,62 €	86.919,62 €
Increase in Endowment Capital	350.718,42 €	350.718,42 €
	437.638,04 €	437.638,04 €
II. Reserves		
Free Reserves		
Balance carried forward on 01.01.2022	571.275,42 €	596.010,29 €
Withdrawal/Allocation to reserves	211.262,46 €	-25.121,81 €
Dissolution of long-term reserve	0,00 €	386,94 €
Balance 31.12.2023	782.537,88 €	571.275,42 €
B. NOT YET CONSUMED DONATIONS AND ALLOWANCES		
- Not yet used donations and allowances	0,00 €	0,00 €
- Long-term donations and allowances	7,14 €	7,14 €
	7,14 €	7,14 €
C. PROVISIONS		
- Provisions for tax liabilities	61.606,04€	24.275,00 €
- Other Provisions	47.635,25 €	52.288,25 €
	109.241,29 €	76.563,25 €
D. LIABILITIES		
- Advance payments received on projects	9.910.470,55 €	8.411.016,24 €
- Liabilities from deliveries and services	67.724,01 €	88.906,64 €
- Liabilities from donations and grants not yet consumed for the intended purpose	267.970,28 €	148.109,38 €
- Other liabilities	62.663,76 €	847.432,51 €
	10.308.828,60 €	9.495.464,77 €
E. ACCRUED ITEMS		
	0,00 €	0,00 €
TOTAL of LIABILITIES	11.638.252,95 €	10.580.948,62 €

Marion Hammerl

Marion Hammerl
President

Radolfzell, July 23th 2024

STRONG TOGETHER FOR NATURE AND ENVIRONMENT: WE ARE THE TEAM OF THE GLOBAL NATURE FUND

Sustainable development



Udo Gattenlöhner
Managing Director, Head of
Communication & Marketing
Office Radolfzell



Thies Geertz
Head of Sustainable
Development
Office Radolfzell



Katharina Gehrig
Project manager
Office Radolfzell



Andrea Schell
Project manager
Teleworkplace

Living Lakes & Nature Conservation



Dr. Thomas Schaefer
Head of Living Lakes &
Nature Conservation
Office Radolfzell



David Marchetti
Deputy Head of
Nature Conservation
Office Radolfzell



Katja Weickmann
Project manager
Office Berlin



Laura Böttges
Project manager
Office Radolfzell



Stefanie Donovan
Project manager
Office Berlin



Bettina Faust
Project manager
Teleworkplace

Business & Biodiversity



Stefan Hörmann
Managing Director, Head of
Business & Biodiversity
Office Bonn



Louisa Lösing
Deputy Head of
Business & Biodiversity
Office Bonn



Andrea Reuter
Project manager
Office Bonn



Tobias Ludes
Project manager
Office Bonn



Steffen Kemper
Project manager
Office Bonn



Jenja Kronenbitter
Project manager
Teleworkplace



Lea Strub
Project manager
Office Bonn



Oliver Peters
Project manager
Office Bonn

Finances, administration & staff



Daniel Heinrich
Head Finances
Office Radolfzell



Corinna de Beyer
Assistant Finances
Office Radolfzell



Manuela Köstner
Assistant Finances
Office Radolfzell



Jasmin Rink
HR and Assistant to the
Directors
Office Radolfzell



Kristin Mehler
Communications &
Marketing manager
Office Bonn



Eva Schellenbeck
Communications &
Marketing manager
Office Radolfzell

Kommunikation & Marketing

Präsidium



Marion Hammerl
President



Prof. Dr. Manfred Niekisch
Vice-President



Jörg Dürr-Pucher
Member of the GNF Board



Kat Hartwig
Member of the GNF Board



Barbara Metz
Member of the GNF Board



Dr. Andrew Venter
Member of the GNF Board



Sebastian Winkler
Member of the GNF Board

IMPRINT

Publisher:

Global Nature Fund
Fritz-Reichle-Ring 4, 78315 Radolfzell
Phone: +49 7732 9995-80
Fax: +49 7732 9995-88
E-Mail: info@globalnature.org

V.i.S.d.P.: Udo Gattenlöhner

Editorial office:

Eva Schellenbeck

Texts:

Udo Gattenlöhner
Stefan Hörmann
Dr. Thomas Schaefer
David Marchetti
Katja Weickmann
Laura Böttges
Katharina Gehrig
Louisa Lösing
Andrea Reuter
Stefanie Donovan
Jenja Kronenbitter
Eva Schellenbeck
Kristin Mehler
Daniel Heinrich

Proofreading (English):

John Pinder

Picture credits:

Title: Udo Gattenlöhner; p.6-7: GNF Montage, magr80/AdobeStock; p.10: Society for the conservation of Philippine Wetlands; p.11: David Marchetti/ GNF; p.12: Staffan Widstrand - Rewilding Europe; p.13: Udo Gattenlöhner/ GNF; p.14-15: Thies Geertz/ GNF; p.16: Udo Gattenlöhner/ GNF; p.17: Udo Gattenlöhner/ GNF; p.18: Thies Geertz/ GNF; p.19: Cooperación Comunitaria CONSTRUCCIÓN ESTUFAS; p.20-21: Schwalbe Ralf Bohle GmbH; p.23: OroVerde; p.25: Ronald Burger; p.26-27: Thomas Schaefer/ GNF; p.29: Laura Böttges/ GNF; p. 30: David Marchetti/ GNF; p. 31: Vivamos Mejor Guatemala

All pictures without specification: GNF

Design:

Didem Sentürk, DUH

Print:

Climate-neutral on 100% recycled paper with organic inks and 100% green electricity printed by dieUmweltDruckerei GmbH

© Global Nature Fund
Radolfzell, December 2024



HELP US SO WE CAN HELP OTHERS!

DONATION ACCOUNT

GLS-Gemeinschaftsbank Bochum

IBAN: DE 53 4306 0967 8040 4160 00

BIC: GENODEM1GLS

GNF HEAD OFFICE

Fritz-Reichle-Ring 4
78315 Radolfzell, Germany
Phone: +49 7732 9995-80
Fax: +49 7732 9995-88
E-Mail: info@globalnature.org

GNF OFFICE BONN

Kaiser-Friedrich-Straße 11
53113 Bonn, Germany
Phone: +49 228 1848694-0
Fax: +49 228 1848694-99

GNF OFFICE BERLIN

Hackescher Markt 4
10178 Berlin, Germany
Phone: +49 30 2400867-341
Fax: +49 30 2400867-19



www.globalnature.org/en/