

No more loss
of nature's
functions
and services

M. Sanjayan CEO, Conservation International

M. Sanjayan is a conservation scientist and CEO of Conservation International, an organization working primarily in the Global South to secure nature for humanity. Sanjayan joined Conservation International in 2014 as executive vice president; he was named CEO in 2017. Since his arrival, he has led two landmark capital campaigns totaling \$2.7 billion; the development of critical scientific tools, including the irrecoverable carbon atlas; public-private coalition-building for massive forest restoration efforts across the globe; and the launch of a pioneering blue carbon project in Colombia, as well as the multilateral Blue Nature Alliance, which aims to protect 18 million sq. kilometers of ocean over five years.

Born in Sri Lanka and raised in West Africa, Sanjayan brings a unique perspective to his work, which has attracted media coverage from The New York Times, The Washington Post, CNN, and Outside Magazine. Sanjayan holds a master's degree from the University of Oregon and a PhD in Conservation Biology from the University of California, Santa Cruz. His peer-reviewed scientific work has appeared in Science, Nature, and Conservation Biology. He has been a visiting researcher at UCLA, distinguished professor of practice at Arizona State University, and a fellow at the Aspen Institute.



Joji Cariño Senior policy advisor, Forest Peoples Programme

Joji Cariño is senior policy adviser of the Forest Peoples Programme. She is an Ibaloi from the Cordilleras Highlands of the Philippines. As a well-known activist and analyst, Joji has more than 30 years of experience working on Indigenous peoples' rights, from actions to change unsustainable dam projects in the Philippines to global environment forums such as the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) and Agenda 2030.

Recently, she has been engaged in organizing networks of Indigenous peoples and local communities in Tebtebba's Community Based Monitoring and Information Systems program. This work has led to important contributions of Indigenous and local knowledge to global policy processes, such as in the CBD and IPBES. Joji has been a pioneer for the respect and recognition of the contribution of Indigenous and local knowledge in IPBES work program and assessments. Previously, she was executive secretary of the International Alliance of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples of the Tropical Forests and served as commissioner on the World Commission on Dams, which conducted a global review of the effectiveness of dams. She is also a member of the Scientific Advisory Board of the secretary general of the United Nations.



Maria Damanaki Principal advisor, Rockefeller Brothers Foundation

Acting as an independent consultant, Maria Damanaki is serving as a principal advisor for SYSTEMIQ (London), the Paradise Foundation (China) and Rockefeller Brothers Foundation (USA).

Maria Damanaki is a member of the Friends of Ocean Action of the World Economic Forum. She co-chairs the network of the High-Level Ocean Panel. She sits on the Board of Monaco Ocean Foundation and Oceanographic Institute, the Board of European Marine Regions Forum (Berlin), the Board of the Global Fishing Watch, the Board of Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) and the Board of Global Fund for Coral Reefs (GFRC).

She served for five years as the Global Managing Director for Oceans at The Nature Conservancy USA. She also served as the European Union Commissioner for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries. Under her leadership, the Commission introduced a new Common Fisheries Policy that brought fish populations back to healthier levels—from as few as five sustainable stocks in 2010 to up more than 30 today. She also served as a Greek politician for many years. She was the first woman leader of a Greek political party. She is the author of four books on gender and human rights, education and European policy.



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Alex Dehgan CEO and co-founder, Conservation X Labs

Dr. Alex Dehgan is the CEO and co-founder of Conservation X Labs, an innovation and technology startup focused on conservation. Conservation X Labs both builds new technologies for addressing the underlying drivers of extinction and harnesses open innovation and mass collaboration to attract new solvers and new solutions. Alex is also a professor of the practice of Sustainability and a Global Futures Fellow at Arizona State University. He previously served as the chief scientist at the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). Alex founded and led the Office of Science and Technology, and created the vision for and helped stand up the Global Development Lab. Prior to USAID, Alex worked in multiple positions in the U.S. State Department, including overseas service under the Coalition Provisional Authority in Iraq, using science to support bilateral diplomacy, including Arab-Israeli relations, engagement with Iran, through leading the science aspects of President Obama's Cairo Initiative.

Alex was the founding country director of the Wildlife Conservation Society Afghanistan Program and helped create Afghanistan's first national park. Alex is the author of the book, "The Snow Leopard Project," which describes the effort; the book was selected by the journal Nature's book editor as one of the top five science books of 2019. Alex holds a PhD in Evolutionary Biology from The University of Chicago and a JD from the University of California, Hastings College of the Law.



Carlos Nobre Climate and Amazon scientist

Carlos Nobre is an Earth System scientist from Brazil. He is a founding member of World Resources Institute (WRI) Brazil, and served as an author on the IPCC AR4 report, which earned the Nobel Peace Prize in 2007. Dr. Nobre's work primarily focuses on the Amazon and its impacts on the Earth system. Notably, he posited the "savannization" of the Amazon in response to deforestation 30 years ago.

Nobre chaired the Large-Scale Biosphere-Atmosphere Experiment in Amazonia (LBA). He is the co-chair of the Science Panel for the Amazon and the leader of the Amazonia 4.0 project, which aims to develop a nature-based bioeconomy of standing forests and flowing rivers. He was national secretary for research and development (R&D) policies at the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation of Brazil and president of Brazil's Agency for Post-Graduate Education (CAPES). He is a foreign member of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences, and a member of the Brazilian Academy of Sciences and the World Academy of Sciences. Nobre was elected to the The Royal Society scientific academy in 2022. He obtained a PhD in Meteorology from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), USA, in 1983.



Julia Marton-Lefèvre [moderator] Independent sustainability advisor

Julia Marton-Lefèvre was director general of IUCN from 2007 to 2015. Prior positions include rector of the U.N.-affiliated University for Peace, director of LEAD International, and executive director of the International Council for Science. She currently serves on the boards of NGOs, foundations, universities and corporations, and chairs the board of trustees of the Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT; the Tyler Prize for Environmental Achievement; the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund; the Villars Institute Foundation; and the Strategic Advisory Council to the French think tank IDDRI. She is an elected member of the IPBES Bureau. She has been on the board of ASU's Global Institute of Sustainability since its inception, and serves on the executive committee of the Global Futures Conference. She lectures regularly on environment and sustainable development topics in various universities, including Yale University, where she was the Edward P. Bass Distinguished Visiting Scholar in the Environment.

Julia has received numerous awards, including from the AAS; the governments of France (Légion d'Honneur & Ordre de Mérite); Monaco (Ordre de St Charles); Hungary (Pronatura award); and S. Korea, and the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Global Council for Science and the Environment. Julia was born in Hungary, educated in the United States and in France, and having lived on several continents, considers herself a global citizen.

