

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEDIA ADVISORY

Rainforest Trust Experts Available for Interviews during COP16 Colombia

WHAT: Media Availability with Rainforest Trust during COP to discuss:

- **Amazon Wildfires Response:** Brazil faces its worst drought in 70 years, triggering [wildfires](#) across the Amazon basin. Learn about efforts to combat these fires and their impact on the environment and air quality.
- **Africa's Miombo Initiative:** Protecting 469 million acres of [Miombo Woodlands](#), a critical carbon storage and biodiversity hub supporting 300 million people. Discover how this Africa-led effort safeguards vital ecosystems.
- **IPLCs:** In 2022 at COP15 in Montreal, 200 countries adopted the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, targeting the protection of 30% of the world's lands and waters by 2030. A key takeaway was that Indigenous Peoples and local communities must lead these efforts, as they manage almost 50% of the world's land and protect 80% of its biodiversity, despite comprising only about 6% of the global population.

WHEN: Mon, Oct 21, 2024 through Fri, Nov 1, 2024. Available for in-person interviews in Cali, Colombia or via phone.

WHERE: In person in Cali, Colombia or via phone.

WHO: Rainforest Trust leadership available for interviews:

- **James Deutsch**, CEO of Rainforest Trust, a strategic leader in global conservation translating cutting-edge science into field projects with maximum conservation impact.
- **James Lewis**, Vice President of Conservation, leading global conservation efforts to protect rainforests worldwide.
- **Steve Bernacki**, Director of Conservation Strategy, spearheading impactful projects to protect species and forests across the tropics and subtropics.

- **Andrea Carneiro**, Latin America Conservation Strategist, working to build bridges between local NGOs, and local and international environmental agencies to protect fragile and unique ecosystems in Latin America.

RAINFOREST TRUST RECEPTION: Rainforest Trust will be hosting an evening reception during the CBD COP 16 UN Biodiversity Conference 2024 in Cali, Colombia on Wednesday October 23, at 6:30pm. This private event will provide an opportunity to meet with Rainforest Trust staff and community representatives from around the world who are leading critical conservation efforts to safeguard our planet.

About Rainforest Trust

Since 1988, Rainforest Trust has been working with partners to safeguard imperiled tropical habitats and endangered species by helping to establish protected areas in partnership with Indigenous and local organizations and communities. To date, Rainforest Trust has helped protect more than 52 million acres of vital habitat across Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa, and the Asia-Pacific region. 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 [RainforestTrust.org](https://www.rainforesttrust.org), [X](#) (Twitter), [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#), or [LinkedIn](#).