

# protecting animals & helping people by supporting the SDGs

## 2010-2019

was the warmest decade  
ever recorded

## 3+ billion

people depend on marine  
and coastal biodiversity for  
their livelihoods

## 7,000

species of animals and  
plants are traded illegally,  
involving 120 countries

## 75%

of the earth's surface has  
been altered by human  
activity

► More than 100 volunteers from  
the community are planting  
trees in New South Wales,  
Australia to help protect the  
habitat of koalas.



The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are an urgent call for action by all countries that are part of the United Nations. Built upon the progress made by the Millennium Development Goals, they outline the international priorities to achieve sustainable human development by 2030 and incorporate environmental considerations towards preserving our oceans and landscapes, and the animals that call them home.

IFAW supports the SDGs and believes in the value of animal welfare and habitat conservation in creating a more just and sustainable future for all. Healthy wildlife populations and ecosystems contribute significantly to the achievement of these goals as they are important avenues to improve both human and animal lives.

### **Biosphere, society, economy**

IFAW's work in rescue and conservation contributes primarily toward the goals within the biosphere theme, but within each of our programs are strategies that align with the societal and economic SDGs. Saving and protecting animals and their habitats are often key strategies in helping human societies and economies as well. To learn more about how our work contributes toward the achievement of the SDGs, explore some of our projects under select key goals below.



Photo: © IFAW



Photo: © IFAW

## 4x increase

of worldwide disaster events in 50 years

## 300,000

whales and dolphins die in fishing gear each year

## >60%

amount of time elephants spend outside of parks and protected areas

◀ Working to free a North Atlantic right whale entangled in fishing gear in the Bay of Fundy in Canada.

▶ IFAW's Disaster Response & Risk Reduction team in action during the aftermath of Hurricane Ida in 2021.

▶ **see how at [ifaw.org](https://www.ifaw.org)**



### Climate action

Climate change is causing social, economic, and environmental impacts and less developed countries are frequently more vulnerable. IFAW works to address climate change by integrating nature conservation into climate change mitigation and adaptation policies. IFAW's Disaster Response & Risk Reduction team works with communities worldwide to develop national and local disaster plans for people and animals to enable communities to effectively prepare for and respond to natural disasters.



### Life below water

As humans, we need to take care to conserve and sustainably use resources from oceans, seas, and coastal areas. Marine resources are critical for many communities that rely on them for food security and livelihoods, and for wildlife who call these areas home. IFAW's North Atlantic right whale project seeks to protect the critically endangered right whale, while also working with lobster fishing communities to utilize ropeless fishing gear that prevents whale entanglements and allows fishing communities to continue pursuing marine livelihoods sustainably.



### Life on land

Land degradation and desertification can be combatted by restoring terrestrial ecosystems and biodiversity. Wildlife and their habitats support both healthy ecosystems and our communities by contributing to water quality, food security, and natural disaster risk reduction. IFAW works across many countries to protect species from poaching and habitats from degradation. By initiating beekeeping as an alternative livelihood in China, community members have become advocates for elephant protection, promising not to destroy the local forest or capture wild animals. In South America, we are combatting illegal wildlife trade to protect jaguars, so they can continue to play their vital role in maintaining a healthy ecosystem. In Kenya, Tanzania, Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe, through our Room to Roam initiative, we safeguard core wildlife habitats in order to create safe corridors for elephants and other wildlife to migrate or move freely across park boundaries and international borders.

We raise awareness of the connections between animal welfare, conservation, and human development to inspire greater collaboration to improve conditions for all species and the planet.