Ecocide Law Alliance

Business Ambassador Network

Uniting business leaders to make the destruction of nature unlawful — because business depends on a living world.

May 2026

Mission:

You're part of something historic.
Welcome to the Ecocide Law Business Ambassador Network.

This is a collaboration between Stop Ecocide International and the Ecocide Law Alliance to engage business leaders in the international ecocide law conversation.

Stop Ecocide International works with governments and civil society to develop ecocide law at national, regional and international levels.

The Ecocide Law Alliance has a powerful mission for business leaders which is to make ecocide an international crime, prosecutable at the International Criminal Court.

Together, we're working to make mass environmental destruction a crime and your voice is one of the most powerful tools we have.

Mission :

Because existing law is not enough.

Current national legislation and international treaties are simply not equipped to protect the natural systems on which all life and all business depend.

A proposed amendment to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court would add ecocide as a fifth international crime, prosecutable at the ICC in The Hague. It would create a clear, fair, and enforceable global framework.

For business, the benefits are straightforward. Certainty, a level playing field, more resilient supply chains and the signal that sustainable business isn't just ethical, it's the only viable future, to name a few.



What Is Ecocide?
A word that now has the weight of law behind it.

Ecocide means severe and either widespread or long-term damage to the natural environment. Forests erased. Rivers poisoned. Ecosystems pushed past the point of recovery, for profit. And a strong majority agrees severe destruction of nature should be a crime.

According to a IPSOS global survey1, 72% of respondents support making it a criminal offence for government or leaders of large businesses to approve or permit actions which cause serious damage to nature and climate.

Ecocide was used to describe severe environmental harm as early as the 1960s. It is now a recognised word in many languages. The idea is no longer fringe. It's finding its place in the world.

But recognition isn't enough. What we're working towards is a change in societal consciousness and towards accountability. This matters for all of us.

People expect clear boundaries for what is acceptable, and they expect companies to be on the right side. Momentum is building. Public support is clear. The legal pathway is defined: make ecocide a crime enforced around the world, and by national courts as well as by the ICC.

The ambassador role.

As an Ecocide Law Business Ambassador, you are part of a growing global network of forward-looking business leaders who believe that protecting the planet and running a thriving business are not in conflict, they're actually inseparable.

Here's what that looks like in practice:

Tell your story. Share why you personally support ecocide law, in conversations, in content, in public appearances. Authentic voices move people more than policy papers ever will.

Spread the word. Engage your network. Invite others to learn more and to become Ambassadors themselves. The more business leaders who stand up, the stronger the signal to legislators.

Show up. Attend events, join webinars and stay connected to the Ecocide law movement

Stay consistent. Use the key messages and materials we provide to make sure your voice is clear and credible whenever you speak about ecocide law.

Spot opportunities. If you know of an event or publication where Stop Ecocide International or Ecocide Law Alliance might provide a speaker or a quote, let us know or, better still, propose us directly to the organiser, editor or journalist.

Ecocide means unlawful or wanton acts committed with knowledge that there is a substantial likelihood of severe and widespread or long-term damage to the environment.
www.ecocidelawalliance.org/definition/

Key messages:

1. Recognition
The criminalisation of ecocide within the Rome Statute signals that the international community considers the destruction of the environment to be one of the most serious crimes.

2. Prevention
The criminalisation of ecocide helps prevent the worst environmental harms before they happen by changing boardroom and political decision-making.

3. Justice and future generations
The criminalisation of ecocide opens opportunities for reparations to victims of ecocide and provides hope to the young generation.



Guidelines

What ecocide law does and what it does not do, to help you if there are questions.

WHAT IT DOES:

- It changes boardroom decision-making and due diligence by bringing in an element of personal responsibility for the effects of those decisions
- It changes consciousness, personal responsibility and behaviour.
- It invites companies to opt in and take a clear stand.
- It creates a company-to-company-to-consumer framework. Companies have the resources to impact supply chains. One company's procurement decision affect millions of products.

WHAT IT DOES NOT DO:

- It is not a protest
- It does not defame, point fingers or polarise
- It makes no claims about illegality
- It makes no calls to action against specific actors
- It makes no political endorsement
- It creates no timelines or ultimatums

Your support network

You're not doing this alone.
The Ecocide Law Alliance together with Stop Ecocide International is here to support you every step of the way. Here's what's available to you:

Key messages and talking points: so you always have the right words, whether you're speaking to a journalist, a board, or a dinner party.

Logo and brand assets: to display your support on your website, in your communications, and across your channels.

Media and content resources: available at **www.ecocidelawalliance.org** and **www.stopecocide.earth**

The global network — you're joining a community of business leaders across the world who share your conviction. Help us grow it.

Your contact: Reach us at **contact@ecocidelawalliance.org** or **business@stopecocide.earth**

Impact and proof points

April 2026 Democratic Republic of Congo (Financial Times)
In the Financial Times, the Environment Minister of the Democratic Republic of the Congo **calls for ecocide to be recognised as an international crime,** arguing that it would **shift corporate incentives away from destructive extraction and towards sustainable investment.**

December 2025 ICC Prosecutor policy shift
The International Criminal Court Office of the Prosecutor publishes a policy paper clarifying how existing law can be used to **prioritise environmental destruction cases**, placing ecological harm at the centre of international criminal law.

October 2025 IUCN global vote
The International Union for Conservation of Nature - the world's largest conservation body - votes overwhelmingly in favour of recognising ecocide, with **support from multiple state members.**

July 2025 ICJ advisory opinion on climate obligations
The International Court of Justice confirms that states have **binding legal obligations to prevent environmental harm and address climate change**, reinforcing the legal foundations underpinning ecocide law.

May 2025 Council of Europe Convention
The Council of Europe adopts a **Convention on the Protection of the Environment through Criminal Law**, criminalising severe environmental damage and aligning with ecocide-type thresholds.

September 2024 Pacific Island States bring ecocide to the ICC
Vanuatu, Fiji and Samoa **formally call for ecocide to be recognised** under the International Criminal Court framework.

March 2024 EU Environmental Crime Directive
European Council adopts new environmental crime directive including provision to criminalise cases **'comparable to ecocide'.**

February 2024 Belgium legislates on ecocide
Belgium becomes the **first European country** to incorporate ecocide-level offences into its criminal code, including provisions aligned with international crime frameworks.

November 2023 Nordic Council recommendation
The Nordic Council urges Nordic governments to engage in international discussions on **criminalising severe environmental harm in peacetime and wartime.**

September 2023 UN High Commissioner for Human Rights
At the UN Human Rights Council, Volker Türk welcomes growing discussion on recognising **ecocide as an international crime**, highlighting links between environmental harm and human rights.

July 2023 OSCE Parliamentary Assembly resolution
The Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe Parliamentary Assembly calls on participating States to **enshrine ecocide in national and international law**, linking environmental destruction to security risks.

October 2021 & October 2022 Investor community calls for ecocide law
The International Corporate Governance Network (ICGN), representing investors overseeing **$70+ trillion in assets**, calls on governments to work towards the criminalisation of ecocide.

Current ecocide bills (updated May 2026)

- Italy (2023)
- Brazil (2023)
- Mexico (2023)
- Netherlands (2023)
- Turkey (2023)
- Azerbaijan (2024)
- EU countries (except Ireland & Denmark) Environmental Crime Directive (2024)
- Peru (2024)
- Argentina (2025)
- Democratic Republic of the Congo (2025)
- Dominican Republic (2025)
- French Polynesia (2025)
- Ghana (2025)
- India (2025)
- Sweden (2025)
- Mexico (2025)

Reports

- Global Tipping Points December 2023
- Taskforce on Nature Markets August 2023
- Race to Zero Report October 2022
- https://exponentialroadmap.org/the-exponential-business-playbook/

Sources

Examples of supporting companies:





The law can change rules.
Leadership can change the future.

www.ecocidelawalliance.org