

NEWS

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Rainforest Trust Announces \$15 Million Commitment to Colombia at International Conservation Caucus Foundation's U.S. Congressional Conservation Leadership Awards Dinner

Funding will support the expansion of Colombia's system of National Natural Parks and other areas for conservation

WARRENTON, Va., Sept. 20, 2021—This evening, the International Conservation Caucus Foundation will hold its U.S. Congressional Conservation Leadership Awards Dinner in Washington, D.C. at the Willard Intercontinental with special guests including Colombian President H.E. Iván Duque Márquez. James C. Deutsch, Ph.D., CEO of Rainforest Trust will make an announcement on behalf of the organization during remarks at the event.

During the course of the evening, Deutsch will acknowledge President Duque's national and global leadership as a member of the High Ambition Coalition that is helping to show the world the importance of protecting 30% of the earth's lands and seas by 2030—a concept embraced internationally and known as 30 by 30. “We must take immediate action if we are to stem the catastrophic loss of biodiversity and avoid unthinkable global impacts of climate change,” Deutsch said. “Rainforest Trust recognizes the extraordinary biodiversity of Colombia, the exceptional work that Colombia has done to protect its natural and cultural heritage, and especially the visionary ambition of H.E. Ivan Duque Marquez to expand the national protected area network.”

Rainforest Trust will make a five-year, \$15M USD commitment to support the creation and expansion of protected areas in Colombia. These funds will be allocated to support the expansion of Colombia's system of National Natural Parks and other areas for conservation including as delineated in the National Natural Park Strategic Goals. Rainforest Trust is actively working in partnership with the Colombian Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, the leadership and technical staff of the Parques Nacionales Naturales de Colombia and the International Conservation Caucus Foundation on the first three proposals for National Natural Park expansion and hope to approve one or more and begin funding soon.

“Colombia holds some of the most land for biodiversity conservation in the world,” Deutsch added. “Rainforest Trust is committed to partnerships that will help to ensure that much of this land will be protected.”

For more information on Rainforest Trust, visit www.rainforesttrust.org.

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About Rainforest Trust

Since 1988, Rainforest Trust has been safeguarding imperiled tropical habitats and saving endangered species by establishing protected areas in partnership with local organizations and communities. With its partners, Rainforest Trust has safeguarded more than 37 million acres of vital habitat across Latin America, Africa, Asia and the Pacific. Rainforest Trust is a nonprofit organization that relies upon the generous support of the public to successfully implement its important conservation action. The organization is proud of earning a 4-star rating from Charity Navigator. Learn more about the work of Rainforest Trust by visiting www.RainforestTrust.org, [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), [TikTok](#) or [Facebook](#).