



THE GLOBAL REWILDING ALLIANCE

ANNUAL REVIEW 2024



A YEAR OF CONSOLIDATION



Welcome the 2024 Annual Review of the Global Rewilding Alliance Secretariat. It was a year of consolidation.

Institutionally, the Secretariat set up itself as an Association in the Canton of Geneva hosted by the [International Institute of Sustainable Development \(IISD\)](#) – an award-winning independent think tank focusing on climate change, natural resource use, and the economy.

With a Board of six people from six countries: Switzerland, Netherlands, Chile, Zimbabwe, Bahrain, and Slovenia, and a leadership team based in Austria, Switzerland, and the UK, we are now fully equipped to expand our work thematically and geographically.

The year 2024 saw a leap forward in terms of building the Alliance. A dedicated team ensured that the 50 new organisations felt welcome and got integrated in the collective efforts of the GRA. This is the largest annual growth since the Alliance was formed in November 2020.

We hope that you enjoy exploring some of the important achievements of 2024 in terms of recognition, outreach, science, policy & advocacy, and in the field through the network. For the first time since our start in 2021, we were able to publish a collective report featuring inspirational success stories by the network around the world.

We are looking forward to 2025!



Karl Wagner
Managing Director, Global Rewilding Alliance

Mark Halle
Chairman, Global Rewilding Alliance



Click on the photos to see more...

MILESTONES OF 2024

JANUARY

The GRA is granted Observer Status with the **Ramsar Convention on Wetlands**



MARCH

World Rewilding Day #4 collaborating with our network to transform **Hope Into Action**



MARCH

Yale/GRA ACC model published and applied in Europe, Congo Basin, Mexico & Chile



MARCH

Collective Impact Report first ever attempt to summarise the impact of our movement



JUNE - OCTOBER

ACC webinars for China, Europe, Middle East & North Africa, & Sub-Saharan Africa



JULY

Worked with the UN University to assess approaches (incl. rewilding) to enhance the work of the UNCCD.



SEPTEMBER

ACC website launch open source toolkit and library of resources



SEPTEMBER

Supporter Agreement with the **High Ambition Coalition for Nature and People**



OCTOBER

Attendance at the **Convention on Biological Diversity COP16** partnering to affect policy



OCTOBER

The GRA grows to **over 200 Alliance Partners**, with impactful, global partnerships



NOVEMBER

IFAW publish '**Wildlife Guidelines for NDCs**' integrating wildlife into climate action plans



DECEMBER

Altyn Dala Conservation Initiative becomes an **Earthshot Prize Winner (Nature)**



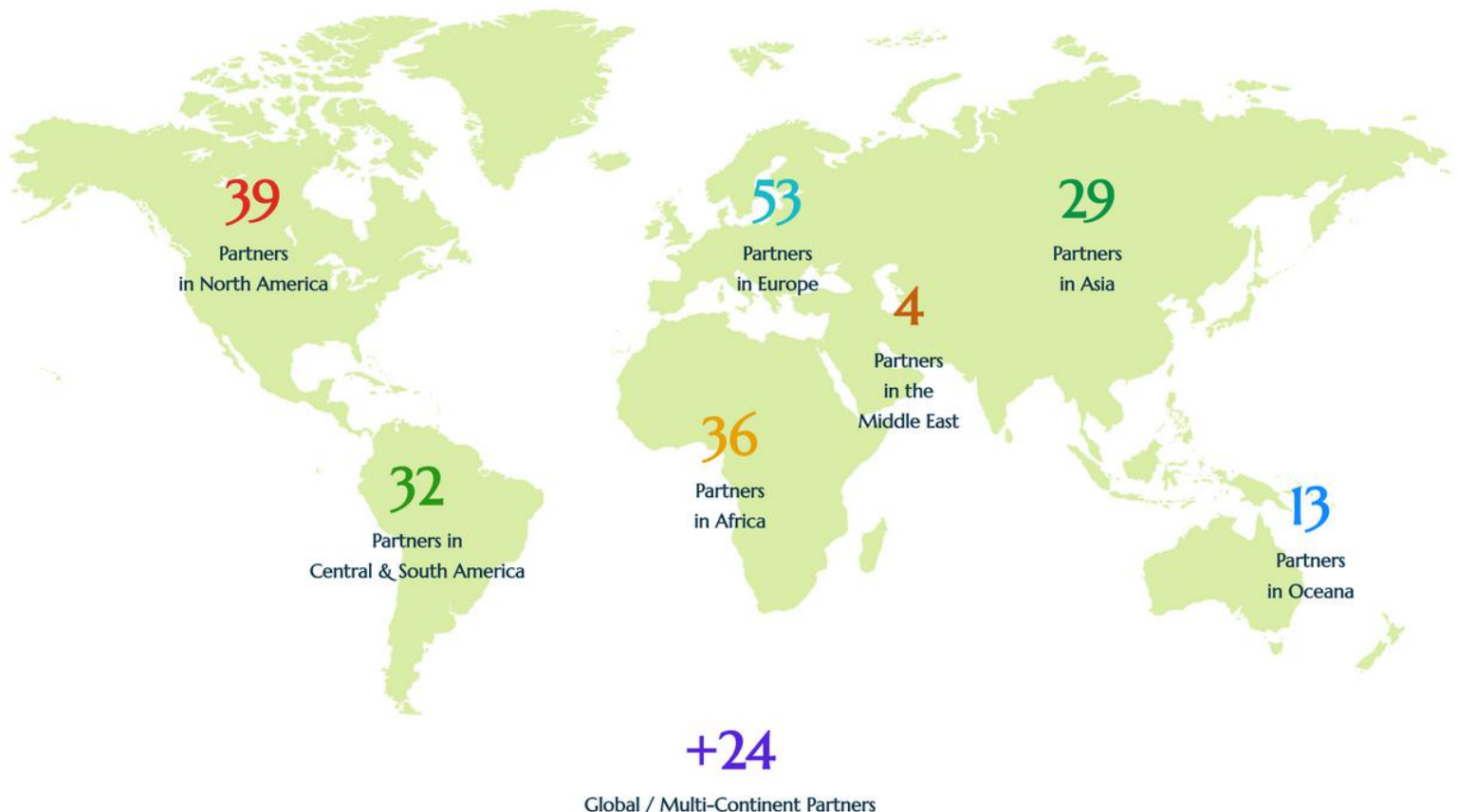
NETWORK DEVELOPMENT

GROWTH OF THE GRA

Fifty new organisations joined the Alliance in 2024. They were distributed across Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, Middle East, North America and Oceania, working on protecting and rewilding ecosystems on land, in freshwater ecosystems, in coastal and marine areas. In December we reached a total number of Alliance partners of 222.

Our mission is to build and support the global rewilding movement and to **mainstream rewilding in science, policy, and practice by 2030.**

We are mobilising the power of people working together everywhere to rewild the Earth.



REWILDING SCIENCE

Rewilding can help to address the climate crisis. Specifically, healthy populations of wild animals help recovering ecosystems to draw down dramatically more carbon, often twice as much and sometimes a 10x than without their presence.

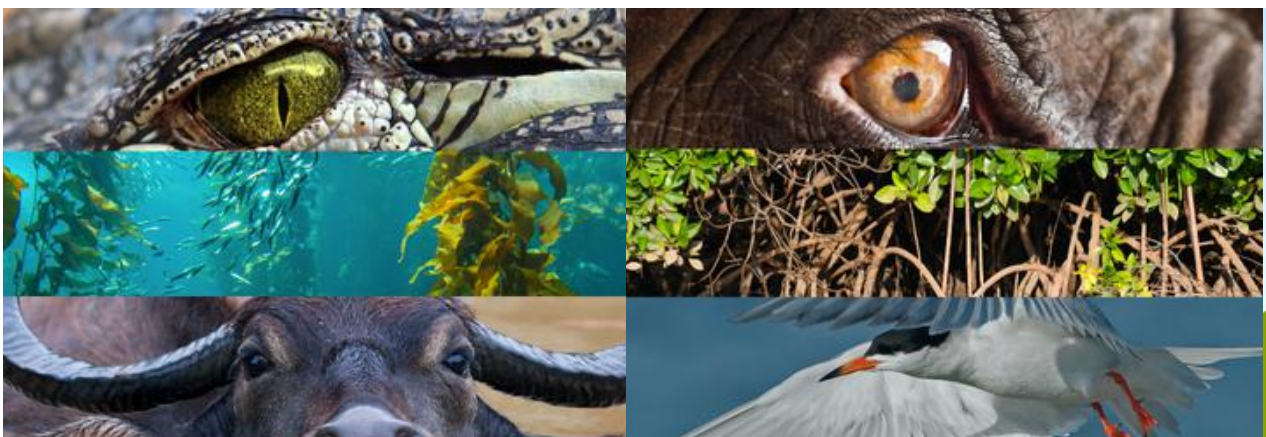
Our work with **Yale School of the Environment** since 2021 has established strong scientific foundations for this idea, **Animating the Carbon Cycle (ACC)**, through publishing powerful evidence in some of the world's top journals. We are building credible evidence as a foundation for further support for rewilding.



We launched the [ACC website](#) that acts as a source of knowledge, a library and toolkits, for implementing ACC science in policy and practice.

This year, we published the **Yale/GRA ACC model** and established five ongoing case studies to show ACC working in detail across a variety of ecosystems around the world.

We started to look beyond the climate agenda. We formed a network **Task Force on Wetlands**, co-preparing a study *Taking Animals into Account*, the first results of which were presented at the **Ramsar Convention on Wetlands** Scientific and Technical Review Panel in December.



POLICY ADVOCACY

With our Alliance Partners, we are advocating **rewilding as the bridge between biodiversity and climate**, influencing global policymaking arenas, such as the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).

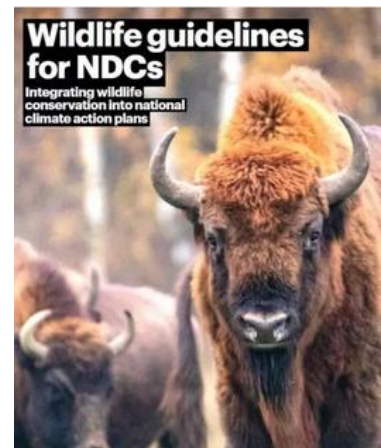
At COP16 of the CBD in Cali, Colombia, we held two official side events and one informal gathering to deepen our connections with officials. The GRA Secretariat, IFAW, Rewilding Chile and Whale and Dolphin Conservation teamed up with IUCN and the World Federation for Animals. Our coalition influenced the reference of the climate benefits of wild animals in the final declaration on biodiversity and climate change.



In 2024, we held four ACC webinars targeted at policymakers within China, the Middle East and North Africa (MENA), Sub-Saharan Africa; and EU/Europe, respectively. These events brought together hundreds of participants, many of them national policymakers, to create understanding of **rewilding as a powerful climate-policy option**.

In collaboration with IFAW, Yale University, re:wild & WWF, we presented the new **Wildlife Guidelines** for countries to integrate wild animals and rewilding into their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under UNFCCC.

Specifically, the Guidelines describe 10 steps that countries can take to integrate wildlife into their NDCs, thereby linking climate mitigation, ecosystem resilience, economic opportunities, and biodiversity conservation in mutually reinforcing ways.

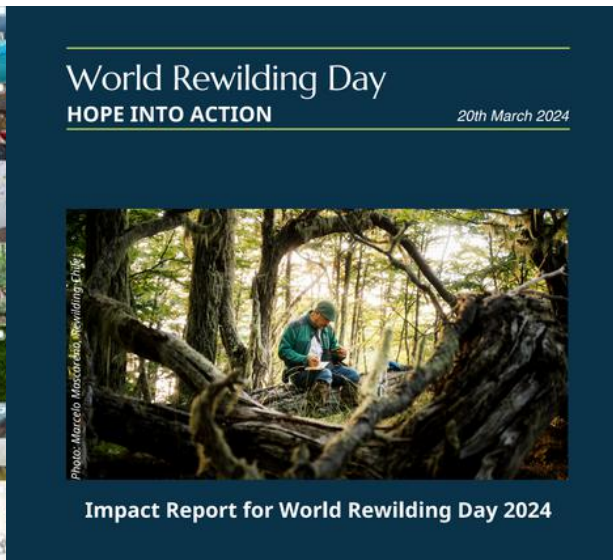


WORLD REWILDING DAY

On 20th March, we celebrated World Rewilding Day 2024 with the theme of **“Hope Into Action”**, which **reverberated around the world**.

The action-oriented celebration exceeded our expectations in terms of magnitude, reach and sophistication, demonstrating the hard work that Alliance Partners all around the world have been putting in, and **the hope that they have transformed into action**.

People everywhere made films, launched books, held events and sent messages of “hope into action” to their communities. [See the impact here](#).



REWILDING IN ACTION

The GRA network is having a global impact, planting seeds of hope through a wide range of positive actions. Here are some inspiring examples from around the world in 2024.



The **Altyn Dala Conservation Initiative** in Kazakhstan blew us away this year as they **won the Earthshot Prize**. It is well deserved recognition for 20 years of careful, persistent, collaborative effort that has seen the Saiga Antelope recover from near extinction to over 2.8 million animals – one of the most significant recoveries of a mammal population ever.

In January, the **Wildlife Trust of India's**, with the unwavering support of the local communities, released the 1000'th whale shark accidentally entangled in fishing nets along the coast of Gujarat and Kerala, enabling the sharks to continue playing their important role in the Indian Ocean.

In March, **Fundación Rewilding Chile** donated to the Government of Chile an additional 33,810 hectares of land to the previous 93,492 hectares in support of establishing a new national park at Cape Froward, the southernmost point of the South American continent.

The **PeaceParks Foundation** signed a historic 20-year partnership agreement with Zambia's Department of National Parks and Wildlife, together with the Barotse Royal Establishment, and WWF Zambia co-manage and rewild the 2.6 million hectare Sioma Ngwezi Management Complex within the Kavango Zambezi (KAZA) landscape - the largest transfrontier conservation area in the world.



REWILDING IN ACTION



Rewilding Europe launched a new Natural Grazing Facility which will help provide animals to restore landscapes across Europe with wild and semi-wild herbivores, financed by a European Wildlife Comeback Fund if needed.

American Prairie surpassed half a million acres (202,300 hectares) of managed private and public land for rewilding, wildlife comeback (e.g., American bison), and for welcoming thousands of visitors every year

Rewilding Britain's network surpassed 1,000 members, and an analysis of 13 Scottish projects revealed an increase of over 400% in jobs since rewilding began.

The Island-Ocean Connection Challenge, in collaboration with **Island Conservation and Re:wild**, announced the addition of eight new island-ocean ecosystems to its global rewilding initiative.

The University of Manchester launched a new rewilding masters degree: an **MSc in Nature Recovery, Restoration, and Rewilding**, with a first intake of students for September 2025.



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Since the start of the Global Rewilding Alliance in January 2021, the small Secretariat has been running the finances through the WILD Foundation, based in Colorado, USA. In 2024, we were able to open a bank account for the Secretariat through the GRA Association established in Switzerland in 2023. The Wild Foundation kindly agreed to continue managing the financials for US-based donor income as well as expenditure. The income and expenditure overview for 2024 reflect these two management lines.

From the start in 2021 until 2024, the US-based re:wild has generously provided core funding for the operations. In 2024, a new core funding scheme – the Rewilding Champions – was introduced with support received from Rewilding Europe, Rewilding Chile, Biophilia Foundation, Ben Goldsmith, and André Hoffmann, enabling a growth in the core activities.

In spring 2024, the Yale/GRA Carbon Capture Framework Model was launched, offering the opportunity for making assessments of the carbon sequestration potential in different ecosystems with various constellations of wildlife species. Five such schemes were launched, receiving funding for work in Europe, Africa, Latin America, and North America.

The WILD Foundation provided the granting facility, connecting the local organisations with the Yale School of Environment, who undertook the assessments.

As in previous years, the people working for the GRA Secretariat were self-employed and received remuneration through consultancy service fees.

The table provides an overview of the income/expenditure in 2024. The consolidated total income was CHF 174'116, and with a total expenditure of CHF 148'057, the end-of-the-year positive balance was CHF 26'059, with most of the funds held by The Wild Foundation.



INCOME & EXPENDITURE OVERVIEW



Item	CHF	USD	Consolidated total in CHF (CHF=1.14 USD)
INCOME			
Core cost grants	41,832	79,400	111,779
Restricted funding grants	0	51,071	44,991
Carry forward from 2023	0	19,690	17,346
Total	41,832	150,161	174,116
EXPENDITURE			
Consultancy service fees	16,000	86,418	92,134
Other professional fees	3,287	0	3,287
Meeting costs	11,133	0	11,133
Communications costs	2,702	0	2,702
Office expenses	0	1,626	1,433
Regranting (Yale)	0	42,039	37,036
Bank fees & taxes	332	0	332
Total	33,454	130,083	148,057
Balance	8,378	20,078	26,059



THE TEAM & OUR BOARD

EXECUTIVE TEAM



Karl Wagner
Managing Director
Strategy, management, partnerships.



Magnus Sylvén
Director Science-Policy-Practice
Convening evidence & influencing policy, globally.



Alister Scott
Director Communications
GRA membership, partnerships, comms strategy, spokesperson.

The team also consists of a growing group of staff and volunteers from a range of countries; during the year this team averaged about 10.

OUR BOARD



Mark Halle - Chairman



Carolina Morgado



Frans Schepers



Reem AlMealla



Nelson Mhlanga



Gregor Pipan



JOIN US AS WE BUILD THE HOPEFUL, GROWING GLOBAL REWILDING MOVEMENT

The mission of Global Rewilding Alliance is to help build the global rewilding movement with the aim to mainstream rewilding in science, policy and practice globally by 2030.

The Alliance is a partnership of rewilding organisations, with 220+ Alliance Partners worldwide working across all continents. Together, they are currently helping to influence the rewilding of 2.2 million sq.km of land and 5 million sq.km of sea in 124 countries.

WE ARE INCREDIBLY GRATEFUL TO OUR CHAMPIONS
FOR THEIR CORE SUPPORT FOR OUR WORK



BIOPHILIA FOUNDATION



BEN GOLDSMITH | ANDRÉ HOFFMANN



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