



coo|earth
Quarterly Update
October 2020

Nicky Roma collecting data in the forests
of Wabumari, Papua New Guinea.



Covid-19 emergency supplies are carried into the forest in Cameroon.

Nearing the end of 2020 we reflect on the challenges we have collectively overcome. This has been no ordinary year, but your support has been extraordinary.

In the last few months alone you've funded positive change for thousands of local people across the world living in rainforest, including:

- Essential protective and medical equipment delivered to hundreds of rainforest families in the Peruvian Amazon.
- Financial resilience and sustainable livelihoods, developed through beekeeping in Cameroon.
- Education of future forest custodians through skill-sharing and storytelling in Papua New Guinea.

“Cool Earth responded timely to this [Covid-19] challenge by providing an emergency response grant which has restored confidence and hope in the communities now.”

- Hillary Ngide, CCREAD-Cameroon

Although difficult and unknown times undoubtedly lie ahead for us all, our local partners remain strong and resilient in the face of adversity.

Thank you for continuing to work alongside Cool Earth and our partner communities in the fight against deforestation and climate change.

Matthew Owen, Director

Rainforest Resilience Fund Update

Whether it's the indisputable impact on global finances, fewer food supplies or minimal medical support, rainforest nations have been some of the most affected by the continuing Covid-19 crisis.

Your donations over the past few months have enabled Cool Earth to remain agile and focused on the task at hand, delivering our community-led approach to help thousands of people.

Thanks to your support, hundreds of families have received help when they needed it most.

Together we are continuing to provide urgently needed food supplies and protective health kits to local communities. Helping to reduce the spread of coronavirus, support people through a crisis, and reduce pressure on rainforest.

Update from Nelson Perez, Awajún Field Officer



Urakuza lies on the banks of the Rio Marañón, Northern Peru.

Awajún, Peru | Rainforest Resilience Fund Update

In August there was real concern that the Covid-19 virus was on the verge of overwhelming whole regions of the Peruvian Amazon. Medical essentials were in short supply and local hospitals had exceeded their capacity. Health staff working round the clock were also affected; at one point more than 50% of the health personnel working at a local hospital had Covid-19.

Cool Earth joined forces with Somos Amazonía, Plataforma de Pueblos amazónicos en la pandemia de Covid-19 and Conectar para actuar to support the indigenous communities of the Awajún, Wampis and Mestizo. Funding was provided to buy masks, protective suits, oxygen and vital medications, supporting the control of the spread of Covid-19.

“Thanks to the support of Cool Earth, it has been possible to protect the population and the health personnel that cares for them from the imminent pandemic.”

- Hospital I Santa María de Nieva

Taking action at this critical point was crucial. Cases are now down and health services can resume as normal. Cool Earth is also restarting some partnership activities, helping Awajún people improve their food security, diversify their diets and earn a living.

One of best ways to build resilience in a crisis is to form effective networks, partnering with organizations to utilise essential local knowledge and take meaningful action. Cool Earth continues to form these relationships, finding the best ways to help people feed their families, reduce pressure on their forest and plan for the future.



Supplies are delivered to the hospital in Santa María de Nieva.



Cameroon | Rainforest Resilience Fund Update

556		households received food packages
5,000		face masks were distributed
5,000		bottles of hand sanitizers were distributed
500		reusable sanitary pads were distributed

Mixed messaging and limited media coverage have taken their toll in Cameroon during the Covid-19 crisis. This has been challenging for local organisations when it comes to helping those they work alongside.

As one of the few organisations in the region to try to reach all marginalised and vulnerable communities, Cool Earth's local partner CCREAD has worked to ensure people have the personal protective equipment, food and other basic necessities needed.

Cool Earth has complemented ongoing rainforest protection and restoration efforts since May by providing emergency support to Cameroon communities with CCREAD. In September the CCREAD team started to deliver their second round of Covid-19 aid to the Muenenguba communities and will continue to support local people through food distribution, financial relief and personal protective equipment.

From face masks to hand sanitizer, it's been vital to get these essentials to local communities to help reduce the spread and increase resilience to the virus.

"We have been hearing the threatening messages of corona, but no one had come here to give us facemasks or hand sanitiser. We welcome Cool Earth and CCREAD to our village and thank them for all their donations. They remembered us in these forests."

- Linda, community member in Cameroon

Stats up to July 2020



Cool Earth and CCREAAD deliver essential supplies to rainforest communities.



Awajún | Fish & Equipped

Chocolate, inga, fish. It's not the start of a lockdown cookbook. Instead, these three ingredients may be a successful recipe for the Awajún to earn a living, feed their families and protect their forest.

On the banks of the Rio Marañon lie the Awajún villages of Urakuza and Huaracayo. The past six months has seen efforts focussed on supporting people in these remote rainforest settlements to reduce the spread of Covid-19. From food to seeds and access to medical care, their urgent needs have been Cool Earth's priority.

Now, with new procedures in place, we're helping people plan for the future.

At the start of October Felix Iván Mejía Pérez, Cool Earth's Fish Farming Technician along with 37,000 fish fry, arrived in the Awajún. He'll be following strict protocol including a Covid-19 test before entering the partnerships and using personal protective equipment (PPE) to conduct activities. Felix is back at the request of the community to help them work on re-starting innovative sustainable income projects. First up: fish ponds.

Raising fish will help 97 direct beneficiaries diversify

their food intake, supplement their diet with a valuable source of protein and achieve greater food security.

Technician Felix will be on hand to support with all they need to ensure the fish grow up healthy and strong. Farmers will receive advice on feed quality, natural nutrients, cost-effective methods to produce fish feed and support in collecting biometric data on the size and weight of fish.

It's also a complex science constructing new ponds that keep fish and the surrounding forest healthy. Ensuring correct soil combinations, water levels, dams to prevent water escaping and planting up terraced banking will keep the community busy in the months ahead.

Urakuza Secondary school will run a course on the installation, management and monitoring of fish ponds, complementing the communities' project. Helping today's dedicated students to become tomorrow's successful farmers.

The forest benefits too as poverty is a common driver of deforestation. If families are healthy and secure, the forest is more likely to be healthy and standing strong too.



Papua New Guinea | 'Time for Nature'

Report by Clifford Peter Yaee, Papua New Guinea Forest Project Coordinator

Environmental awareness and education are more important than ever in engaging people with nature and the issues that are affecting it. It gives the insight needed for people to understand and see what's best when it comes to protecting and preserving rainforest.

World Environment Day in 2020 had the theme 'Time for nature'. Originally, a day of education and celebration was planned for June in Cool Earth's partnerships in Papua New Guinea. However, as with many events this year, Covid-19 meant postponement to a later date in order to keep everyone safe.

"Students are the agents of change for tomorrow. Awareness programmes give the understanding needed to make good future decisions to protect and preserve their environment."

As soon as we were able to go ahead, we reached out to local schools and villages including Wabumari, SiloSilo

and Fife Bay, and were invited to come and speak. Combining presentations with everything from plays to poems, discussions to debates was a positive way to engage all ages in these sometimes complex issues.

One powerful moment was when ten young people took part in a debate and roleplay, acting as a logging company who wanted to take local people's forest. They were soon told to leave. It's meaningful but fun activities like this that bring biodiversity loss, deforestation and local people's rights to life for young people. It gets the conversation going, and then keeps it going.

With colouring in and storytelling, Nicky Roma, Cool Earth Biodiversity Officer, was able to present simple environmental concepts to the children. Teachers told us how happy children were with the programme and also the donated stationery we gave them. In fact, they requested more teaching materials on the environment, climate change and conservation to further teach the students.

Awareness and education will continue to be one of the many parts of Cool Earth's work in Papua New Guinea. Supporting the education of the communities we work alongside so they can continue to protect and preserve their essential forest environment.



Cameroon | Two Years On

Variety is said to be the spice of life. It's also the key to increasing resilience. In helping communities earn a living and reduce pressure on their forest, variety in food and finances is essential.

From the outset, CCREAD and Cool Earth's partnership in Cameroon has aimed to diversify and enhance livelihoods. Through a range of environmentally-viable alternatives, reducing pressure on the forest aimed to also reduce wildlife exploitation and forest loss.

Two years on, we've seen just that and much more besides.

One major challenge to overcome for families has been dependence on seasonal farming. When the cacao and coffee seasons run out, income sources run out too. Many face little choice but to resort to rainforest, from small-scale logging to hunting.

It's why the introduction of beekeeping has created a crucial alternative income source for local people. The bees and beekeepers have been busy. A total of 214 beehives have now been installed. That's over 100 households with two hives each. By March 2020, these hives have produced over 594 litres of delicious, sustainable honey. Crucially, the communities have

decided to sell 75% of the honey and keep 25% of the natural honey produced to eat.

Best of all, the annual clearance of forest loss is no more. Out of 200 households, 106 reported not clearing any additional forest for farm expansion for the first time in 10 years. The other 94 reduced their rate of farm expansion. This has helped to protect over 21 hectares of forest on aggregate, home to a rich variety of primates found only in the diverse forests of Cameroon.

The community themselves continue to drive this project, planning for a future where earning a sustainable living is the norm. Community-level activism has increased and regulation on bush burning and illegal logging has been implemented. Local indigenous peoples leading in conservation is key to ensuring all is as effective and long-lasting as it can be.

Now the focus will be on extending the successes and lessons learned to surrounding communities. Despite internal conflict in the country, and now a pandemic to contend with, progress is evident. The results seen within two years are testament to the dedication of Cool Earth's local partners. Working to improve lives and with it protecting the essential carbon store and wildlife haven that is rainforest.



CAMEROON | TWO YEARS ON | STATISTICS

- 45 — NEW COMMUNITIES REQUESTING SUPPORT FROM COOL EARTH
- 60 — EDUCATION AND ADVOCACY CHAMPIONS ACTIVE
- 107 — HOUSEHOLDS HAVE TWO BEEHIVES EACH
- 200 — HOMES ARE PRACTICING AGROFORESTRY
- 594 — LITRES OF NATURAL HONEY SOLD
- 2,578 — PEOPLE REACHED DIRECTLY THROUGH AWARENESS RAISING SESSIONS
- 6,000 — TREE SPECIES OF ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE PLANTED

Earth Overshoot Day

This year's Earth Overshoot Day was on 22 August.

It marks the date when our collective annual demand exceeds what Earth's ecosystems can regenerate in that year.

Compared to 2019, it might seem good news. The effects of near global shutdown this year have pushed the date back by a few weeks from 29 July in 2019. But it was still far too early.

Even with the impacts of Covid-19 on emissions, we are still using the resources of 1.6 Earths.

One huge source of emissions is often overlooked; deforestation and degradation. Forest loss releases as much carbon into the atmosphere as the global transport sector. Destroying rainforest destroys the best carbon capture and storage technology we have.

If we want to move the date back again and take smart climate action, we all need to get behind rainforest protection. By helping indigenous and rainforest communities keep their trees standing strong, we will be taking the smartest climate action there is.

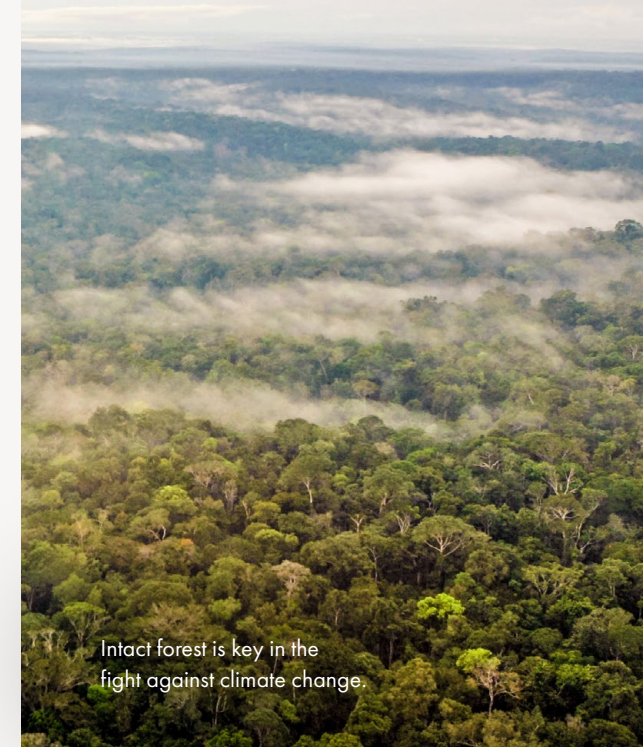
Tony Juniper: Author, Conservationist, Trustee

Esteemed environmental author, activist and conservationist, Tony Juniper CBE has unrivalled knowledge of rainforest conservation. Tony's experience, knowledge and efforts to conserve tropical forests for 30 years makes him an invaluable addition to Cool Earth's Board of Trustees.

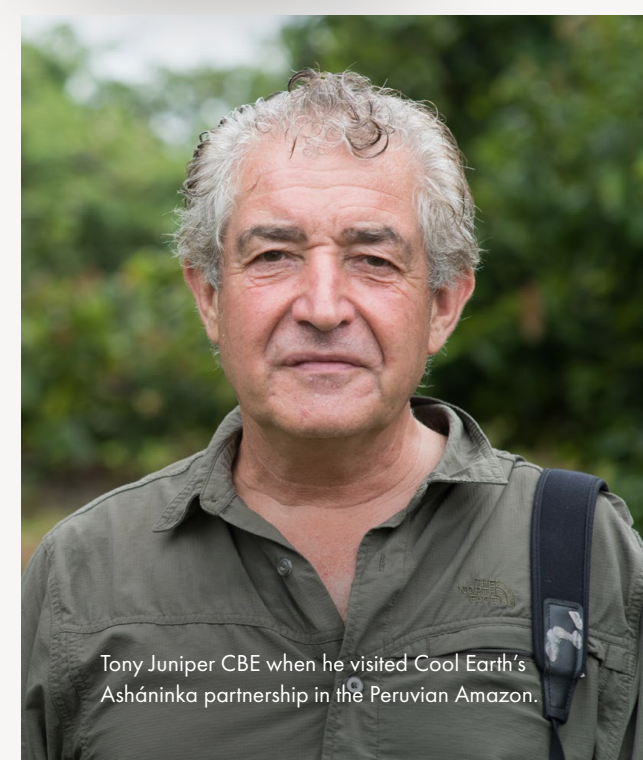
Former Campaigns Director for WWF and CEO of Friends of the Earth, Tony currently holds the title of Chair of Natural England. His experiences from leading the fight to save the world's most precious resources have inspired and will encourage many more to do the same in the years ahead.

“Cool Earth very much signals the possibilities in terms of working with the people who literally are on the front line of deforestation.”

- Tony Juniper in conversation with Cool Earth director Matthew Owen



Intact forest is key in the fight against climate change.



Tony Juniper CBE when he visited Cool Earth's Asháninka partnership in the Peruvian Amazon.



Wear Your Art On Your Sleeve

In August, Cool Earth's supporters put pen to paper and got creative for our cause.

Using the theme of #WearYourArtOnYourSleeve as inspiration, we asked for a design that would stand out on a sustainably produced range of T-shirts, tote bags and more in the Cool Earth shop.

Nearly 600 entries later, we're pleased to announce the winners of the first Cool Earth illustration competition. From slogans to sloths and everything in between, we were so impressed by the range of designs.

Whether you drew, designed, voted, shared or liked, thank you for getting involved. This new range will soon be available to purchase online, raising awareness and supporting Cool Earth's mission to keep rainforest standing.

Cool Earth Fundraisers

Over the last few months, Cool Earth's supporters have got creative with inventive fundraising ideas to make a difference. Whether it's cycling from Cornwall to John o' Groat's, hiking the coast of the Isle of Wight in memory of a friend or hosting a bake sale for the climate, we're incredibly grateful for your support. Every pound raised will help local and indigenous communities keep their rainforest standing.

Four friends, four days, for Elliot

"In my time here, I've been lucky enough to see some natural wonders and understand how precious they are. Hopefully future generations will be able to say the same. But it will take a massive collective effort."

- Elliot Dallen, *The Guardian*, September 2020

This inspiring quote was published the same day that Elliot Dallen sadly passed away. Before he died, Elliot set to work raising awareness of the causes he cared about, writing a powerful piece that advocated for the planet's protection, climate action and habitat preservation.

From raising money for environmental charities to using his birthday to plant trees, Elliot was passionate about the legacy he could create and hoped that his family and friends could continue fundraising in his name.

That's why four friends have got together to mark Elliot's recent passing with something positive. Combining Elliot's love of challenges, exploring new places, keeping fit and making a positive impact, Dan, Matt, Nic and Vin walked the coast of the Isle of Wight at the beginning of October, a distance of 70 miles over four days to raise funds for Cool Earth.

Cool Earth is proud to be the recipients of this inspiring fundraising endeavour in memory of Elliot. Over £3,000 raised so far will go a long way to helping us continue to work alongside local communities to protect Earth's forests and nature.



Elliot Dallen, planting trees on his birthday.



Cool Runnings

Whether it was dusting off our running trainers or picking up a paintbrush, lots of us turned to exercise or art with our new-found free time this year. Two of Cool Earth's most creative young supporters decided to go the extra mile and combine the two.

Evie and Eliot, siblings from London UK, decided to set themselves a challenge. Concerned about climate change and its effects on the world and Earth's wildlife, they wanted to have a real positive impact on the climate and habitat protection.

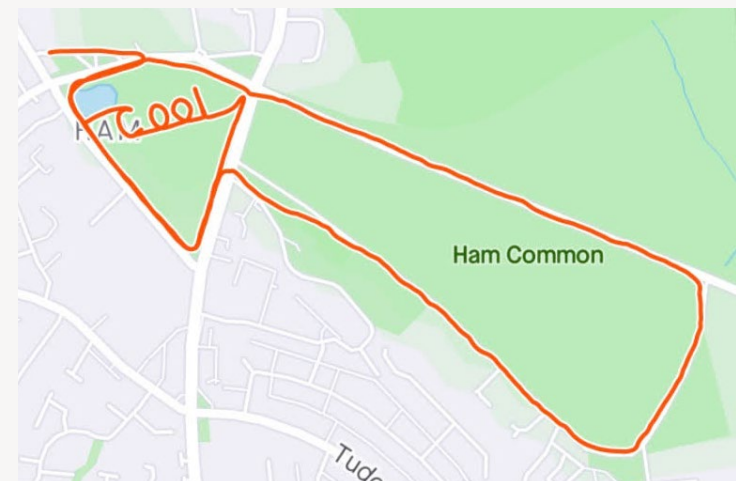
After a few practice runs, they decided on a five kilometre run around their local park. To spell out their support even clearer, they worked out a route that would write 'Cool' on their running app.

When it came to the day itself, they went above and beyond, managing to beat their personal best.

Not content with beating one goal, together they smashed their fundraising target, raising over £500. Thank you Evie and Eliot for making your mark on the world, helping Cool Earth protect rainforest for people, wildlife and planet.

Evie and Eliot's fact corner

Nearly half of the world's species of plants, animals and microorganisms are severely threatened over the next quarter century due to rainforest deforestation.





UK Registered Charity, no. 1117978 | US 501(c)(3)

(+44) 01326 567200

contact@cooearth.org