



Annual Report

2025



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Image by Rhett A. Butler



Mission, Vision and Impact

Mission

Mongabay improves understanding of the concurrent global-scale forces undermining the health of Earth's systems. Mongabay makes science accessible and elevates the voices and knowledge of people directly impacted by environmental change.

Mongabay is an independent, nonprofit media organization reporting on nature and planetary challenges with a global network of local journalists. Mongabay serves a diverse audience by providing free access to news and information in numerous languages and formats to address knowledge gaps and improve transparency. By revealing the evidence of ecosystem destruction and its consequences for people worldwide, Mongabay creates opportunities to hold those responsible accountable.

Vision

Mongabay believes credible independent journalism is essential to successfully address the planetary emergency because sharing knowledge through stories can inform, inspire and sustain effective action worldwide.

Impact

Since our inception, Mongabay's strategy has always been based on the idea that journalism can contribute to real-world results by raising awareness about the importance of nature, generating opportunities for accountability for environmental destruction and inspiring people to work toward solutions. Mongabay's journalism...

- **Improves understanding** of the global-scale forces undermining the health of Earth's systems.
- **Makes science accessible** and elevates the voices and knowledge of people directly impacted by environmental change.
- **Serves a diverse audience** by providing free access to news and information in numerous languages and formats to address knowledge gaps and improve transparency.
- **Reveals evidence** of ecosystem destruction and its consequences for people worldwide, and creates opportunities to hold those responsible accountable.



Letter from the Founder



Rhett A. Butler

Founder & CEO of Mongabay

In 2025, the environmental story was not short of evidence. What proved scarcer was sustained attention, clarity, and trust. The gap between what is known and what is acted upon continues to widen, shaped by political volatility, economic pressure, and an information environment that rewards speed, simplification, and reach more than scrutiny. This is the terrain in which Mongabay operates.

Our work rests on a simple premise: that information gaps matter. Environmental harm accelerates where documentation is thin, accountability is weak, and local realities are poorly understood beyond their immediate context or dismissed as unimportant. Journalism cannot direct outcomes, but it does contribute knowledge that can alter the balance of factors on which decisions are made. In 2025, that role felt less abstract and more consequential than at any point in recent memory.

The year underscored how much environmental decision-making now happens locally and without fanfare. Land-use choices, permitting decisions, enforcement lapses, corporate commitments, and financing arrangements often unfold far from public view, yet carry long-term consequences for ecosystems and communities. Realizing the importance of those moments requires persistence, local expertise, and reporting that does not depend on crisis alone to justify attention.

At the same time, 2025 heightened the stakes for journalism itself. As generative AI reshapes how information circulates, the value of original reporting, verification, editorial judgment, and accountability has become clearer. When language is abundant and plausibly authoritative, how information is sourced matters. Readers increasingly want to know not just what is being said, but who observed it, how it was verified, and what evidence underpins it. That expectation plays to journalism's strengths, but only if trust is earned, maintained, and defended.

There was also loss this year. We marked the passing of colleagues and figures, including East Africa editor [Ochieng' Ogodo](#) and long-standing Mongabay adviser [Dr. Jane Goodall](#), whose lives were bound up in the work of conservation and public understanding. Honoring them meant more than remembrance. It meant making their contributions visible and useful to others, so that knowledge, effort, example, and commitment did not disappear with them.

Mongabay enters the coming year with a strong sense of purpose. Careful, sustained attention still has the capacity to change how places are seen, how risks are understood, how people are represented, and how decisions are made over time. That remains worth doing.



Mongabay was founded by Rhett Ayers Butler in 1999 out of his passion for tropical forests. Its name was inspired by an island in Madagascar called Nosy Mangabe.



Organizational Highlights

As a news organization, Mongabay depends on its audience to maintain relevance in a highly challenging information ecosystem. We made substantial strides in our ability to reach and mobilize a global community, with unique visitors exceeding 111 million in 2025 — a 46% increase on the prior year. This audience growth coincided with a ramp-up of our news production in 2025, concluding the year with more than 8,700 articles and videos published. To achieve this breadth of coverage, we worked with more than 1,000 journalists from around the world and internally grew to a staff of more than 120. Our stories were also amplified beyond our own website numbers through syndication with more than 100 media outlets and engagement on dozens of social media platforms.

While these metrics are notable indicators of Mongabay's expanding reach, our scale is most meaningful when considered alongside how our stories are used to inform real-world decisions. Throughout 2025, Mongabay's journalism directly informed policymaking, law enforcement action, market movements, civil society advocacy, and scientific research. We documented hundreds of instances worldwide where Mongabay's reporting was a catalyst for change. Across this report, we share examples of these impacts. Additionally, Mongabay achieved the following in 2025:

- Formally restructured our Global bureau around dedicated reporting desks for topics such as Oceans, Wildlife, Indigenous news, as well as types of journalism such as Investigations, Solutions, and Newswire. Each desk builds on years of experience developing Mongabay's coverage of these priority topics and methods.
- Increased our linguistic diversity by introducing Swahili and Bengali news services. With hundreds of millions of people speaking these two languages, this expansion significantly increased public access to accurate and actionable information made available via Mongabay's reporting.
- Supported two new fellowship programs — one focused on nature crimes in Latin America and Indonesia, and another for Indigenous communities in the Amazon. By the year's end, Mongabay had established five fellowship programs in Latin America, Africa, and Southeast Asia.
- Mongabay journalists earned awards across formats and regions, including honors from [SOPA](#), [the Oakes Award](#), [GIJN](#), [the Podcast Publisher Awards](#), [Forbes](#), and [international anti-corruption bodies](#). These matter less as trophies than as signals — especially to sources and partners working in difficult environments — that the journalism is taken seriously and can lead to real-world results.

In 2025, Mongabay published:

“ 6,883
articles

↳ that's ~19 articles per day

▶▶ 1,879
videos

↳ that's ~36 videos per week

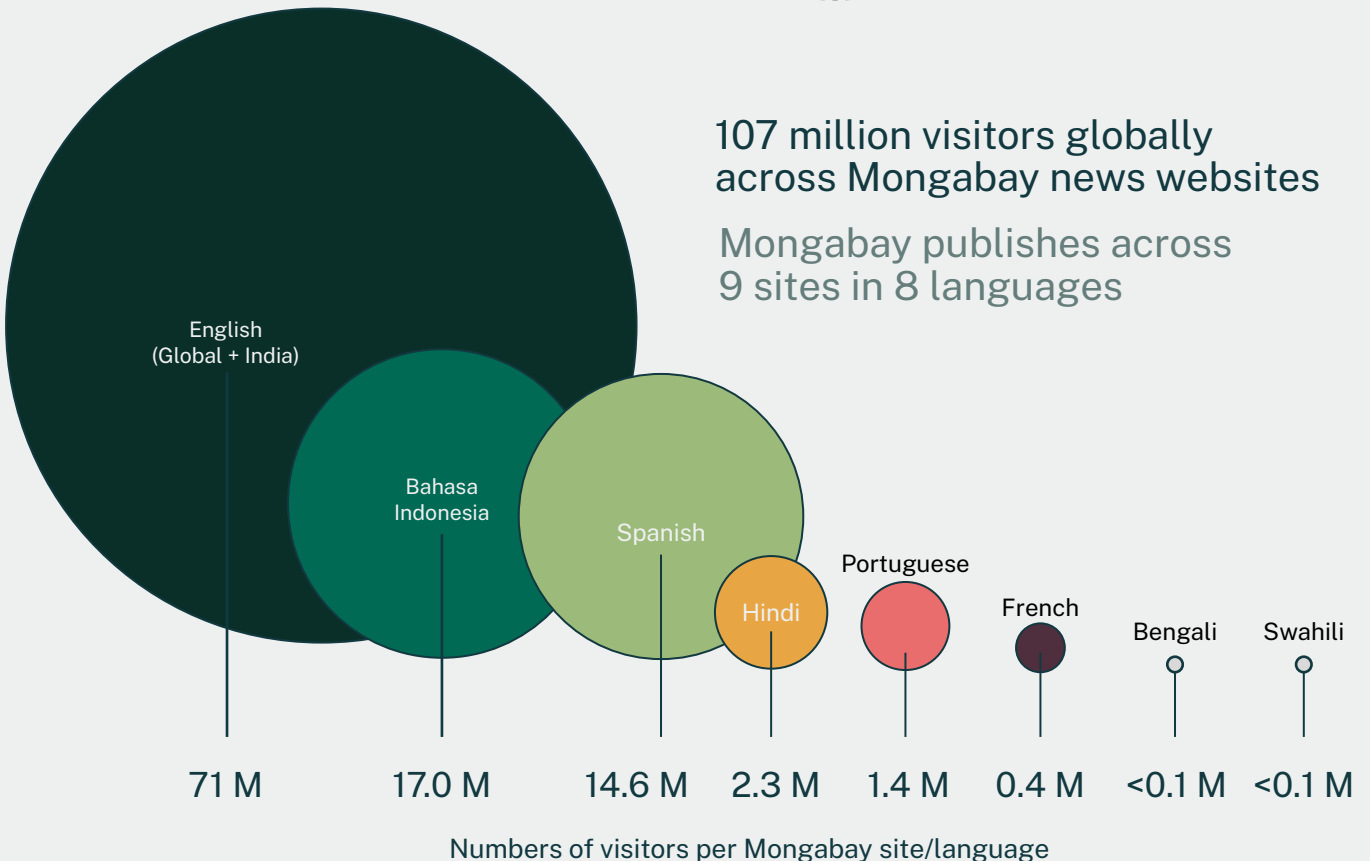
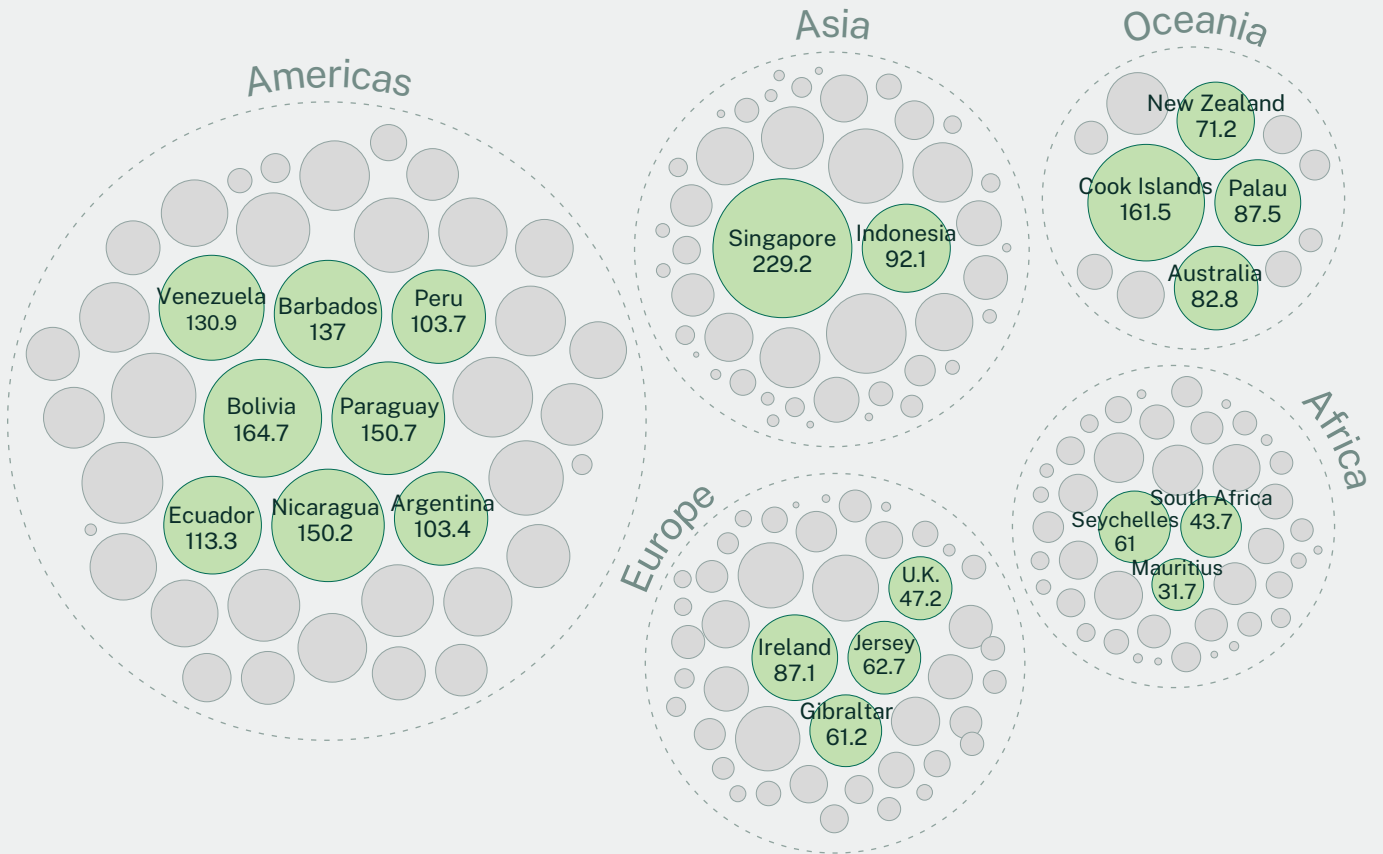
🎙️ 127
podcast episodes

↳ that's ~10 episodes per month



Global audience reach

Visitors per 1,000 internet users, by country





Staff, Board and Advisers

Abhaya Raj Joshi

Senior Staff Writer, Mongabay

Abhishyant Kidangoor

Staff Writer and Associate Video Producer, Mongabay

Abu Siddique

Contributing Editor -Bangladesh, Mongabay

Aditi Tandon

Senior Production Editor, Mongabay India

Aimable Twahirwa

Staff Writer-West and Central Africa, Mongabay Africa

Aimee Gabay

Staff Writer -Indigenous News Desk, Mongabay

Akhyari Hananto (Arry)

Multimedia Manager, Mongabay Indonesia

Akita Arum Verselita

Data Analyst, Mongabay Indonesia

Alana Linderoth

Program Officer, Mongabay

Alec Bandzes

Philanthropy Manager, Mongabay

Alejandro Prescott-Cornejo

Senior Marketing Associate, Mongabay

Alex Shaw

Investigative Reporter and Researcher, Mongabay

Alexa Vélez Zuazo

Managing Editor, Mongabay Latam

Alexandra Popescu

Latin English Editor, Mongabay

Alexandre de Santi

Managing Editor -Brasil, Mongabay

Ana Cristina Alvarado

Senior Staff Writer, Mongabay Latam

Andrés Alegría

Graphics Editor, Mongabay

Andrew Lehren

Investigative Editor, Mongabay

Anne Nzouankeu

Staff Writer, Mongabay Africa

Antonio José Paz Cardona

Senior Contributing Editor, Mongabay Latam

Arathi Menon

Senior Staff Writer, Mongabay India

Asad Asnawi

Investigative Editor, Mongabay Indonesia

Ashoka Mukpo

Staff Features Writer, Mongabay

Astrid Arellano

Staff Reporter - Indigenous News Desk, Mongabay Latam

Basten Gokkon

Senior Staff Writer, Mongabay

Beverley Choo

Foundation Relations Assistant, Mongabay

Bobby Ann Bascomb

Newswire Editor, Mongabay

Carlos Hernández Osorio

Social Media Journalist, Mongabay Latam

Carolyn Cowan

Staff Writer -Southeast Asia, Mongabay

Christophe Assogba

Managing Editor -French, Mongabay Africa

Clio Di Giovanni

Africa Outreach and Content Coordinator

Dalia Medina

Digital Outreach Editor, Mongabay Latam

Daniel Pye

Investigations Editor, Mongabay

Daniela Quintero Díaz

Investigations Editor, Mongabay Latam

Dave Martin

Director of Philanthropy, Mongabay

David Akana

Program Director, Mongabay Africa

David Brown

Contributing Editor -Kids, Mongabay

Didier Makal

Staff Writer -Central Africa, Mongabay Africa

Dilrukshi Handunnetti

Editor -Sri Lanka, Mongabay

Divya Kilikar

Content Coordinator, Mongabay India

Dora Montero

Fellowship Spanish Editor, Mongabay Latam

Edward Carver

Staff Writer -Oceans Desk, Mongabay

Elizabeth Claire Alberts

Senior Staff Writer -Oceans Desk, Mongabay

Ella Djiguidme

Social Media Coordinator

Elodie Toto

Staff Writer -Central Africa, Mongabay Africa

Emilia Delfino

Associate Editor, Mongabay

Emilie Languedoc

Graphic Designer, Mongabay

Erik Hoffner

Impact Editor, Mongabay

Fernanda Melchior Wenzel

Staff Writer -Brasil, Mongabay

Gerald (Gerry) Flynn

Features Writer -Southeast Asia, Mongabay

Glenn Scherer

Editor-at-large, Mongabay

Gonzalo Ortuño

Contributing Editor, Mongabay Latam

Gopikrishna Warriar

Editorial Director, Mongabay India

Hagen Desa

Video Producer, Mongabay India

Hans Nicholas Jong

Senior Staff Writer, Mongabay

Harry Jacques

Contributing Editor, Mongabay

Hayat Indriyatno

Senior Copy Editor, Mongabay

Hidayaturohman M. Suri

Multimedia Producer, Mongabay Indonesia

Innocent Sossavi

Copy Editor, Mongabay Africa

Isabel Esterman

Managing Editor -Southeast Asia, Mongabay

Ivan Paredes

Staff Writer, Mongabay Latam

Jahëna Louisin

Audio and Video Producer, Mongabay Africa

Jeremy Hance

Senior Contributing Editor -Solutions Desk, Mongabay

John Cannon

Staff Features Writer, Mongabay

Joyce Bazira

Contributing Editor -Swahili, Mongabay Africa

Juan Maza Calleja

Video Production Coordinator, Mongabay

Julia Lemos Lima

Video Producer, Mongabay

Juliette Chapalain

Fellowship and Multimedia Editor, Mongabay Africa

Karen Coates

Fellowship Editor, Mongabay

Karla Mendes

Features Writer, Mongabay

Kartik Chandramouli

Senior Digital Editor, Mongabay India

Kristine Sabillo

Wire Reporter, Mongabay

Kundan Pandey

Senior Editor, Mongabay India

Latoya Abulu

Editor -Indigenous News Desk, Mongabay

Lemae Mortimer

Programs Coordinator, Mongabay

Liz Kimbrough

Senior Staff Writer, Mongabay

Lucia Torres

Managing Editor Video, Mongabay

Lusia Febriana Arumingtyas

Youth Outreach Officer, Mongabay Indonesia

Lynet Otieno

Contributor Editor -Swahili, Mongabay Africa

Maichue Khang

Operations Director, Mongabay

Malavika Vyawahare -

Contributing Editor, Mongabay Africa

Manish Mishra

Assistant Editor, Mongabay India



María Ángeles Salazar
Content Production Manager, Mongabay

María Isabel Torres
Program Director, Mongabay Latam

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Researcher - Solutions Desk, Mongabay

Maxwell Radwin
Staff Writer - Latin America, Mongabay

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Staff Writer - Mongabay

Mayra Castillo
Content Coordinator, Mongabay Latam

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Megha Acharya
Video Production Coordinator, Mongabay India

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Audience Engagement Associate, Mongabay

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Senior Editor, Mongabay

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Associate Editor, Mongabay

Niko Dwi Wicaksana
Multimedia Producer, Mongabay Indonesia

Nivetha Muthumani
Staff Accountant, Mongabay

Ochieng' Ogodo (In Memoriam)
Africa Editor, Mongabay Africa

Philip Jacobson
Senior Editor - Southeast Asia, Mongabay

Priyanka Shankar
Associate Production Editor, Mongabay India

Rahmadi Rahmad
Senior Writer & Editor, Mongabay Indonesia

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Senior Editor - Oceans Desk, Mongabay

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Program and Editorial Officer, Mongabay India

Rhett A. Butler
Founder and CEO, Mongabay

Richaldo Y. Hariandja
Solutions and Editor Staff, Mongabay Indonesia

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Multimedia Producer, Mongabay Latam

Ridzki Sigit
Program Director, Mongabay Indonesia

Rohini Alamgir
Online Community Manager, Mongabay

Romina Castagnino
Associate Digital Editor and Host, Mongabay

Salman Ghani
Financial Controller, Mongabay

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Creative Director and Producer, Mongabay

Sandhya Sekar
Program Director, Mongabay India

Sandy Watt
Video Producer, Mongabay

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Managing Editor, Mongabay Indonesia

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Social Media Coordinator, Mongabay India

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Senior Editor, Mongabay India

Shanna Hanbury Lemos
Wire Reporter, Mongabay

Sharon Guynup
Wildlife Editor, Mongabay

Shreya Dasgupta
Newswire Editor, Mongabay

Simrin Sirur
Staff Writer, Mongabay India

Sonal Alvares
Philanthropy Coordinator, Mongabay

Sonam Lama
Staff Writer - Indigenous News Desk, Mongabay

Spoorthy Raman
Staff Writer, Mongabay

Suchibrata Borah
Program Coordinator, Mongabay

Temitope Omisore
Operations Coordinator, Mongabay

Terna Gyuse
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Vanessa Romo
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Wilber Huacasi
Project Assistant, Mongabay Latam

Willie Shubert
VP of Programs & Executive Editor, Mongabay

Xavier Bartaburu
Senior Editor - Brasil, Mongabay

Yannick Kenné
Staff Writer - West and Central Africa, Mongabay Africa

Yvette Sierra Praeli
Senior Staff Writer, Mongabay Latam

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Jeanne Sedgwick
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Linda Dakin-Grimm
Peter Riggs
Rhett A. Butler
Robin Martin
Steve McCormick
Steve Rhee
Tim Kelly
Winnie Lam

ADVISERS

Aida Greenbury
Dr. Jane Goodall (In Memoriam)
Dr. Peter Raven

PHILANTHROPY COMMITTEE

Anonymous
Christian Birky
Devika Gopal Agge
Gary Grimm, Ph.D.
Josephine Arader Delille
Mark Cappellano
Natalie Kennedy
Susan Block

138

people worked at Mongabay during 2025

Mongabay staff numbers per bureau

Indonesia 12

India 15

Africa 19

Latam 19

Global 73

Mongabay worked with

1,018

international contributors in 2025.



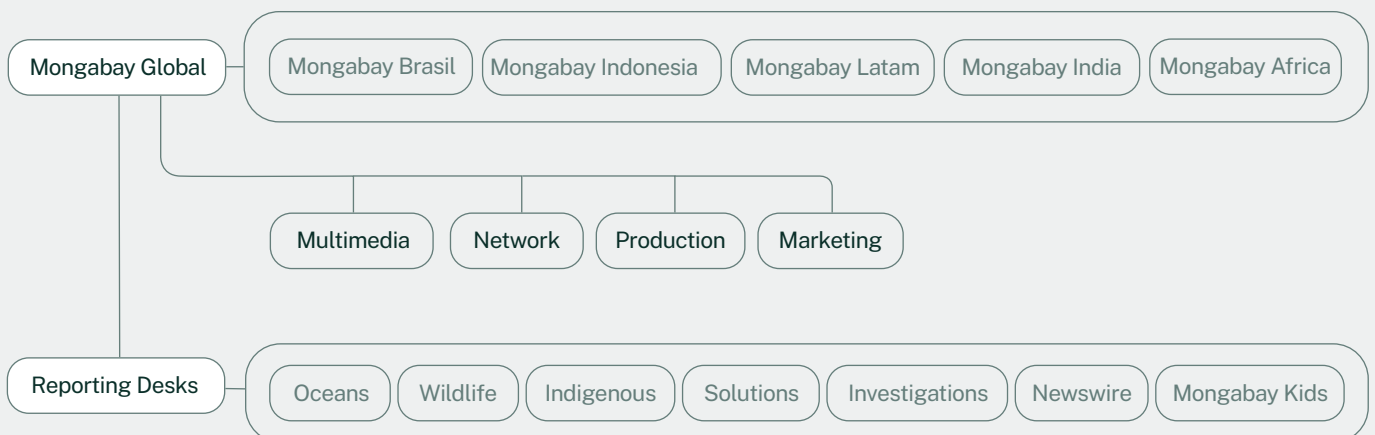
Mongabay: A globally distributed newsroom

Mongabay Global

Mongabay’s Global bureau organizes a dispersed network of journalists that report in English from nature’s frontlines around the world. This reporting brings local perspectives and ground-truthed information to an international audience. In 2025, Mongabay’s Global newsroom expanded to new geographies, including the Arctic and a U.S. project on California biodiversity. We also prioritized solutions-based stories, striving to move beyond the doom and gloom, highlighting effective, innovative strategies that are making a real difference. Other priorities included transboundary and interconnected issues of biodiversity loss, climate change, and resource extraction and management, with strong emphasis on frontline communities and underreported regions. Coverage spanned in-depth reporting on deforestation, illegal mining, wildlife trafficking, industrial agriculture, and ocean degradation, alongside conservation initiatives, Indigenous stewardship, scientific discovery, and major events like the U.N. Climate Change Conference (COP30) in Brazil. We increasingly integrated data-driven reporting, satellite analysis and multimedia storytelling to uncover patterns and accountability gaps.



Newsroom breakdown





MONGABAY GLOBAL

Reporting Desks

Reflecting Mongabay's strategic shift to convene globally disbursed journalists, both staff and contributors, around priority coverage areas that span geographies, we formally announced two desks in 2025: Oceans and Wildlife.

Oceans

While Mongabay has long reported on oceans, the establishment of an Oceans Desk in 2025 brings together a global team of editors and reporters focused on marine ecosystems, fisheries, and ocean conservation. The desk represents a strategic effort to deepen reporting on the world's oceans at a time when marine ecosystems face growing threats from overfishing, pollution, habitat destruction, and climate change. Building on Mongabay's extensive history of ocean coverage, the Oceans Desk strengthens the organization's capacity to investigate underreported issues, highlight the voices of coastal communities and scientists, and inform public debate and policy on marine conservation worldwide.



Image by Rhett A. Butler



IMPACT

Two Mongabay investigative reports into Brazil's shark meat trade uncovered that government agencies had issued more than 1,000 public tenders since 2004 to purchase more than 5,400 metric tons of shark meat, much of it served in schools, hospitals, and other public institutions. The reporting sparked national debate about the environmental and health risks of shark consumption, prompted calls for a parliamentary hearing, and was cited in legal action seeking to ban shark meat in federal procurements. The investigation also contributed to policy change in Rio de Janeiro state, where shark meat was banned from meals in about 95% of state-run schools (around 1,200 schools), and received major journalism honors including Brazil's Andifes education award and a national ARI/Barrisul journalism prize.



MONGABAY GLOBAL

Reporting Desks

Wildlife

A dedicated Wildlife Desk is strengthening Mongabay's global reporting on the state of wildlife and the ecosystems they inhabit. The desk coordinates coverage across Mongabay's international network of journalists, focusing on topics such as wildlife ecology, animal behavior, the wildlife trade, zoonotic diseases, and habitat connectivity. By linking local, on-the-ground reporting with broader regional and global trends, the Wildlife Desk enhances Mongabay's ability to inform public debate and support conservation efforts at a time when wildlife populations are facing accelerating pressures from habitat loss, climate change, and human activities.



Image by Junaidi Hanafiah/Mongabay Indonesia



IMPACT

Mongabay reporting helped reveal a previously unknown population of the critically endangered Tapanuli orangutan, the world's rarest great ape. In September 2025, a Mongabay Indonesia contributor documented and photographed a mother and infant orangutan in a peat swamp forest in Lumut Maju, marking the first confirmed visual record of the species outside its known range in the Batang Toru forest. The discovery, later confirmed through DNA analysis, expanded scientific understanding of the species' distribution and prompted consultations between local government and conservation groups to determine how best to protect the newly identified habitat and support long-term coexistence between communities and orangutans.



MONGABAY GLOBAL

Reporting Desks

Indigenous

To help address the long-standing underrepresentation of Indigenous voices in the news industry, Mongabay established a desk that engages Indigenous peoples as both journalists and primary sources. The desk aims to move beyond superficial portrayals by centering diverse Indigenous perspectives and knowledge in global environmental coverage, and is overall increasing our ability to deliver deeper, more consistent reporting on issues affecting Indigenous lands and rights.



Image courtesy of Jerónimo Pineda/Kara Solar



IMPACT

Mongabay's reporting on the Indigenous-led solar canoe initiative that first launched in the Ecuadorian Amazon in 2017 helped the team get additional resources. The co-founder of the Kara Solar Foundation shared that he secured two new sources of funding following the media coverage, saying, "I'm sure the article helped with that," and that, "we have been contacted by Indigenous communities in Brazil, Colombia and Peru who are interested in replicating our work with the Achuar in their own territories." The initiative trains local Indigenous technicians to manage the technology and aims to support 10,000 solar-powered boats across the Amazon by 2030.



MONGABAY GLOBAL

Reporting Desks

Solutions

Mongabay's Solutions Desk systematically reports on responses to environmental challenges, focusing on identifying and tracking what is actually working. The desk uses a solutions journalism approach, examining the effectiveness of interventions while also assessing their limitations, scalability, and real-world impact. Rather than promoting feel-good stories, it emphasizes rigorous, evidence-based reporting to understand why certain approaches succeed or fail. The initiative aims to make environmental journalism more useful to audiences by highlighting actionable insights, along with credible, grounded examples of progress.



Screenshot from the video "Biochar from banana peels breaks ground in Cameroon"



IMPACT

In Cameroon, a solution-focused video on the work of a 30-year-old engineer who is transforming organic waste into biochar, and launched his own training school specializing in renewable energy. According to the engineer, the coverage helped increase the credibility and visibility of his company, particularly among students and the parents of potential students. Following the story, he was contacted by people from across Africa seeking training in alternative charcoal production. Besides interested learners, the increased awareness from the news coverage helped to secure additional funding for his work.



MONGABAY GLOBAL

Reporting Desks

Investigations

Mongabay's investigations produce original, actionable information that helps hold the natural resource sector accountable for its social and environmental impacts. International efforts to address the threat that commercial natural resource industries pose to the environment are being stymied by poor governance and a lack of accountability. Our investigative team consists of editors across our bureaus, writers and investigative researchers. In 2025, our investigative journalism earned international honors for stories exposing environmental crime, corruption, and abuse of both people and the environment. Journalists uncovered hidden public health risks and schemes to take advantage of Indigenous groups, and took personal risk traveling to underreported regions on nature's frontlines.



Image by AP/Sakchai Lalit



IMPACT

A 2025 Mongabay and Global Initiative Against Transnational Organized Crime (GI-TOC) collaborative investigation exposed a network of shops in Laos posing as cafés and cultural venues that sell illegal wildlife products to Chinese tourists, generating millions in revenue. The reporting revealed how tourists are funneled through organized tours and misled with false claims about conservation and religious value, in violation of Lao law and CITES prohibitions on the wildlife trade. Following the investigation, Laos's minister of tourism was briefed on the investigation's findings, which also reached other key stakeholders and major conservation groups, including the IUCN and WWF. The investigation helped inform an awareness campaign launched by WWF along the Laos-China Railway.



MONGABAY GLOBAL

Reporting Desks

Newswire

Our Newswire Desk delivers short, accessible news stories that make environmental reporting easier to understand and share. The desk focuses on producing concise, timely updates on biodiversity, conservation, and environmental issues for a broad, global audience. Designed to complement longer-form journalism, Mongabay Newswire content prioritizes clarity, speed, and relevance across digital platforms. The initiative aims to reach more diverse audiences, including readers who may not engage with in-depth reporting. Overall, the Newswire Desk provides accessible, high-frequency coverage of critical environmental news.



Image courtesy of Vikash Tatayah



IMPACT

Mongabay's reporting on how the last wild Round Island hurricane palm, a rare species native to Mauritius, had snapped during a windstorm helped catalyze conservation action to restore the species in its natural habitat. By highlighting the tree's ecological importance and precarious status — surviving in only a few cultivated specimens — the story raised awareness among conservationists and stakeholders, contributing to coordinated efforts to propagate and reintroduce the species into the wild.



MONGABAY GLOBAL

Reporting Desks



Mongabay’s youth education initiative aimed at fostering ecological literacy and environmental stewardship published more than 140 news stories, features, activities, and multimedia resources in 2025. Mongabay Kids visitors grew by 20%, and our biweekly newsletter subscribers expanded by 50%. We also added Facebook to our social media presence, increasing engagement with parents and educators.



IMPACT

Mongabay Kids’ collaboration with Associate Professor Stacy Asher at Iowa State University received an outreach award and was featured in a university article highlighting three students who designed graphics for World Giraffe Week 2025. Their visuals supported a weeklong Mongabay Kids program featuring activities, reading resources, poems, and facts that helped young audiences learn why giraffes matter and why their conservation is important.



Courtesy image






Mongabay Regional bureaus

Image by Rhett A. Butler



Mongabay Brasil

Mongabay’s Brazil-based news team produced a wide range of original Portuguese-language reporting that combined investigations, science, and field reporting to highlight environmental and social challenges across Brazil, its oceans and the Pan-Amazon. Our work exposed key drivers of deforestation, including agribusiness, illegal mining, infrastructure, land violations, and weak governance. Coverage also raised awareness of climate impacts such as drought, biodiversity loss, and ecosystem decline. The bureau consistently elevated Indigenous and local communities, documenting both the threats they face and their leadership in conservation, alongside reporting on solutions like community-led initiatives, bioeconomy efforts, and species recovery. The team also launched its first reporting project focused on Brazil’s oceans and worked closely with the Oceans Desk to uncover the controversial purchase of shark meat by local governments, which led to new policies and debate over the issue. On the coast, original reporting helped keep the Itans Natural Monument’s status as protected land by uncovering legislative maneuvers to authorize the construction of a luxury resort at the ecological sanctuary in Piauí state.

-  **1.4 M**
website visitors
-  **180**
articles
-  **19**
videos

IMPACT

Following Mongabay’s coverage revealing cattle ranching booms in the Arariboia Indigenous Territory, Brazilian authorities called the investigation’s findings unprecedented and said they would be key in operations to remove illegal cattle from the territory. In early 2025 authorities launched an operation to do just that, using information from Mongabay’s investigation. The Guajajara people also used the investigation in their request to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights to protect Arariboia. The Federal Public Ministry plans to use the investigation and a previous feature text and video for a court case into impunity over the killing of Indigenous leaders in Arariboia, to help bring justice to the Guajajara people. The Blood Timber series, which this investigation was part of, received an honorable mention at the ARI/Banrisul Journalism Award, a prize recognizing excellence in journalism in Brazil.



Image courtesy of the Federal Police

Mongabay Indonesia

Mongabay's presence in Indonesia has long filled an information gap within the national and international mediascape. Mongabay's longest-running bureau, Mongabay Indonesia, established in 2012, continued to demonstrate strong impact through investigative reporting, community engagement, and policy influence across environmental and social issues. The journalism directly contributed to government action, including environmental enforcement in the nickel industry, greater scrutiny of rice expansion programs, and responses to illegal fishing, wildlife trafficking, and pollution cases. Reporting consistently empowered local communities and civil society, strengthening grassroots movements opposing mining, supporting Indigenous rights, and contributing to improved local conditions such as water quality and environmental protections. The news was widely used as reference material in academic research, policy discussions, and advocacy campaigns. It also helped elevate public awareness and engagement, from influencing national debates on energy transition and forest governance, to catalyzing large-scale mobilizations around issues like Indigenous land rights in Meratus, Borneo. Helping to cultivate a growing network of young environmental storytellers, Mongabay Indonesia worked with youth through a variety of training programs, internships, and collaborative platforms centered around journalism skills and environmental awareness. We also engaged young people via interactive outreach such as podcasts, Instagram Live sessions, and partnerships with youth groups.

- 👤 **17 M**
website visitors
- ” **1,670**
articles
- ▶ **871**
videos
- 🎙️ **18**
podcast episodes

📣 IMPACT

Mongabay Indonesia's [sustained reporting in Halmahera](#) has exposed the [environmental and social costs](#) of the nickel boom — often framed as part of a “green economy” — building on coverage that dates back to 2012. This long-term journalism has been widely cited by international organizations and trusted by affected Indigenous communities, including the [Tobelo Dalam](#), who have directly engaged with Mongabay. The reporting has also driven tangible policy and industry responses, including a 2025 government inspection and enforcement actions against mining violations, and the Norwegian sovereign wealth fund's move to [divest from miner Eramet](#), which acknowledged Mongabay's work as a key reference in its decision-making.





Mongabay Latam

Mongabay Latam’s journalism drove significant impact across Latin America, influencing government action, legal outcomes, and public debate, while expanding its regional and global reach. Coverage prompted responses from authorities in multiple countries, including court rulings against illegal mining in Peru, government investigations into environmental crimes, and congressional inquiries into issues such as oil spills, illegal roads, and wildlife trafficking in Colombia, Mexico, Bolivia, and Ecuador. The newsroom’s reporting also was used as evidence in judicial decisions and advocacy efforts by Indigenous organizations. Collaborations with scientists and the use of innovative methods such as satellite analysis and AI strengthened the bureau’s ability to expose complex environmental crimes, including cases of unreported oil spills in the Gulf of Mexico, and the presence of multiple narco airstrips within Indigenous territories in the Peruvian Amazon. Flagship investigations like these earned major international awards and recognition. Mongabay Latam’s work also catalyzed engagement from NGOs, multilateral organizations, and academic institutions, contributed to policy discussions and budget changes, and supported on-the-ground advocacy and conservation initiatives. Mongabay Latam continued to build partnerships with media outlets, forming 90 partnerships with institutions ranging from the region’s most widely read national news outlets to small local newsrooms and radio stations in the Peruvian Amazon.

 **14.6 M**
website visitors

 **1,006**
articles

 **497**
videos

 **51**
podcast episodes

IMPACT





Mongabay Latam led a major cross-border investigation into the expansion of five illegal roads spanning nearly 2,000 kilometers (1,200 miles) in the Colombian Amazon, produced in collaboration with five national media outlets. Combining satellite analysis with on-the-ground reporting, the investigation exposed how these roads have driven deforestation, enabled land grabbing, and facilitated territorial control by armed groups, while impacting protected areas and Indigenous territories amid a lack of effective state response. The reporting generated significant national attention and policy engagement: members of Congress called for formal inquiries and meetings with key ministries, Senate officials invited the journalists to present their findings, a U.N Office on Drugs and Crime researcher reached out to the journalists with an interest to collaborate, and prominent environmental leaders amplified the investigation publicly.





Mongabay India

Mongabay India continued to expand its reach and output across both its English and Hindi platforms, producing a high volume of original reporting and steadily growing its audience through multimedia content and social media engagement, as well as adding short-form news production. Our journalism gained strong traction, with several stories achieving significant readership and sparking audience feedback and cross-regional engagement on environmental issues. The bureau strengthened its role as a leader in environmental journalism and science communication by serving as a knowledge partner at national and international conferences, training interns and early-career journalists, and contributing expertise to discussions on conservation issues such as human-wildlife conflict. Capacity building remained a key focus in 2025, with staff participating in prestigious international fellowships and workshops that enhanced investigative, climate, and science reporting skills.

- 
17.6 M
 website visitors
- 
830
 articles
- 
153
 videos
- 
2
 podcast episodes

IMPACT





Mongabay India's reporting on endangered Himalayan star anise harvested by Arunachal Pradesh state's Monpa community highlighted ecological threats and poor market access. It connected WWF-India with a government-run marketing corporation, enabling direct procurement at better prices. The intervention improved market access, supported multiple villages, and led to more stable incomes while strengthening prospects for sustainable harvesting.





Mongabay Africa

Our Africa-based news bureau made strong progress in expanding its influence, partnerships, and regional capacity. We deepened our footprint across the continent through academic engagement and training, including invitations from journalism schools in Niger, Kenya and France, among others. We also launched our Swahili platform and strengthened Francophone outreach through workshops and the hiring of additional editorial staff. Strategically, the bureau is forging high-impact relationships with major institutions, positioning itself for collaborative reporting and multimedia storytelling on critical environmental issues across the continent. Our growing credibility is reflected in our participation at notable spaces, from DC Climate Week to leadership roles in the U.N. Oceans Decade Strategic Communications Group, and invitations to significant forums like the World Conference of Science Journalists and African Investigative Journalism Conference, alongside media recognition and citations by governments. Internally, the team expanded key roles in audio, video, and editorial functions.

-  **4.8 M**
website visitors
-  **456**
articles
-  **72**
videos
-  **12**
podcast episodes

IMPACT

Mongabay’s coverage about the ripples of the USAID funding freeze on the conservation sector, including [Ghana’s first MPA](#), was read by philanthropic donors who then reached out to Tetra Tech, the implementing partner of the MPA, to offer and ultimately provide greater financial support. Mongabay’s main source from Tetra Tech shared, “I know of three instances of funding that has resulted directly from these conversations — support that is continuing the good work towards MPA establishment that likely would not have continued without [Mongabay’s] support.”





Network building



Mongabay's Network program grew significantly in 2025 with fellowship offerings in English, Spanish, French, and Indonesian. We also added specialization with the launch of a nature crime program designed for more veteran journalists wanting to deepen their data-informed and investigative reporting skills. Complementing these efforts, Mongabay Latam also deepened its investment in capacity building by organizing two in-person workshops in Peru and Ecuador, equipping 47 Indigenous communicators and environmental journalists from diverse backgrounds with hands-on reporting skills.

Under Mongabay's Y. Eva Tan Conservation Reporting Fellowship program, aimed at supporting early-career journalists from tropical countries, fellows received training, mentorship, and publishing opportunities in English and Spanish. In the global English-language program, nine fellows from around the world produced 46 stories, including reporting that sparked national dialogue on pesticide use in Nigeria. The fellowship also served as a launchpad for emerging careers: alumni went on to report from major international forums such as COP30 in Brazil, participate in leading journalism conferences, and pursue opportunities such as advanced studies in documentary filmmaking.

In Latin America, six fellows contributed 12 stories, including a collaborative investigation on the Venezuelan Amazon produced alongside regional media partners. The program has proved equally catalytic for career development, with nearly all fellows now working full-time in journalism and several advancing into notable opportunities such as fellowships with the Latin American Center for Investigative Journalism, the Stigler Center's Journalists in Residence Program in Chicago, and The Open Notebook's early-career fellowship.

In Africa, the French-language environmental reporting fellowship program welcomed 12 fellows from 11 countries, who produced 36 stories and three short videos. Well over half of the fellows have since become regular Mongabay Africa contributors.



IMPACT

A fellow story on pesticide contamination in agricultural soil received considerable attention in Nigeria. Notably, the national TV outlet News Central devoted a 20-minute interview with one of the primary sources from Mongabay's story, which further raised awareness about the national food and health issue.



Multimedia

Video

In 2025, Mongabay’s video reporting leaned into solutions-focused storytelling, spotlighting the people, communities, and projects working to protect wildlife, restore ecosystems, and confront the climate crisis. These stories emphasized not only the scale of environmental challenges, but also the creativity and resilience driving meaningful change on the ground.

Throughout the year, Mongabay experimented with new video formats and series, including Wild Targets and Against All Odds, while commissioning in-depth short documentaries such as Yaku Raymi: The Quechua Ritual to Save a Glacier and The Clearing: Young Activists Risk All to Defend Cambodia’s Environment. These films explored urgent environmental issues through deeply human narratives, offering firsthand perspectives from communities on the front lines of ecological change.

Collaboration remained central to our video strategy. Mongabay partnered with the Associated Press to produce a powerful report on women reclaiming traditional Aztec floating farms in Mexico City, highlighting the intersection of cultural heritage, food sovereignty and environmental resilience.



IMPACT

The Clearing, produced in collaboration with the Pulitzer Center about the 2024 arrest of Cambodian environmental activists, was screened by the Foreign Correspondents’ Club of Thailand in September 2025, which was followed by a panel discussion. It was shown again in early November for the International Civil Society Week in Bangkok, and then featured in an Amnesty International Write for Rights campaign, which generated letters focused on freeing the five imprisoned Mother Nature Cambodia activists. The American Conservation Film Festival also screened the film in March 2026, where it won the Green Spark Award, which recognizes films that illuminate conservation heroes, showcase pathways to sustainability, or inspire the next generation.



Watch on YouTube: How women protect Mexico City’s ancient island farms



Multimedia

Podcast

Mongabay’s audio offerings grew in 2025 to include four languages: English, Spanish, Indonesian, and French. The multilingual lineup produced by regional Mongabay bureaus helps deliver conservation news and stories to listeners in their preferred languages and formats, broadening the reach and access of information.

The English-language Mongabay Newscast continued to evolve in 2025, incorporating more extended deep-dive interviews, challenging themes, and inspiring conversations about solutions and reasons to hope across 44 episodes listened to in more than 150 countries. Some of the most popular topics included human psychology, governance, justice, Indigenous stewardship, and moral responsibility.

Mongabay engaged a variety of guests, among them Kim Stanley Robinson, the Hugo- and Nebula Award-winning science fiction writer; Christiana Figueres, the architect of the 2015 Paris Climate Agreement and former executive secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change; Natalie Kyriacou OAM, a conservation advocate and author of *Nature’s Last Dance*; Vera Voronova, winner of the 2024 Earthshot Prize and executive director of the Association for the Conservation Biodiversity of Kazakhstan; Carlos Mallo Molina, the 2025 Goldman Environmental Prize winner; Patricia Wright, the primatologist who first described the golden bamboo lemur in Madagascar; and Corina Newsome, an ornithologist with the National Wildlife Federation.



How ‘ecological empathy’ can help humans reconnect with nature and shape a better world



IMPACT

Mongabay India won multiple awards for the three-part podcast series Wild Frequencies, which explores how researchers in India are using bioacoustics to locate, monitor, and better understand the country’s wildlife: First place for regional audio from the Society of Publishers in Asia (SOPA), first place for best science and medical podcast from the Podcast Publisher Awards, and first place for best produced science show from the India Audio Summit Awards.



Data Studio

Mongabay's Data Studio created hundreds of data-inspired stories, deepened collaborations with leading technologists, and added talented new team members to contribute to tangible impacts and identify otherwise unlikely findings. The studio now includes an in-house graphics editor and a graphic designer, enabling the analysis and visualization of satellite and environmental data sets to uncover large-scale trends in deforestation, land use, and climate impacts. Mongabay specializes in stories that reveal patterns often invisible without geospatial analysis, such as surging cacao-driven deforestation in Liberia, record forest loss in the DRC, illegal road expansion in Bolivia, and widespread tree cover loss across the Mekong region. The Data Studio also supported real-time reporting on environmental crises, including fire hotspots and transboundary haze in Indonesia, and quantified ecosystem degradation from mining and agriculture in places like Lake Poso and the Colombian Amazon.

This level of reporting contributed to wider recognition of the Data Studio and Mongabay's overall expertise in data-based reporting. This has resulted in more data-driven collaborations, like that with Colombian media partner Baudó Agencia Pública, which won the Simón Bolívar Award for an investigation about forest fires in the Colombian Amazon driving deforestation, which used a Mongabay Latam database.

The studio continued to develop new technologies and launched a new transparency tool in 2025: a global directory of reforestation organizations, based on research from the University of California, Santa Cruz. This collaboration was inspired by and builds on Mongabay's reforestation.app, and serves as a decision support tool to help donors identify effective reforestation efforts.



IMPACT

Supported by Mongabay's Data Studio, Mongabay Latam's investigative special (also translated into English) combined AI and satellite imagery to expose 67 clandestine drug-trafficking airstrips in the Peruvian Amazon. This coverage gained international recognition and drove action on multiple fronts. The work was highlighted by The Wall Street Journal as a leading example of AI-powered journalism, while Indigenous organizations like Aidesep and Fenacoka used the findings to advocate with government authorities to protect vulnerable communities, particularly those in isolation. The investigation also directly informed Peruvian law enforcement, with the Air Force requesting training and data to support their operations. Widely republished and cited in regional organized crime reporting, the series earned top global journalism honors including the Global Shining Light Award.



2026 and Beyond

Mongabay’s core organizational strategy is to assemble a collaborative journalism network at national, regional and global scales capable of conveying information in a compelling format in a relevant time frame to critical audiences. Our editorial agenda remains focused on the planetary emergency, with the climate crisis, the health burdens of pollution, and unsustainable economic practices as essential topics for understanding the planetary changes fueling biodiversity loss and extinction. From this core mission, Mongabay is poised to sustain our momentum by opening up access to information for audiences we’ve yet to address, creating viable career paths in environmental journalism for people living in the communities we cover, and channeling information to people who are poised to use it.

Specifically, Mongabay will launch StoryTransformer, an AI-assisted tool designed to adapt Mongabay’s verified journalism into formats and languages that frontline communities can more easily use. Built for “micro decision-makers” — farmers, fishers, and local leaders whose choices shape ecosystems and resilience every day — StoryTransformer will allow us to work in languages we could not otherwise support and to expand the hiring of editors embedded in the communities we’re targeting with new content to ensure that the material is always reviewed and verified by a person before it is published.

Reporting in new languages from undercovered places will always require talented people looking for opportunity, so Mongabay will double the number of participants in our paid fellowship program, including new Portuguese- and Indonesian-language fellowships, as well as an ocean reporting fellowship. We will also expand biodiversity coverage in Australia through our first dedicated special reporting project in the continent, and increase the availability of short news in additional languages to create entry points into longer investigations and features.

Finally, Mongabay recognizes the fundamental importance of our audience community in sustaining independent journalism by ensuring our reporting reaches the people best positioned to act on it. In 2026, we will be establishing an Impact Editor role in our newsroom to act as a dedicated liaison between the editorial team and the pathways to influence, providing feedback and guidance on how to frame, follow up on, and extend stories to drive tangible results.

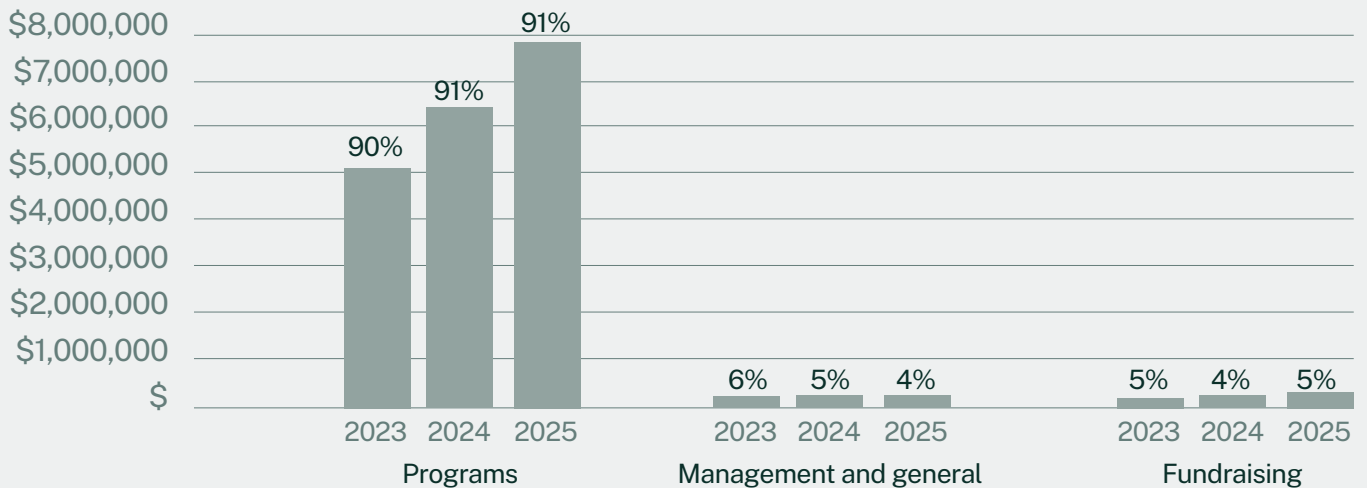




Financials

Support and revenue	2024	2025
Contributions and grants	\$9,451,300	\$8,229,412
Program service revenue	-	-
Other revenue	\$691,786	\$1,068,827
Total revenue and support	\$10,143,086	\$9,298,239
Expenses		
Programs	\$6,470,551	\$7,855,687
Management and general	\$334,254	\$350,408
Fundraising	\$284,227	\$391,748
Total expenses	\$7,089,033	\$8,597,843
Change in net assets	\$3,054,053	\$700,396
Net assets - Beginning of year	\$17,295,415	\$20,349,468
Net assets - End of year	\$20,349,468	\$21,049,864
Assets		
Cash and investments	\$15,940,280	\$19,191,641
Contributions receivable	\$4,709,134	\$2,447,572
Fixed assets	-	-
Prepaid expense	\$35,050	\$44,963
Total assets	\$20,684,464	\$21,684,176
Liabilities	\$334,995	\$634,312
Net assets	\$20,349,469	\$21,049,864
Total liabilities and net assets	\$20,684,464	\$21,684,176

Expenditure overview





Financials

Donors and Supporters

Thank you for your support in 2025!

\$100,000+

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\$250 - \$999

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