

Charity registration number 1028947

RAINFOREST CONCERN
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

RAINFOREST CONCERN

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Trustees | A Pulido Cruz M C B Syed M Van Nieuwenhuysse O Walley M Gardner N Page S Schutt |
| Charity number | 1028947 |
| Principal address | 66 Great Pulteney Street Bath BA2 4DL |
| Auditor | Begbies 9 Bonhill Street London EC2A 4DJ |
| Bankers | Barclays Plc Epsom Branch PO Box 96 82-84 High Street Epsom Surrey TK19 8BH Tridos Bank Deanery Road Bristol BS1 5AS |
| Solicitors - Chile | Philippi Prietocarrizosa Ferro DU & Uria Av. El Golf 40 Piso 20 Santiago Chile |
| Solicitors - Ecuador | Bustamante Holguín Quito Ecuador |

RAINFOREST CONCERN

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RAINFOREST CONCERN

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2019). Rainforest Concern is a Charity registered with the Charity Commission under Registration Number 1028947.

| | |
|---|---|
| Trustees | A Pulido Cruz M Gardner M C B Syed M van Nieuwenhuysse O Whaley N Page S Schutt |
| Advisory board | Martin Gardner (RBG Edinburgh) Dr John Hemming CMG Professor Sir Ghilleain Prance FRS VMH Prof Antonio Lara Andrew Mitchell |
| Chief executive and honorary secretary | Peter J Bennett |
| Principal address | 66 Great Pulteney Street Bath BA2 4DL website: www.rainforestconcern.org |
| Auditor | Begbies 9 Bonhill Street London |
| Bankers | Barclays Plc Epsom Branch PO Box 96 82-84 High Street Epsom Surrey TK19 8BH |

RAINFOREST CONCERN

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Trustees and Organisational Structure

Rainforest Concern is a non-governmental, non-political, non-religious organisation constituted under a Trust Deed dated 15th November 1993. It is registered as a Charity with the Charity Commission.

The Trust Deed describes that there should not be less than three trustees, with no maximum number. New Trustees are appointed following formal interviews with the Trustees and the Honorary Secretary with the Board looking particularly for people with experience in conservation, scientific research and fund-raising initiatives.

The charity's Honorary Secretary is responsible for the day to day operation of the charity and manages the staff of the charity on behalf of the Trustees.

The charity has its principal office in Bath and a wide range of partner organisations with whom it delivers its programme. The principal partner organisations are as detailed in the activities, achievements and performance.

General purpose and approach

Rainforest Concern was established in 1993 for the purpose of:

- Protecting threatened natural habitats, the biodiversity they contain and the indigenous people who depend on them for their survival.
- Researching, monitoring and restoring ecosystems to ensure their long-term conservation.

Fundamental to Rainforest Concern's philosophy is the establishment of strong partnerships with conservation NGOs in the countries in which the charity operates. Sound local knowledge and regular communication is vital to success in the field. Over 25 years Rainforest Concern has been instrumental in helping protect over 2.2 million hectares of native forest ecosystems and the vast biodiversity they contain. It has worked with 21 partner organisations and 8 indigenous tribes in 12 different countries, Colombia, Ecuador, Brazil, Peru, Chile, Surinam, Costa Rica, Panama, Uganda, India, Sri Lanka and Romania. The Charity has over 2,000 members and is a member of IUCN.

The methods and activities for conservation include:

- Registration of ancestral indigenous territories and reserves.
- Creation of private reserves through land purchase.
- Support for smallholders and rural communities to gain land title, whilst helping establish alternative incomes through conservation, habitat restoration and livelihood options.
- Providing environmental education for local communities and UK schools.
- Facilitating academic research and volunteer opportunities.

Rainforest Concern is not limited to the conservation of rainforest as described in the Charity's Trust Deed. Its principle guiding aim is protection of natural ecosystems with their dependent biodiversity and indigenous peoples. The charity aims to conserve strategically important critically endangered ecosystems (that often include rainforest). Ecosystems by nature are not separated and include a wide range of habitats across ecological gradients - inherent in watersheds, mountains, rivers and coast for example. The charity does not aim to protect single species unless they are 'flagship' species that facilitate the protection of habitat. Wherever possible the charity tries to help protect, restore and research to prevent fragmentation and degradation, striving for connectivity.

RAINFOREST CONCERN

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Decision making and operation

Rainforest Concern has a small team with only two full time staff. A small team allows us to dedicate the majority of our income directly to projects. This has allowed the charity to support conservation of significant areas of threatened ecosystems and indigenous land. Funding decisions are made with weekly meetings and constant dialogue with particularly active board of trustees. The charity is also strongly guided by the needs of partners and their adaptive management requirements whilst addressing emerging threats including logging, land invasion, mining and climate change. The trustees advise both on strategic conservation priorities and potential donors. If needed they are provided with conservation or project briefs produced by the staff. Trustees are selected for the expertise and experience that they can bring to bear, as they follow the activities and progress of the charity. They require little induction and are encouraged to work alongside and occasionally make trips to projects for capacity building. The charity seeks out local partnership with experienced teams and groups on the ground (near or adjacent to the ecosystem). The key partnership criteria are: local experience, science-based, social inclusion and the ability to work effectively without support. Over recent years the charity is seeking partnerships to develop more social and biological science based, conservation actions in light of rapid change. Staff pay and remuneration is proportional to responsibility operating in a flexible way, encouraging autonomy. The pay of the director and office manager are benchmarked against average pay levels in other comparable organisations. Volunteers and trustees can be remunerated for travel and subsistence expenses.

Specific objectives and activities

The Charity's objectives are to protect threatened natural habitats, the biodiversity they contain and the indigenous people who still depend on them for their survival. At present the charity has 15 conservation projects in 8 countries: Ecuador, Peru, Chile, Colombia, Brazil, Costa Rica, India and Romania. The Charity works closely with local conservation organisations in these countries to protect forests threatened natural habitats. The charity's current partners include:

ADEPT (Romania),

Carpathia Foundation (Romania),

Corporación Bosques de Zapallar (Chile),

FORECOS Foundation (Chile)

Universidad Austral de Valdivia (Chile)

DECOIN (Ecuador)

Los Cedros Reserve (Ecuador)

Funcion Cuencas de Limon (Costa Rica)

Reserva Urpiano (Costa Rica)

Jaguar Rescue Center (Costa Rica)

Fundacion Entropika (Colombia),

Fundacion TierrAmar (Colombia)

Fundación Gaia Amazonas (Colombia),

Gurukula Botanical Sanctuary (India),

Tribes Alive (Brazil)

Royal Botanic Gardens, Edinburgh (RBGE, UK)

RAINFOREST CONCERN

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

ANIA (Peru)

Central to Rainforest Concern's philosophy is the establishment of strong partnerships with local small yet dynamic organisations in the countries where it operates. Such long-term partnerships have repeatedly underpinned success of projects. Likewise, the charity seeks the guidance of scientists to identify research and conservation priorities and provide in-situ training.

The Charity's conservation work falls into four categories:

Conservation is central to our operations towards the protection and management of critically important ecosystems, including forested land and natural habitat to create protected reserves integrated to needs of local people. This sometimes includes the purchase of land, usually in the name of the local NGO, Rainforest Concern or the local community. The Charity places particular emphasis on the legal recognition of indigenous territory particularly in Colombia and Brazil. Particular emphasis is placed on the creation of forest corridors that connect existing protected areas thereby reducing fragmentation. This greatly assists the effectiveness of these reserves by enabling species to move freely from one to another. Reforestation or habitat restoration of degraded ecosystems (with native local provenance species) also falls into this category. The charity recognizes forest dynamics and biodiversity may require a degree of management, especially in the absence of large animals.

Programmes for alternative income generation, health and education are developed with the local communities living near the projects. These are designed to reduce the negative human impact on forests and ecosystems arising from firewood extraction and cattle ranching for example. Examples of these projects include sustainable small-scale horticulture (for example cultivation of shade grown coffee), forest products, production of handicrafts and responsible ecotourism.

Research, including ecological and biodiversity studies are encouraged. These can focus on baseline species inventory and mapping; species taxonomy and discovery; key species ecology and conservation science. European and national scientists as well as students from national and international universities have undertaken and continue to undertake research at several of our projects. Results are presented in the annual review, scientific papers and on the charity's website.

Campaigning is essential to give a voice to indigenous communities and scientists. The charity seeks to maximize collaboration and join forces to protect critically important ecosystems and indigenous peoples. This include supporting advocacy champions for areas and people otherwise ignored.

Ensuring success

The principle measure of success is the protection of threatened ecosystems; gauged by the size and strategic location of ecosystems, as well as biodiversity conservation 'value' (such as endemism or rarity of species/habitats). This is dependent on income raised, where donors require the charity to direct as much income as possible to tangible conservation outcomes. The charity's short-term aim is to delimit and protect; setting up reserves with the aim of stemming fragmentation and consolidating habits as functional landscape units in close collaboration and involvement of local people and government. The long-term aim is for ecosystem conservation to be culturally absorbed into local communities and policy, working to engage schools and regional administration for example. The charity is increasingly aware of the need to monitor reserves with mapping systems and closer dialogue with local communities, whilst the effects of climate change, plant pathogen, logging and human migration are on the increase.

Competitive grant making is not especially relevant as the charity seeks out strategic local partners that are already set-up to conserve, protect and restore land for both biodiversity and people. Grants do not require high levels of stipulated compliance and reporting. However, the charity recognises that in an environment of ever more legislative change around land protection, there is a greater need to ensure more detailed reporting and published research. The charity continues to use locally paid and pro-bono lawyers of high integrity to ensure that changes around land ownership and tax, are adjusted and adhered to for land purchase and management. No conservation land was purchased during the year.

RAINFOREST CONCERN

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Conservation work is undertaken either directly by the charity and their associates, or by supporting students locally with grant funding channeled through local NGO. Grants paid to projects in the year totaled £61,887 and work undertaken directly £187,465 in addition to land purchases.

The Trustees have considered the Charity's objects and activities during the year and believe that they have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Commission.

Voluntary help

The charity has well established volunteer programmes and benefited from numerous volunteers during the year. These include groups of gap year students as well as mature volunteers who work on projects that include tree planting, trail maintenance and data collection. The charity has not provided in the accounts for an estimate of the value given by volunteers as the work they undertake, does not fall within the SORP recommendation for the valuation of gifts in kind.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Ecuador

Neblina Reserve: The reserve was expanded with the purchase of 318 hectares of land with good forest cover. The majority of this was funded under a new partnership with Beyond ONE. The camera trap programme continued. The 2nd year of the PTES funded eagle programme. Funding from the Cobalt Trust helped facilitate baseline biodiversity research at the reserve and infrastructure creation. We also continued to support outreach projects and environmental education programmes.

Llurimagua: Rainforest Concern continued to successful support the long running legal appeal to protect the community cloud forests of Llurimagua from the copper mining with a win in the Provincial Court April, 2023.

Los Cedros Reserve: Rainforest Concern continued to support the reserve. Work continued on setting up new management structures, with the participation of local communities, as required by the Constitutional Court. Training for members of local communities as para ecologists, and forest wardens.

Chile

El Boldo: During 2023 we have continued to work with Patricio Pliscoff in his the Climate Refugia Study. This 4 year investigation aims to identify areas that can act as refugia from climate change for Chile's biodiversity. The study will use sensors to take measures of the forest conditions including temperature, humidity, and vegetation mapping. We are also continuing the camera trap study, which is the first one to be done in the area and collects data about the animal species living in the Zapallar forest corridor. During 2023 we have worked on a new master plan including all the properties of the corridor, this has been done also with the support of the Ibañez Atkinson Foundation. After the 2023 fires that affected the area, an extensive report was done by the institute of Ecology and Biodiversity.

Nasampulli: During 2023 maintenance work was done to the reserve's infrastructure: basic repairs to the road, cabin, trails and signs. 6 bridges were replaced in the main road, as well as the main gate. A small warehouse was built near the cabin and a barbed wired fence was installed in the main access to prevent cattle from entering the southern properties. During the summer the ranger was permanently stationed in the reserve and two students completed their internships assisting him on different tasks. Finally, ecological restoration activities have also taken place during 2023 such as collecting Araucaria Araucana seeds and planting them in selected areas. During February a small bird study (photos and registry) was done by Matías Cortés. The camera trap study with the 10 cameras provided by Nature Spy continued during 2023.

RAINFOREST CONCERN

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Costa Rica

Urpiano: The 2023 nesting season continued to be challenging with little civil authority presence on the beach and an increase in poachers because of the difficult economic situation. The team patrolled the 4.2 km beach daily during the season and saved 153 of 745 nests (145 nests saved, 2022). 10,508 eggs were protected at the nursery and 6,305 neonates were released to the sea. 14 traineeships awarded. Repairs were made to the facilities, although a huge storm destroyed the staff dormitories and another building.

Colombia

TierrAmar: 2023 saw the Colombian Ecosystem Awareness Project continue this time in southern Colombia focusing on six rural schools in different river basins and National Parks. Lessons delivered and field activities carried out, followed by final evaluations, June 2023. In one location a plant nursery was also built to grow food for the school.

Romania

Progress on Rainforest Concern / Planet Foundation grant of £153,750 to Fundatia ADEPT Transilvania for restoration of farm buildings in the Angofa Valley and of associated grasslands. Having met (and exceeded) the grassland conservation targets in 2022, the farmhouse restoration was completed in late 2023. All activities and expenditure under this grant have been completed.

More detailed information on these projects may be found on the Charity's website: rainforestconcern.org

Dissemination

Traffic to the website showed a considerable increase and we continued to receive favourable comments.

The charity continues to publish four monthly on-line newsletters. Typically, these shorter editions cover four projects. A paper edition of Rainforest Review will be published in the coming year.

There was increased activity of social media (Facebook, LinkedIn, X and Instagram). Instagram having 12,600 followers.

Schools programme

The charity decided to renew its UK school programme. During the year Helen Brown, a former RC administrator, started undertaking school talks in the Winchester and Bath areas.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

As shown in the Statement of Financial Activities, the Charity's income for 2021 showed a considerable increase over the previous year to £1,057,111 (2022: £602,225) Similarly expenditure made in the direct execution of the Charity's objectives of direct and grant funded activities decreased to £351,590 (2022: £398,223) excluding land purchases and fundraising costs.

In the pursuit of its objectives, Rainforest Concern buys land for conservation of rainforests and other threatened habitats and therefore holds title to forested land which is included in Assets. Land purchased in the current year was £352,217 (2022: £39,534). Support costs amounted to £105,031 (2022: £92,321), and are apportioned as shown in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Strategic purchases of rainforest land require considerable time and negotiation and transactions may take up to a year before the deeds are transferred. Funds held by solicitors on behalf of the charity at the year-end awaiting the transfer of title deeds totaled a further £27,575.

RAINFOREST CONCERN

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Since the charity operates to achieve high conservation impact with low overhead costs, it has not expended a high percentage of resources to monitor changes in protection status of vulnerable ecosystems. Our approach has been to seek and find experienced trustworthy in-country partners with necessary ecological monitoring capacities and deep local knowledge of socio-economic conditions. However, the charity monitors carefully the expenditure and legal compliance to ensure funds are used for the conservation outcomes for which they were raised. Our trustees realise that it is incumbent upon them to look for ways to build our capacity for science-based monitoring and risk assessment across the gamut. Most ecosystems and rural livelihoods are being affected by climate change, and the charity is increasingly aware of the need to assess and monitor: biodiversity, flood and fire risk, change to carbon stocks, impact of human migrant, amongst others.

The Charity's Trustees held an AGM on 4th December 2023.

Investment policy

The Trustees have the power to invest in such assets as they see fit. However, the charity's current policy is to keep any surplus liquid funds in short-term deposits which can be accessed readily. The charity would like to improve its interest rate return however this has proved difficult when funds are often required at short notice.

Risk management

The major risks to which Rainforest Concern is exposed are reviewed annually and systems have been established to mitigate those risks. Whenever possible this aspect is covered by insurance. As required the charity has Employers Liability Insurance. The charity ensures all partners, volunteers and employees are aware of the UK Bribery Act of 2010 and operate in a transparent fashion. The Trustees and staff are experienced in the countries in which the charity operates, as such partnerships are forged solely with known trustworthy organisations and individuals. All employees and volunteers are thoroughly briefed before working with overseas partners, insured before travel with immunisation updates and follow UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office travel advice. Funds are only transferred through international in-country bank branches. Land purchase funds are not transferred to the local partners/NGO's. Funds are handled by the charity's (often long-standing) legal representatives, and only transferred at the time of purchase. Management and project funds are transferred to partners in quarterly transfers and only through international banks. UK banking is low-risk and held in several accounts.

The charity is aware of the possibility of illegal land invasion or government expropriation, and in 25 years have not suffered in this way. The charity endeavours to reduce risk to conservation areas held or supported, by maintaining long-term dialogue with partners and an awareness to governmental policy change, instability and adjustments. As referred to, the key risk reduction strategy is to ensure that local people benefit from the establishment of conservation areas (and projects) with ecosystem services and resources. This also includes land ownership with government level land title registration and national support for conservation concessions.

Reserves policy

It is the policy of the Trustees to retain reserves equivalent to approximately one year's operating expenditure and to cover any committed grant funding for the forthcoming year. At the year end the reserves held by the charity totaled £2,568,933. Of the total reserves held £436,314 were restricted in their use and £2,132,619 are unrestricted.

Of the unrestricted funds £1,645,966 is invested in rainforest land and a further £1,964 in the charity's functional fixed assets such as office computers and so accordingly is not available to freely spend on the charity's day to day activities. These allocations leave £484,689 available for general charity use.

There were no committed grants at the charity's year end the operating expenditure in 2023 (expenditure excluding discretionary grants) totaled £417,279. The free reserves of the charity exceed this target figure and the trustees consider that the charity has sufficient reserves to be able to cover short-term income fluctuations and to carry out the plan for future action detailed in this report.

RAINFOREST CONCERN

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Grant making policy

The Trustees consider grant making an effective means of delivering aid using local partners. Local partners have access to facilities, expertise, staff or other resources, in the field and they may be better placed to deliver, speedily and effectively. The projects which the Charity chooses to support are recommended to us, in particular by our partner organisations

Plans for the future

The Charity will develop and support its existing projects whilst looking for and responding to new conservation priorities and opportunities in the coming year with funding sought for these purposes. The charity's website will be regularly updated on at least a monthly basis and with emphasis to provide an image-rich and educational website.

The Trustees are clear that short-term achievements are high and even exceptional when benchmarked against other conservation organisations of similar size. However due the rapidly developing global volatility around climate change, food supply and ecological population displacement, amongst other issues, they are also clear that the charity needs to develop a clear vision and strategy for long-term conservation outcomes, that include ensuring conservation benefits are enjoyed by local people. This requires the charity to look for additional research support, to demonstrate how ecosystem services sustain livelihoods and agriculture and wellbeing.

Fundraising

The charity does not contract with any commercial fundraising agencies. Accordingly, no member of the charity or agency acting on its behalf is a member of a fundraising regulatory body or bound by a regulatory standard, and the charity does not have regulatory procedures in place covering fundraising. No complaints have been received by the charity from its fundraising.

The charity only sends fundraising material and updates on the charity's work to individuals who have actively opted in to receive contact of this nature from the charity in order to protect the public from intrusion. We aim to protect vulnerable members of the public from persistent contact by ensuring that updates on the charity's activities are not too frequent, and are controlled at chief executive level.

Our approach to fundraising is that we never cold call members of the public as potential donors although we do reach out to corporate entities and charitable trusts. We reach the public through the production of our Rainforest Review and aim to raise funds by valuing long term relationships with our funders.

RAINFOREST CONCERN

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Auditor

In accordance with the company's articles, a resolution proposing that Begbies be reappointed as auditor of the company will be put at a General Meeting.

Disclosure of information to auditor

Each of the trustees has confirmed that there is no information of which they are aware which is relevant to the audit, but of which the auditor is unaware. They have further confirmed that they have taken appropriate steps to identify such relevant information and to establish that the auditor is aware of such information.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



N Page
Trustee

Dated: 17 July 2024

RAINFOREST CONCERN

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF RAINFOREST CONCERN

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Rainforest Concern (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 December 2023 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 December 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements* section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the trustees' report; or
 - sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
 - the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
 - we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.
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RAINFOREST CONCERN

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED) TO THE TRUSTEES OF RAINFOREST CONCERN

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Extent to which the audit was capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- Agreement of the financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation to assess compliance with those laws and regulations having an impact on the financial statements and disclosure requirements. In particular, Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice;
- Enquiries and confirmation of management and the trustees as to their identification of any non-compliance with laws or regulations, or any actual or potential claims;
- Review of minutes of the Board meeting during the period;
- incorporating unpredictability into the nature, timing and/or extent of testing.
- Evaluation of the selection and application of the accounting policies chosen by the charity.
- In relation to the risk of management override of internal controls, by undertaking procedures to review journal entries and evaluating whether there was evidence of bias that represented a risk of material misstatement due to fraud; and
- We assessed the susceptibility of the charity's financial statements to material misstatement, including how fraud might occur by considering the key risks impacting the financial statements.

Our audit procedures were designed to respond to risks of material misstatement in the financial statements, recognising that the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery, misrepresentations or through collusion.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures performed and the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we are to become aware of it.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

RAINFOREST CONCERN

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED) TO THE TRUSTEES OF RAINFOREST CONCERN

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Begbies

....18/07/24.....

**Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor**

9 Bonhill Street
London
EC2A 4DJ

Begbies is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

RAINFOREST CONCERN

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Current financial year

| | Notes | Unrestricted funds 2023 £ | Restricted funds 2023 £ | Total 2023 £ | Total 2022 £ |
|---|-------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Income from: | | | | | |
| Donations and legacies | 2 | 313,727 | 739,726 | 1,053,453 | 601,743 |
| Investments - interest | | 3,658 | - | 3,658 | 482 |
| Total income | | 317,385 | 739,726 | 1,057,111 | 602,225 |
| Expenditure on: | | | | | |
| Raising funds | 4 | 127,575 | - | 127,575 | 116,777 |
| Charitable activities | | | | | |
| Conservation | 5 | 92,263 | 259,327 | 351,590 | 398,223 |
| Total expenditure | | 219,838 | 259,327 | 479,165 | 515,000 |
| Net incoming resources before transfers | | 97,547 | 480,399 | 577,946 | 87,225 |
| Gross transfers between funds | | 352,217 | (352,217) | - | - |
| Net income for the year/ Net movement in funds | | 449,764 | 128,182 | 577,946 | 87,225 |
| Fund balances at 1 January 2023 | | 1,682,854 | 308,132 | 1,990,986 | 1,903,761 |
| Fund balances at 31 December 2023 | | 2,132,619 | 436,314 | 2,568,933 | 1,990,986 |

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

RAINFOREST CONCERN

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Prior financial year

| | | Unrestricted funds 2022 £ | Restricted funds 2022 £ | Total 2022 £ |
|--|-------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| | Notes | | | |
| Income from: | | | | |
| Donations and legacies | 2 | 252,247 | 349,496 | 601,743 |
| Investments - interest | | 482 | - | 482 |
| Total income | | <u>252,729</u> | <u>349,496</u> | <u>602,225</u> |
| Expenditure on: | | | | |
| Raising funds | 4 | 116,777 | - | 116,777 |
| Charitable activities | | | | |
| Conservation | 5 | 82,582 | 315,641 | 398,223 |
| Total expenditure | | <u>199,359</u> | <u>315,641</u> | <u>515,000</u> |
| Net incoming resources before transfers | | <u>53,370</u> | <u>33,855</u> | <u>87,225</u> |
| Gross transfers between funds | | 39,534 | (39,534) | - |
| Net movement in funds | | <u>92,904</u> | <u>(5,679)</u> | <u>87,225</u> |
| Fund balances at 1 January 2022 | | 1,589,950 | 313,811 | 1,903,761 |
| Fund balances at 31 December 2022 | | <u><u>1,682,854</u></u> | <u><u>308,132</u></u> | <u><u>1,990,986</u></u> |

RAINFOREST CONCERN

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

| | Notes | 2023 | | 2022 | |
|---|-------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| | | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Fixed assets | | | | | |
| Tangible assets | 12 | | 1,964 | | 2,097 |
| Land for conservation | 13 | | 1,645,966 | | 1,293,749 |
| | | | <u>1,647,930</u> | | <u>1,295,846</u> |
| Current assets | | | | | |
| Debtors | 14 | 259,896 | | 48,901 | |
| Cash at bank and in hand | | 672,266 | | 658,972 | |
| | | <u>932,162</u> | | <u>707,873</u> | |
| Creditors: amounts falling due within one year | 15 | <u>(11,159)</u> | | <u>(12,733)</u> | |
| Net current assets | | | <u>921,003</u> | | <u>695,140</u> |
| Total assets less current liabilities | | | <u>2,568,933</u> | | <u>1,990,986</u> |
| Income funds | | | | | |
| <u>Restricted funds</u> | 18 | | 436,314 | | 308,132 |
| <u>Unrestricted funds</u> | | | | | |
| Designated funds | 17 | 1,647,930 | | 1,295,846 | |
| General unrestricted funds | | 484,689 | | 387,008 | |
| | | | <u>2,132,619</u> | | <u>1,682,854</u> |
| | | | <u>2,568,933</u> | | <u>1,990,986</u> |

The accounts were approved by the Trustees on 17 July 2024



N Page

Trustee

RAINFOREST CONCERN

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

| | Notes | 2023 £ | £ | 2022 £ | £ |
|--|-------|-----------|----------------|-----------|----------------|
| Cash flows from operating activities | | | | | |
| Cash generated from operations | 23 | | 362,701 | | 88,434 |
| Investing activities | | | | | |
| Purchase of tangible fixed assets | | (849) | | (2,847) | |
| Purchase of land for conservation | | (352,217) | | (39,534) | |
| Interest received | | 3,658 | | 482 | |
| Net cash used in investing activities | | | (349,408) | | (41,899) |
| Net increase in cash and cash equivalents | | | 13,293 | | 46,535 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year | | | 658,972 | | 612,436 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of year | | | <u>672,266</u> | | <u>658,972</u> |

RAINFOREST CONCERN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Rainforest Concern is an unincorporated organisation constituted under a Trust Deed dated 15th November 1993. It is registered as a Charity with the Charity Commission.

1.1 Accounting convention

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Incoming resources

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on the earlier of receipt or when the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is probable.

1.5 Resources expended

All expenditure is included on an accruals basis and is recognised when there is a legal or constructive obligation to pay for expenditure.

Fundraising costs include those costs incurred in raising the profile of the charity and its work, and other expenses incurred in obtaining funding.

RAINFOREST CONCERN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

The charity has only one charitable activity which is conservation.

Direct project costs includes payments to maintain and preserve the charity's own conservation land, undertake other conservation activities and the costs visiting the charity's own and grant projects. Costs are recognised when incurred by the charity. Where costs, such as salaries, are incurred in part for direct activities and in part for support activities an estimate is made of time spent on each activity.

Grants to partner projects are recorded when the partner is informed that they will be receiving funding without further approval processes.

Governance costs are the costs associated with the governance arrangements of the charity.

Support costs are the general costs incurred in support of meeting the charity's objectives, fundraising and in monitoring and awarding grants. Support costs are allocated in proportion to office-based staff salaries for each activity.

All cost include any irrecoverable VAT.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| Fixtures, fittings & equipment | 20% straight line |
| Computers | 33% reducing balance |

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Land for conservation

Land for conservation is land acquired by the charity and is recognised at cost. The freehold land has not been depreciated as allowed by the SORP for assets with indefinite lives. The assets are reviewed annually for impairment

1.8 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.9 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand and deposits held at call with banks.

RAINFOREST CONCERN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.10 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.11 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.12 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

RAINFOREST CONCERN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

2 Donations and legacies

| | Unrestricted funds | | Restricted funds | | Total | |
|---------------------|--------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | 2023 | 2023 | 2023 | 2023 | 2022 | 2022 |
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Donations and gifts | 113,727 | 739,726 | 853,453 | 218,537 | 349,496 | 568,033 |
| Legacies receivable | 200,000 | - | 200,000 | 33,710 | - | 33,710 |
| | <u>313,727</u> | <u>739,726</u> | <u>1,053,453</u> | <u>252,247</u> | <u>349,496</u> | <u>601,743</u> |

RAINFOREST CONCERN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

3 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

Critical judgements

Carrying value of land for conservation

In accordance with FRS 102 the land for conservation is recorded at cost. The charity has not opted for a policy of revaluation with regards to the conservation land owned, but does review for impairment annually. Given the inherent difficulties in valuing such land, and so ensuring the land is not impaired, a level of judgement is required. In considering whether there has been an impairment the physical condition of the land is considered in addition to the continuing legal rights of ownership.

4 Raising funds

| | 2023 | 2022 |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| | £ | £ |
| <u>Fundraising and publicity</u> | | |
| Seeking donations, grants and legacies - share of governance costs | 4,333 | 4,333 |
| Fundraising and donor events | 1,979 | 1,980 |
| Fundraising agents | 18,999 | 17,390 |
| Advertising, website and newsletter | 3,460 | 3,166 |
| Staff costs | 44,787 | 42,952 |
| Support costs | 58,350 | 51,289 |
| | <u>127,575</u> | <u>116,777</u> |
| | | |
| For the year ended 31 December 2022 | | 116,777 |
| Fundraising and publicity | | <u>116,777</u> |

RAINFOREST CONCERN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

5 Charitable activities

| | Total 2023 £ | Total 2022 £ |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|
| Conservation | | |
| Activities undertaken directly | | |
| Staff costs | 35,829 | 34,362 |
| Consultants and freelance fees | 19,729 | 20,831 |
| Neblina Reserve Ecuador - management and support | 88,056 | 74,417 |
| Nasampulli Reserve Chile - management and support | 32,138 | 26,249 |
| | <u>175,752</u> | <u>155,859</u> |
| Grant funding of activities (see note 7) | 129,157 | 201,332 |
| Share of support costs (see note 10) | 43,214 | 37,565 |
| Share of governance costs (see note 10) | 3,467 | 3,467 |
| | <u>351,590</u> | <u>398,223</u> |
| Analysis by fund | | |
| Unrestricted funds | 92,263 | |
| Restricted funds | 259,327 | |
| | <u>351,590</u> | |
| For the year ended 31 December 2022 | | |
| Unrestricted funds | | 82,582 |
| Restricted funds | | <u>315,641</u> |
| | | <u>398,223</u> |

RAINFOREST CONCERN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

5 Charitable activities (Continued)

| Expenditure by activity | Direct £ | Support costs £ | Total 2023 £ |
|---|----------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Direct conservation costs | 55,558 | 8,506 | 64,064 |
| Neblina Reserve Ecuador - management and support | 88,056 | 13,481 | 101,537 |
| Nasampulli Reserve Chile - management and support | 32,138 | 4,920 | 37,058 |
| Grants to projects and partners | 129,157 | 19,774 | 148,931 |
| | <u>304,909</u> | <u>46,681</u> | <u>351,590</u> |
| | Direct £ | Support costs £ | Total 2022 £ |
| Direct conservation costs | 55,193 | 6,340 | 61,533 |
| Neblina Reserve Ecuador - management and support | 74,417 | 8,549 | 82,966 |
| Nasampulli Reserve Chile - management and support | 26,249 | 3,015 | 29,264 |
| Grants to projects and partners | 201,332 | 23,128 | 224,460 |
| | <u>357,191</u> | <u>41,032</u> | <u>398,223</u> |

Further details of projects by geographical area are contained in the Trustees' Report and note 18.

Support costs are allocated in proportion to expenditure on charitable activities.

6 Conservation

Conservation

Grant giving

The charity achieves its objects by awarding grants to partner projects to protect the rainforest and its inhabitants and purchase land for conservation purposes. Grants for conservation purposes and research are identified as grants in these accounts, regardless of whether the activity takes place on the charity's or third party land.

Activities undertaken directly by the charity

Where suitable partners cannot be found for land purchase the charity may purchase this in its own name. Costs for the maintenance and protection of this land along with monitoring this, and all partner projects, are recorded under activities undertaken directly, except when paid as grants to partners.

The allocations have been revised in these accounts to identify activities on the Chile and Ecuadorian reserves.

RAINFOREST CONCERN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

7 Grants payable

| | 2023 | 2022 |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Grants payable | | |
| Jaguar Rescue Centre - Costa Rica | 25,396 | - |
| Munnarakkunnu Trust - India | - | 9,100 |
| The Heart of Belize & Selvana - Belize | - | 15,490 |
| Los Cedros - Ecuador | 46,942 | 33,440 |
| Decoin - Ecuador | 17,925 | 7,008 |
| Fundatia Adept - Romania | - | 45,215 |
| Fundacion Tierramar - Colombia | 7,989 | 1,000 |
| Corporación Bosques de Zapallar - Chile | 8,950 | 8,631 |
| Urpiano Reserve - Costa Rica | 20,328 | 15,843 |
| Fundacion Cuencas de Limon - Costa Rica | - | 65,605 |
| Other - below £2,000 | 1,626 | - |
| | - | - |
| | <u>129,157</u> | <u>201,332</u> |

Conservation

The charity carries out its charitable objects through grants to third parties, its own research and conservation activities and by land purchases. Accordingly the level of each type of activity varies across years. During the year the charity had acquired title to land for conservation to the value of £352,217 (2022: £39,534) in addition to making the above payments for grants, and maintenance and research costs detailed in note 5.

The purchase of land for conservation is shown in the accounts as an addition to land for conservation assets, and funds held by third parties for future purchases are shown in other debtors. The cumulative total of land for conservation purchases and grants in 2023 was £481,374 (2022: £225,023).

Commitments

No grants included in the above figures were unpaid at the current or prior balance sheet date, subject to conditions yet to be met by the recipient.

8 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration from the charity during the year (2022:£0). No trustees visited the charity's projects and had their flights and other expenses paid by the charity in the current or previous year. One trustee claimed general travel expenses during the year of £227 (2022:£0). For other related party transactions please see note 21.

9 Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

RAINFOREST CONCERN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

10 Support costs

| | Support costs | Governance costs | 2023 | 2022 |
|--|---------------|------------------|----------------|---------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Staff costs | 34,719 | - | 34,719 | 33,134 |
| Depreciation | 982 | - | 982 | 1,049 |
| Consultancy, legal and professional fees | 9,753 | - | 9,753 | 7,238 |
| Rent, rates, utilities and service charges | 21,893 | - | 21,893 | 21,192 |
| General expenses | 28,234 | - | 28,234 | 20,378 |
| Bank charges and fees | 1,650 | - | 1,650 | 1,530 |
| Audit fees | - | 7,800 | 7,800 | 7,800 |
| | <u>97,231</u> | <u>7,800</u> | <u>105,031</u> | <u>92,321</u> |
| Analysed between | | | | |
| Fundraising | 54,017 | 4,333 | 58,350 | 51,289 |
| Charitable activities | 43,214 | 3,467 | 46,681 | 41,032 |
| | <u>97,231</u> | <u>7,800</u> | <u>105,031</u> | <u>92,321</u> |

Governance costs includes accrued and paid fees to the auditors of £6,500 excluding VAT (2022- £6,500 excluding VAT) for audit, bookkeeping and gift aid return fee.

Support costs have been allocated according to office-based staff wages.

RAINFOREST CONCERN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

11 Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

| 2023 Number | 2022 Number |
|----------------|----------------|
| 2 | 2 |

Employment costs

| | 2023 £ | 2022 £ |
|-----------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Wages and salaries | 106,250 | 101,156 |
| Social security costs | 7,221 | 7,374 |
| Other pension costs | 1,864 | 1,918 |
| | <u>115,335</u> | <u>110,448</u> |

The number of employees whose annual remuneration was £60,000 or more, not including employer's pension contributions, were:

| | 2023 Number | 2022 Number |
|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| £70,001-£80,000 | <u>1</u> | <u>1</u> |

Employers' pension contributions of £1,210 were made in total for the higher paid employee (2022: £1,321).

RAINFOREST CONCERN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

| 12 Tangible fixed assets | Fixtures, fittings & equipment £ | Computers £ | Total £ |
|------------------------------------|---|----------------|---------------|
| Cost | | | |
| At 1 January 2023 | 12,921 | 3,853 | 16,774 |
| Additions | - | 849 | 849 |
| At 31 December 2023 | <u>12,921</u> | <u>4,702</u> | <u>17,623</u> |
| Depreciation and impairment | | | |
| At 1 January 2023 | 12,921 | 1,756 | 14,677 |
| Depreciation charged in the year | - | 982 | 982 |
| At 31 December 2023 | <u>12,921</u> | <u>2,738</u> | <u>15,659</u> |
| Carrying amount | | | |
| At 31 December 2023 | <u>-</u> | <u>1,964</u> | <u>1,964</u> |
| At 31 December 2022 | <u>-</u> | <u>2,097</u> | <u>2,097</u> |

| 13 Land for Conservation | Land for conservation £ |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| At 1 January 2023 | 1,293,749 |
| Purchases of land for conservation | 352,217 |
| At 31 December 2023 | <u>1,645,966</u> |

Land for conservation assets are areas of rainforest land owned across Ecuador and Chile. The charity purchases areas of conservation land in its own name when it is not possible for land to be held by local partners. The land is held in support of Rainforest Concern's charitable objects and the charity works with local groups in its maintenance and protection.

Five year purchase summary of conservation land

| | 2023 £ | 2022 £ | 2021 £ | 2020 £ | 2019 £ |
|-----------|----------------|---------------|---------------|-----------|----------------|
| Purchases | <u>352,217</u> | <u>39,534</u> | <u>24,336</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>126,017</u> |

RAINFOREST CONCERN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

| 14 Debtors | 2023 £ | 2022 £ |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Amounts falling due within one year: | | |
| Other debtors | 256,135 | 45,417 |
| Prepayments and accrued income | 3,761 | 3,484 |
| | <u>259,896</u> | <u>48,901</u> |

Other debtors includes £27,575 (2022: £16,754) held by third parties for land purchases spanning the year end. No legal commitments were outstanding at either year end in respect of these transactions.

Other debtors also includes a £200,000 bequest to which the charity was entitled at the year end, but was not received until March 2024.

| 15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year | 2023 £ | 2022 £ |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| Other taxation and social security | 4,142 | 3,182 |
| Other creditors | 420 | 710 |
| Accruals and deferred income | 6,597 | 8,841 |
| | <u>11,159</u> | <u>12,733</u> |

16 Retirement benefit schemes

Defined contribution schemes

The charity operates defined contribution pension schemes for all qualifying employees under the automatic enrolment rules. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in independently administered funds.

The charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes was £1,864 (2022 - £1,918).

RAINFOREST CONCERN
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

18 Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

| | Balance at 1 January 2022 | | Movement in funds 2022 | | | Movement in funds 2023 | | | Balance at 31 December 2023 | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|
| | £ | £ | Incoming resources | Resources expended | Transfers | Balance at 1 January 2023 | Incoming resources | Resources expended | Transfers | £ |
| Ecuador Fund | 105,904 | 110,114 | 110,114 | (124,330) | (39,534) | 52,154 | 570,920 | (161,012) | (352,217) | 109,845 |
| Chile Fund | 25,000 | 20,000 | 20,000 | (39,058) | 19,058 | 25,000 | 2,225 | (42,407) | 40,182 | 25,000 |
| Carbon Forest Credits | - | 569 | 569 | - | - | 569 | 385 | (569) | - | 385 |
| India Fund | - | 9,430 | 9,430 | (9,100) | - | 330 | - | - | - | 330 |
| Costa Rica | 7,642 | 69,119 | 69,119 | (81,448) | 4,687 | - | 37,203 | (45,724) | 92,556 | 84,035 |
| Belize Fund | 39,503 | - | - | (15,490) | - | 24,013 | - | - | - | 24,013 |
| Rainforest Concern General Fund | 89,628 | 140,264 | 140,264 | - | (24,745) | 205,147 | 127,717 | (1,626) | (140,727) | 190,511 |
| Romania Fund | 46,134 | - | - | (45,215) | - | 919 | - | - | - | 919 |
| Colombia Fund | - | - | - | (1,000) | 1,000 | - | 1,275 | (7,989) | 7,989 | 1,275 |
| | <u>313,811</u> | <u>349,496</u> | <u>349,496</u> | <u>(315,641)</u> | <u>(39,534)</u> | <u>308,132</u> | <u>739,725</u> | <u>(259,327)</u> | <u>(352,217)</u> | <u>436,314</u> |

RAINFOREST CONCERN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

18 Restricted funds (Continued)

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Ecuador Fund | To fund three partner projects and land purchase across Ecuador |
| Chile Fund | To fund three partner projects and land purchase in Chile |
| Carbon Forest Credits | A carbon offsetting scheme for use with specified carbon offset approved programmes |
| India Fund | To fund a single project in India |
| Costa Rica Fund | To fund three projects in Costa Rica |
| Belize Fund | To fund a single project in Belize |
| Rainforest Concern General Fund | To fund rainforest conservation work undertaken by the charity from Sponsor an Acre funds |
| Romania Fund | To fund a single project in Romania |
| Brazil Fund | To fund a single project in Brazil |
| Colombia Fund | To fund a single project in Colombia |

Further details of all the projects are contained in the trustees report. Transfers between funds represent land purchases from restricted income or re-allocation of Sponsor an Acre funds which can be used for different geographical areas.

RAINFOREST CONCERN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

19 Analysis of net assets between funds

Fund balances at 31 December 2023 are represented by:

Tangible assets

Land for conservation

Current assets/(liabilities)

| | Unrestricted reserves 2023 | Designated reserves 2023 | Restricted reserves 2023 | Total 2023 | Unrestricted reserves 2022 | Designated reserves 2022 | Restricted reserves 2022 | Total 2022 |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Tangible assets | - | 1,964 | - | 1,964 | - | 2,097 | - | 2,097 |
| Land for conservation | - | 1,645,966 | - | 1,645,966 | - | 1,293,749 | - | 1,293,749 |
| Current assets/(liabilities) | 484,689 | - | 436,314 | 921,003 | 387,008 | - | 308,132 | 695,140 |
| | 484,689 | 1,647,930 | 436,314 | 2,568,933 | 387,008 | 1,295,846 | 308,132 | 1,990,986 |

RAINFOREST CONCERN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

20 Operating lease commitments

At the reporting end date the charity had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases for office space rented, which fall due as follows:

| | 2023 £ | 2022 £ |
|-----------------|-----------|-----------|
| Within one year | 3,400 | 3,100 |

21 Related party transactions

Remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration of key management personnel is as follows.

| | 2023 £ | 2022 £ |
|--|-----------|-----------|
| Aggregate compensation including employer's national insurance and pension | 89,573 | 85,905 |

Transactions with related parties

During the year the charity entered into the following transactions with related parties:

During the year key management personnel had an outstanding salary advance of £2,982 (2022: £2,982) which was repaid by the balance sheet date. During the 2021 year a staff loan was made for £25,000 which is being repaid in monthly instalments and carries an interest rate of 2%. The balance at the year end stood at £12,411 (2022: £17,340) and was repaid in full after the year end.

The donations for the year include £100,290 (2022: £125,991) from the Swiss Planet Foundation, an organisation of whose board the Chief Executive of Rainforest Concern is a president. The grants are given for specific projects, with £28,128 in Ecuador and £72,162 for activities and grants in Costa Rica (2022: £62,872 in Ecuador and £63,119 for activities and grants in Chile).

Total unrestricted donations from trustees and their connected parties were in aggregate £23,998 (2022: £75,621).

During the year under review, no trustee received payment or remuneration from the charity (2022: none).

RAINFOREST CONCERN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

22 Analysis of changes in net funds

The charity had no debt during the year.

| 23 Cash generated from operations | 2023 | 2022 |
|---|----------------|---------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Surplus for the year | 577,946 | 87,225 |
| Adjustments for: | | |
| Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities | (3,658) | (482) |
| Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets | 982 | 1,049 |
| Movements in working capital: | | |
| (Increase)/decrease in debtors | (210,995) | 11,052 |
| (Decrease) in creditors | (1,574) | (10,410) |
| Cash generated from operations | 362,701 | 88,434 |