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HOPE Special Edition E-news Bulletin --- Global Environmental Organisations

Editorial

Our Planet, Our People - Overview of a Global Effort

Sometimes, fighting for the planet can feel like a lonely job. We all do our part, but it's easy to wonder if it's truly enough. This special edition of our newsletter is dedicated to that bigger picture—a global tour of the incredible ecosystem of change that is working, every single day, to secure a sustainable future.

*You'll read about the thousands of volunteer scientists at the **Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)** who give us the clear truth about our climate. We'll show you the amazing 'digital library of life' from **Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF)** that tracks millions of species, and the work of the **European Environment Agency (EEA)**, Europe's environmental scorekeeper, making sure green promises are kept.*

*Next, we look at how that science gets turned into real-world change. You'll see how **United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)** gets countries to agree on huge deals, like the one to tackle plastic pollution. We'll introduce you to the **International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)**, the unique group that brings governments and activists to the same table to protect endangered species. And you'll meet the practical problem-solvers at **Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI)**, who figure out how to fund a greener, fairer future for developing countries.*

*Of course, rules on paper mean nothing without passion on the ground. That's why we're celebrating the powerful youth movement of **Fridays for Future (FFF)**, whose voices have shaken the world. We'll take you to the seas of East Asia, where the regional partnership **Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA)** shows what amazing things can happen when neighbours work together. And we'll shine a light on **Global Alliance on Health and Pollution (GAHP)**, an alliance fighting the quiet but deadly battle against pollution and its toll on our health.*

*Finally, we explore what might be the most important thread of all: the conscience of our movement. With **Intersectional Ecoliberation Movement (IELM)**, we are reminded that we cannot protect the planet without uplifting the people most harmed by its degradation. True environmentalism is justice for all.*

Together, these ten stories paint a picture not of a single battle, but of a thriving, multifaceted, and resilient movement. Each organization plays a different, vital role. We hope these articles leave you informed, inspired, and with a renewed sense of hope and purpose. The fight is vast, but as you'll see, we are not in it alone.

With hope and solidarity,

Guest Newsletter Editor: Renuka Sarathbhavan - HOPE researcher Qld

Food for thought!

"Remember that the future is not somewhere we are going, it is something we are creating. Everyday we do things that make some futures more probable and others less likely."

- Ian Lowe: Emeritus Professor of [Science, Technology and Society](#) and former Head of the School of Science at [Griffith University](#). He is also an adjunct professor at [Sunshine Coast University](#) and [Flinders University](#).
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Global Environmental Organisations

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)

Written by Renuka Sarathbhavan - HOPE researcher Qld



When our leaders discuss climate change, where do the undisputed facts come from? For more than 30 years, the answer has been the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

The IPCC is unique. It doesn't run its labs. Instead, it convenes thousands of the world's leading scientists to undertake a monumental task: to review and synthesize every significant piece of published climate research from across the globe.

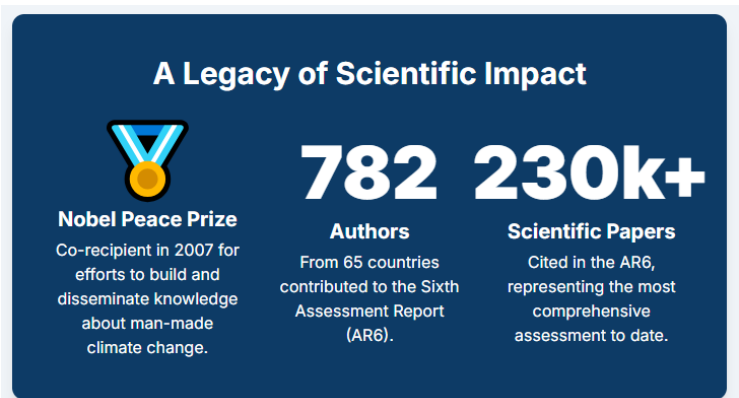
Here's what makes the IPCC truly remarkable: these scientists are all volunteers. They contribute thousands of hours of their expertise, not for a paycheck, but out of a profound commitment to scientific integrity. They are the guardians of the facts, ensuring the information given to our leaders is objective, comprehensive, and free from political influence.

The result of this process is the IPCC's landmark Assessment Reports. These documents are the gold standard for understanding climate change, providing the bedrock of scientific evidence for global climate negotiations.

Currently, the IPCC is deep into its seventh major assessment cycle (AR7). Experts are currently developing the next wave of reports, including a highly anticipated Special Report on Climate Change and Cities, tackling one of the most critical frontiers in the climate fight.

What's best about the IPCC is the incredible human dedication to scientific truth that underpins its work, making its reports the most powerful tool we have to demand action based on fact.

Understand the science for yourself and read the reports that shape our world: <https://www.ipcc.ch/>



Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF)

Written by Renuka Sarathbhavan - HOPE researcher Qld

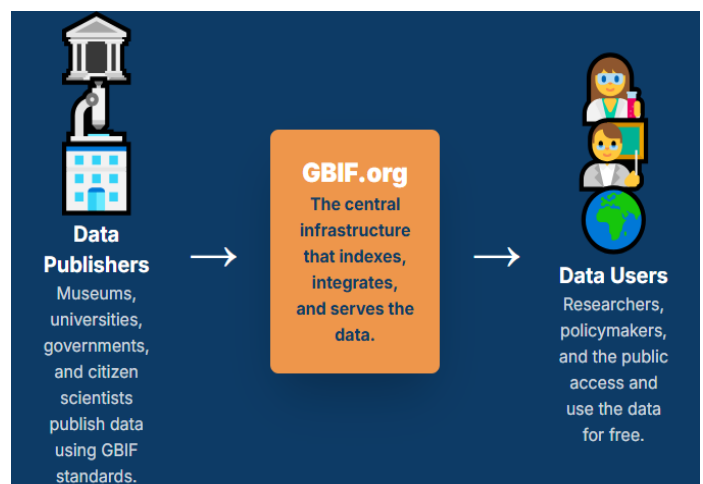


Have you ever wondered how we keep track of the millions of species on our planet? Every sighting, from a backyard bird to a deep-sea fish, tells a piece of a much larger story. An incredible global effort is underway to piece that story together, and you can be a part of it.

At the heart of this mission is the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF). Think of it as a massive, open-access digital library of life on Earth, built by and for everyone. It weaves together data from centuries of museum collections, cutting-edge research projects, and crucially, people just like us.

Every time a citizen scientist logs a bird on an app, that observation can join this global database, contributing to real science. The result is breathtaking. GBIF provides free access to over 2.5 billion records, painting the most detailed picture of life we've ever had.

A fun fact: thanks to citizen science, the most logged species is us, *Homo sapiens*, while the most observed wild bird is the familiar Mallard, *Anas platyrhynchos*. This treasure trove of data is a game-changer, helping scientists track species migration, empowering conservationists to protect habitats, and informing vital global conservation policies.



What's best about GBIF is how it empowers anyone, anywhere, to both contribute to and learn from our planet's collective natural history.

Subscribe to their free newsletter and see how you can get involved: <https://www.gbif.org/>

European Environment Agency (EEA)

Written by Renuka Sarathbhavan - HOPE researcher Qld



**European
Environment
Agency**

In an age of endless information, knowing who to trust is key. For three decades, European leaders and citizens have relied on the European Environment Agency (EEA) for independent, objective data on the state of our environment. As the EU's independent environmental watchdog, its mission is to provide unbiased, reliable information on the state of Europe's nature, from our air and water to our climate and biodiversity.

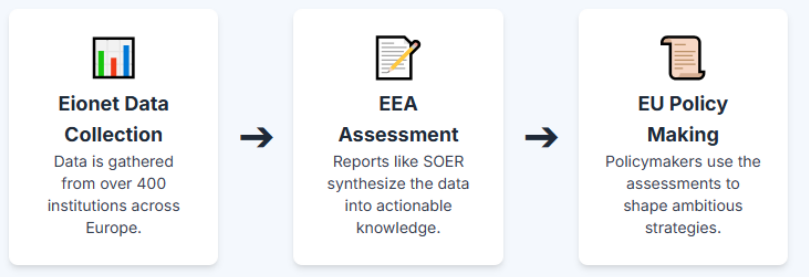
The EEA translates a torrent of complex data into clear, powerful assessments. Its flagship 'State of the Environment' report, published every five years, is the most comprehensive environmental check-up for the continent, providing the scientific backbone for policies like the European Green Deal.

But their work isn't just for policymakers. The EEA brings data directly to you. Ever wonder about the air you're breathing? Their European Air Quality Index platform provides near-real-time information for cities across the continent, empowering citizens with knowledge. This incredible work is powered by Eionet, a vast partnership network of national experts, ensuring the data is robust and shared.

The end of this year marks a critical moment. The EEA is set to release its next landmark report, SOER 2025, which will give us the most up-to-date picture of Europe's environmental health and a crucial progress report on the Green Deal.

From Data to Green Deal

The EEA's process transforms raw data into high-level policy, directly informing initiatives like the European Green Deal.



What's best about the EEA is its unwavering commitment to providing the independent data that empowers everyone, from policymakers to the public, to push for a healthier Europe.

Explore the data, check your city's air quality, and see the facts for yourself: <https://www.eea.europa.eu/en/>

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

Written by Renuka Sarathbhavan - HOPE researcher Qld



Inside the complex world of global diplomacy, who acts as the planet's environmental conscience? For over 50 years, that has been the mission of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

As the UN's leading authority on the environment, UNEP's job is to be the scientist, the watchdog, and the champion for nature on the world stage. It works to set the global environmental agenda and supports all 193 member states in the race for a sustainable future. Their work is focused on tackling the three great planetary crises of our time: the climate emergency, the loss of nature and biodiversity, and the scourge of pollution and waste.

They have a powerful legacy of success. Remember the hole in the ozone layer? UNEP was the driving force behind the historic Montreal Protocol, the treaty that united the world to phase out the chemicals responsible. Today, the ozone layer is healing—proof that global, coordinated action can work.

This role as a global catalyst continues. UNEP supports the work of major scientific bodies like the IPCC and hosts the agreements that protect endangered species. Right now, they are at the center of one of today's most urgent efforts: developing a legally binding global treaty to finally end plastic pollution. The world's highest-level environmental decisions are made at the UN Environment Assembly (UNEA), hosted by UNEP, and the world now looks ahead to the next session, UNEA-7, to write the next chapter of global action.

What's best about UNEP is its unique power to convene every nation on Earth, turning scientific consensus into global environmental law.

See global environmental diplomacy in action and learn how you can contribute: <https://www.unep.org/>



International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

Written by Renuka Sarathbhavan - HOPE researcher Qld



When a species is declared 'critically endangered,' who makes that crucial call, and how can they be so sure? For over 75 years, that role has been filled by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

The IUCN isn't just another environmental group. It's a one-of-a-kind global union where governments and citizen-led organizations are members together. This unique structure gives it the power to bring everyone to the table, from world leaders to frontline conservationists, uniting them around a common goal: protecting the natural world.

You almost certainly know its most famous work: the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™. It is the undisputed global standard for the health of our planet's biodiversity, the ultimate scientific benchmark guiding conservation efforts worldwide. But the IUCN's

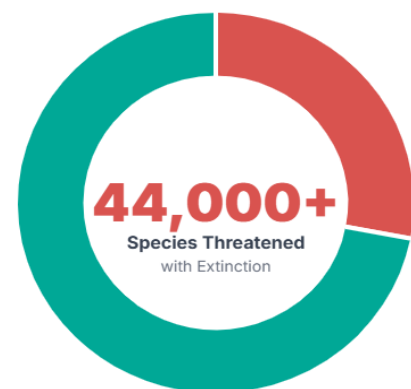
influence runs much deeper, having been a driving force behind cornerstone environmental treaties like CITES (which governs the trade in endangered species) and now championing Nature-based Solutions to tackle the climate crisis.

The secret to its credibility? A staggering network of over 15,000 volunteer scientists and experts who dedicate their time to provide the robust science that underpins every recommendation.

This year, the global conservation community will turn its eyes to Abu Dhabi. From October 9-15, 2025, the IUCN will host its World Conservation Congress, a critical gathering held only every four years, to set the planet's conservation agenda.

What's best about the IUCN is its unparalleled ability to unite governments, activists, and scientists, grounding the global conservation conversation in facts, not opinions.

Discover more about IUCN and subscribe to their free newsletter: <https://www.iucn.org/>



Threatened Not Currently Threatened

This is out of over 157,100 species assessed to date.

Food for thought!

A true conservationist is a man who knows that the world is not given by his fathers, but borrowed from his children. — **John James Audubon**

Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI)

Written by Renuka Sarathbhavan - HOPE researcher Qld



Can a country lift its people out of poverty without destroying the planet in the process? It's one of the toughest questions we face, but an organization called the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI) believes the answer is a resounding yes.

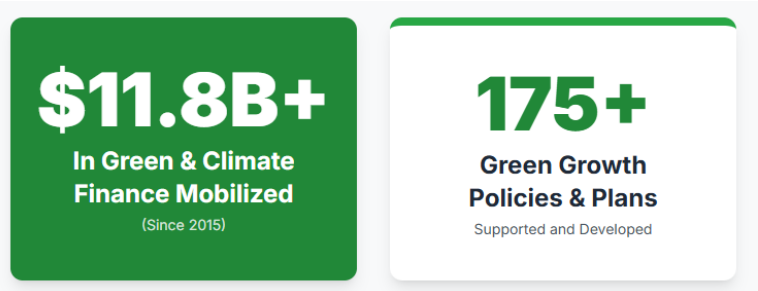
Instead of advocating from the sidelines, GGGI gets its hands dirty. As a unique, treaty-based international organization, it acts as a trusted partner to developing and emerging economies, working from the inside to help governments design a future that is both prosperous and sustainable.

Their approach is brilliantly practical. First, they provide the technical know-how to help countries create ambitious green growth plans. Then, and this is the crucial part, they help them unlock the actual funding needed to turn those plans into reality.

And it's working. Since 2015, GGGI has helped mobilize an incredible \$11.8 billion in green finance. This isn't just money on a spreadsheet; it's funding for projects that build sustainable cities, develop climate-resilient farms, and power rural villages in places like Mozambique with off-grid solar energy. It's the essential groundwork that helps nations meet their climate commitments under the Paris Agreement.

As we look towards the end of this year, GGGI will continue to bring leaders together to share these solutions, likely during its flagship "Global Green Growth Week."

What's best about GGGI is its pragmatic focus on unlocking the finance that turns ambitious climate policies into real, on-the-ground projects.



See how they are building a green future, one project at a time: <https://gggi.org/>

Fridays for Future (FFF)

Written by Renuka Sarathbhavan - HOPE researcher Qld



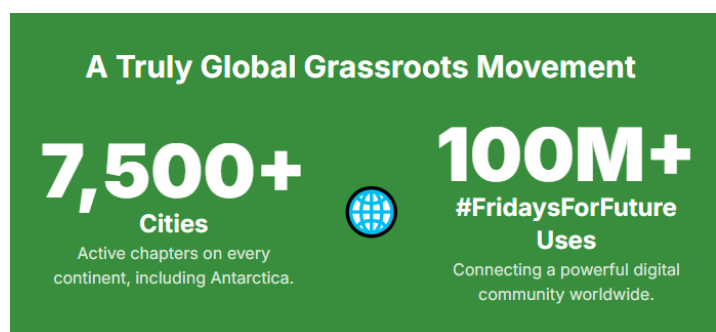
It started with one teenager, a homemade sign, and an unshakable conviction. In August 2018, Greta Thunberg sat outside the Swedish parliament, sparking a movement that would soon set the world alight.

That single act of defiance became Fridays for Future (FFF), the global, youth-led climate movement that has proven you are never too small to make a difference. From Stockholm to Sydney, FFF is a grassroots network of local groups, united not by a central leader but by a shared, urgent purpose.

Their message is clear and non-negotiable: leaders must listen to the science. They demand policies that keep global temperature rise below 1.5°C and ensure climate justice for the vulnerable communities hit first and worst by a crisis they did the least to create. And the world has been forced to listen.

FFF has organized some of the largest climate demonstrations in history, with one global strike mobilizing an astonishing 7.6 million people across 185 countries. Their hashtag, #FridaysForFuture, has become a digital rallying cry, connecting activists on every continent, even Antarctica. The fight continues every week, building momentum for massive, coordinated Global Climate Strikes that remind those in power that the younger generation is watching.

What's best about Fridays for Future is their powerful moral clarity and the undeniable proof that the collective voice of the determined can shake the world.



Join the movement and find your local chapter: <https://fridaysforfuture.org/>

Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA)

Written by Renuka Sarathbhavan - HOPE researcher Qld



The seas of East Asia are a global treasure, a cradle of marine biodiversity that provides food and livelihoods for hundreds of millions of people. This vibrant lifeline, however, is under immense pressure. Standing in its defence is a unique partnership working to navigate these challenges.

For over 30 years, the Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA) has brought together governments, community groups, research labs, and private companies to protect and

sustain this critical marine region.

Their approach is collaborative, not top-down. PEMSEA champions a holistic strategy called Integrated Coastal Management, helping local communities develop plans that balance economic needs with environmental health. It's about treating the entire coastline as one interconnected system, from the rivers to the reefs.

And the results are staggering. Today, PEMSEA's partnership programs cover over 15% of the region's coastline, directly benefiting the lives and livelihoods of more than 146 million people. From fighting the tide of plastic pollution to helping coastal towns prepare for climate change, their work fosters a sustainable "blue economy" where vibrant communities can thrive alongside healthy oceans. Every three years, this entire network gathers for the East Asian Seas Congress to share solutions and set the course for the future, with the next major congress on the horizon for 2027.



What's best about PEMSEA is its proven ability to build trust and cooperation across borders, turning shared knowledge into tangible action for coastal communities.

Subscribe to their free newsletter and see how this powerful regional partnership is protecting our shared seas:

<https://www.pemsea.org/>

(Photo by Naja Bertolt Jensen on Unsplash)

Global Alliance on Health and Pollution (GAHP)

Written by Renuka Sarathbhavan - HOPE researcher Qld



Did you know there's a killer more deadly than war, HIV/AIDS, and malaria combined? It's pollution, and it often works in silence. But in this fight, we're not alone.

Meet the Global Alliance on Health and Pollution (GAHP), a powerful collaborative network tackling this crisis head-on. Since 2012, GAHP has brought together an incredible alliance, including national governments, the World Bank, the UN, and leading universities. Their mission is clear: to reduce the death and illness caused by the toxins in our air, water, and soil.

They don't just write reports from afar; they get on the ground in the low- and middle-income countries hit hardest, helping them identify threats and build concrete action plans. From tackling lead pollution from used batteries in South America to reducing the impact of pesticides in Vietnam, their work is tangible and targeted.

One of their most significant victories was successfully campaigning to embed pollution reduction (Target 3.9) directly into the UN's Sustainable Development Goals, holding the world accountable. The momentum continues, and this coming March 25-27, 2025, they will co-host the Second Global Conference on Air Pollution and Health in Cartagena, Colombia, a crucial summit to accelerate action for our planet and our health.

What's best about GAHP is its unique ability to bridge the gap between global policy, scientific data, and life-saving action in communities that need it most.



Follow their journey and see how they are making a difference: <https://www.gahp.org/>

The Intersectional Ecoliberation Movement (IELM)

Written by Renuka Sarathbhavan - HOPE researcher Qld



Have you ever wondered why the fight for social justice and the fight for the planet are often treated as separate issues? A powerful movement is showing us they are deeply connected.

At the forefront of this conversation is Intersectional Environmentalist (IE), a vital platform and resource hub founded on a simple but powerful truth: we can't save the planet without lifting the people who live on it.

IE illuminates how environmental injustice, from the placement of polluting factories to the impacts of climate disasters, disproportionately harms marginalized communities, particularly people of colour, Indigenous groups, and low-income families. They argue that for too long, the environmental movement has focused on saving distant wilderness while sometimes ignoring the human cost of pollution in our neighbourhoods.

Instead of just pointing out problems, IE provides solutions. They are a media and resource hub dedicated to amplifying the stories and work of diverse leaders in the climate movement. Through educational content, community-building, and storytelling, they are reshaping the narrative of what it means to be an environmentalist today.

What's best about Intersectional Environmentalist is its power to connect the dots, creating a more inclusive, just, and ultimately more effective environmental movement for us all.

Explore their resources and expand your understanding of environmentalism: <https://intersectionalenvironmentalist.com/>



Photo by Markus Spiske on Unsplash