

Global Forest Coalition

Annual Report 2025



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Front cover photo: Climate march during COP31 mobilisations in Belém**.** *Global Forest Coalition*
Inside cover photo: Photo taken after GFC event at Casa das ONGs in Belém. *Global Forest Coalition*
Back cover photo: GFC event at COP31 People's Summit. *Global Forest Coalition*

Who we are

The Global Forest Coalition (GFC) is an international feminist coalition of Indigenous Peoples' Organisations, NGOs, and women's rights groups defending social justice and the rights of forest peoples in forest policies.

As of 31 December 2025, GFC had 134 members from 76 countries.

Board Members

- Dil Raj Khanal (Chairperson, FECOFUN, Nepal)
- Christine von Weizsaecker (Secretary, Ecoropa, Germany)
- Lucy Mulenkei (IIN, Kenya)

Regional Focal Points

- Diel Mouchire, Programme Intégré pour le Développement du peuple Pygmée (PIDP), Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) – Middle East & Africa
- Heather Lee, Global Justice Ecology Project (GJEP), USA – Europe & North America
- Andrey Laletin, Friends of the Siberian Forests, Russia – North & Central Asia & Eastern Europe
- Diego Oyarzo, Colectivo Vientosur, Chile – Latin America and the Caribbean

The GFC Team in 2025

Policy Director: Mary Louise Malig
Director of Operations and Finance: Vivien de Laak
Unsustainable Livestock Campaign Coordinator: Andrea Echeverri
ETI Campaign Coordinator: Kwami Kpondzo
Membership Development Coordinator: Andrey Laletin
Climate Justice and Forests Campaign Coordinator: Oli Munnion
Gender Justice and Forests Campaign Coordinator: Valentina Figuera Martínez
Senior Gender Advisor: Juana Vera Delgado
Senior Climate and Biodiversity Policy Advisor: Souparna Lahiri
Gender Justice and Forests Campaign Associate: Anne-Di Berdin
Climate campaigner: Jana Uemura
Strategic Communications Manager: Ismail Wolff
Public Relations and Media Manager: Megan Morrissey
Controller: Jeroen Berrens



Message from the Chair

Dear Members, Friends and Supporters,

The year 2025 marked an important milestone for the Global Forest Coalition as we celebrated twenty-five years of collective action in defence of forests, biodiversity, Indigenous Peoples' rights, gender justice and the communities whose lives and livelihoods are inseparable from healthy ecosystems.

Over the past quarter century, GFC has grown into a diverse global coalition of organisations, movements and community leaders united by a shared belief that lasting solutions to the climate and biodiversity crises must be rooted in justice, solidarity and respect for the rights and knowledge of Indigenous Peoples and local communities. While the challenges we face have evolved, our mission remains as relevant and as urgent today as it was when the coalition was founded.

The past year served as another reminder of the profound environmental and social crises confronting our world. Climate change continues to accelerate, biodiversity continues to decline at an alarming rate, and the rights of Indigenous Peoples, local communities and environmental defenders remain under increasing pressure. At the same time, we have seen growing efforts to present market-based mechanisms and technological fixes as solutions, while too often failing to address the underlying political, economic and social systems driving environmental destruction and inequality.

These challenges reinforce why GFC's work matters.

Across every region, our members continue to demonstrate that real solutions already exist. They are protecting forests and territories, strengthening community governance, advancing agroecology and food sovereignty, defending women's rights and leadership, resisting destructive extractive projects, and building alternatives that place people and nature before profit. Much of this work happens within local communities, often under difficult circumstances, yet together it forms the foundation of a global movement for environmental and social justice.

The role of GFC is to strengthen that movement—to create spaces for collaboration, mutual learning and solidarity, to amplify the voices of our members in regional and international policy spaces, and to help connect local struggles with global advocacy. Our strength does not lie in speaking for communities, but in standing alongside them and supporting their leadership.

Throughout 2025, this collective strength was evident across all of our campaigns. Whether challenging the financialisation of nature, promoting a just transition in food systems, advancing gender justice, or advocating for rights-based approaches to climate and biodiversity policy, our members continued to show that transformative change is possible when communities are empowered to shape their own futures.

As we reflect on the past twenty-five years, we also look to the future with determination. The challenges before us are significant, but so too is the resilience, knowledge and commitment of our members, partners and allies. The solidarity that defines this coalition gives me great confidence that, together, we can continue to build a world in which forests are protected, biodiversity flourishes, rights are respected and justice is at the heart of environmental action.

On behalf of the Board, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all of our members, staff, regional focal points, partners, allies and donors whose dedication and support make this work possible. I would also like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Mary Louise Malig for her years of leadership and service as Policy Director. As she stepped down in January 2026, we welcomed Ismail Wolff into the role, ensuring continuity in the coalition's leadership as we begin this next chapter in GFC's journey.

Thank you for your continued commitment, solidarity and belief in our shared mission.

In solidarity,

Dil Raj Khanal
Chairperson

1 Introduction

Since its founding in 2000, the Global Forest Coalition has worked to challenge the root causes of deforestation and forest degradation while advancing rights-based and ecosystem-centred approaches to forest governance. Over the last 25 years, GFC has grown into a global coalition that places Indigenous Peoples, local communities, women, youth, gender diverse people and grassroots movements at the centre of efforts to protect forests and biodiversity.

At the heart of GFC's work are its member organisations. Across forests, grasslands, wetlands and other ecosystems, members are defending territories, advancing agroecological food systems, challenging extractive industries and false solutions, supporting women's leadership, protecting biodiversity and advocating for climate justice. While many of these efforts take place independently of GFC-funded activities, the coalition provides an important space for mutual learning, solidarity, collective advocacy and international visibility. The achievements highlighted throughout this report therefore reflect not only the work of the Secretariat, but also the ongoing efforts and leadership of member organisations across the world.

The year 2025 was marked by deepening global crises. Climate change continued to intensify, biodiversity loss accelerated, and social inequalities widened. At the same time, political developments in many countries weakened environmental protections and reduced ambition for meaningful climate action, the worst example of this being the genocide in Gaza, which continued to unfold throughout the year, causing untold human suffering and vast environmental harm. Corporate influence within international policy spaces continued to expand, while market-based approaches and technological fixes gained increasing prominence within climate and biodiversity negotiations.

These trends were reflected in key international processes throughout the year. Despite growing scientific evidence of the urgency of action, climate negotiations continued to prioritise market mechanisms and private finance approaches over structural change and rights-based solutions. The continued expansion of carbon markets, biodiversity offsets, carbon dioxide removal technologies and other forms of nature commodification underscored



the need for stronger civil society resistance and more ambitious advocacy.

Against this backdrop, GFC continued to strengthen its role as a global platform connecting local realities with international policy debates. Through research, advocacy, communications, alliance-building and capacity strengthening, the coalition worked to expose false solutions and amplify alternatives rooted in community governance, Indigenous knowledge, gender justice, food sovereignty and ecological restoration.

A defining moment of the year was COP30 in Belém, Brazil, and the parallel civil society mobilisations, including the Peoples' Summit and People's Embassy for Forests. GFC members and allies from across Africa, Asia-Pacific, Latin America, North America and Europe came together to advocate for real solutions to the climate and biodiversity crises. Through side events, public mobilisations, press conferences and strategic alliances, the coalition helped ensure that the voices of frontline communities remained visible in global discussions.

Throughout 2025, GFC also continued to strengthen member engagement, expand alliances, produce influential research, and support advocacy campaigns addressing industrial livestock production, extractivism, climate finance, biodiversity governance and gender justice.

While challenges remain immense, the achievements of 2025 demonstrate the growing strength of a global movement committed to protecting forests, defending rights and advancing socially just and ecologically sound alternatives to environmental destruction.









2 2025 At a Glance

Celebrating 25 Years of Collective Action

In 2025, the Global Forest Coalition marked its 25th anniversary, celebrating a quarter century of defending forests, biodiversity, Indigenous Peoples' rights, gender justice, and community-led solutions. Since its founding in 2000, GFC has grown into a global coalition of more than 130 organisations working across over 70 countries to address the root causes of deforestation and environmental injustice.

Key Highlights from 2025

- Celebrated GFC's 25th anniversary, marking 25 years of collective action for forests, rights and environmental justice.
- Participated actively in COP30 and the Peoples' Summit in Belém, Brazil, helping amplify community-led alternatives to false climate solutions and strengthen collaboration across social movements, Indigenous Peoples' organisations and civil society networks.
- Strengthened international opposition to the proposed Tropical Forest Forever Facility (TFFF), helping build a global coalition calling for rights-based and gender-just approaches to forest protection and rejecting the financialisation of nature.
- Advanced the Just Food Transition Network as a growing international platform promoting equitable, humane and sustainable food systems rooted in agroecology, food sovereignty and environmental justice.
- Strengthened feminist organising and gender justice advocacy through trainings, movement-building initiatives and participation in the House of Resistance for Women and Gender Diverse People and the Ethical Tribunal in Defence of the Bodies and Territories of Women and Gender Diverse People.
- Produced influential research, policy analysis and advocacy materials addressing carbon markets, biodiversity offsets, industrial livestock production, extractivism, biomass energy and other false solutions to the climate and biodiversity crises.
- Delivered multilingual trainings, webinars and capacity-strengthening activities that supported members and allies across Africa, Asia-Pacific, Europe, Latin America and North America.
- Expanded collaboration through key international alliances and networks, including Demand Climate Justice, the HOME Alliance, the CBD Alliance, the CBD Women's Caucus, the Women and Gender Constituency, the Biomass Action
- Network, FOSPA, the Latin American and the Caribbean Platform for Climate Justice, the CRILS Network, the Stop EU-Mercosur Campaign and the Stop Financing Factory Farming Coalition.
- Continued to centre the voices and leadership of Indigenous Peoples, local communities, women, youth and environmental defenders in international climate, biodiversity and development policy processes.
- Undertook a leadership transition following the appointment of Ismail Wolff as Policy Director in January 2026, positioning the coalition for its next chapter of advocacy, movement-building and collective action.

Looking Ahead

As GFC enters its next twenty-five years, the coalition remains committed to challenging the root causes of deforestation and forest degradation, biodiversity loss and climate injustice while supporting community-led alternatives grounded in human rights, gender justice, food sovereignty and ecological integrity. Building on the achievements of 2025, GFC will continue strengthening member-led advocacy, expanding strategic alliances and amplifying the voices of frontline communities in global policy spaces.

3.1 Gender Justice and Forests

Understanding the influence of gender relations on forest governance remains central to achieving both forest protection and social justice. Throughout 2025, the Gender Justice and Forests Campaign continued to advance a feminist, intersectional approach to forest conservation, recognising that women in all their diversity, Indigenous Peoples, and gender-diverse communities are disproportionately affected by climate change, biodiversity loss and environmental degradation.

A major focus of the year was strengthening the capacities of GFC members and staff on gender justice and forest protection. Following priorities identified during the coalition's Members' Assembly in Cali, Colombia, the campaign co-facilitated a series of knowledge-sharing sessions exploring the links between forest degradation, patriarchal systems, climate change and territorial rights. These discussions laid the foundation for the development of a collective Gender Action Plan for the coalition.

The campaign also played a leading role in building alliances with feminist movements, grassroots organisations and social justice networks through active participation in the Peoples' Summit process leading up to COP30. One of the most significant achievements was the co-organisation of the House of Resistance for Women and Gender Diverse People, which created a powerful space for Indigenous, Afro-descendant, rural, trans and gender-diverse activists from across Latin America, Africa and the Middle East to exchange experiences and strengthen collective demands for climate justice, territorial rights and social transformation.



The campaign further co-organised the Ethical Tribunal in Defence of the Bodies and Territories of Women and Gender Diverse People, which highlighted the interconnected forms of violence experienced by women, Indigenous Peoples and marginalised communities under systems of extractivism, patriarchy and environmental destruction.

At COP30 and the Peoples' Summit, GFC worked closely with women's organisations, Indigenous Peoples' organisations and allies to ensure that gender justice remained central to discussions on climate and biodiversity policy. Campaign representatives participated in public mobilisations, advocacy events and strategic dialogues calling for rights-based, gender-responsive alternatives to false climate solutions and extractivist development models.

The Gender Justice and Forests Campaign also continued to support gender mainstreaming across GFC's wider programme work, ensuring that gender justice remained a cross-cutting priority rather than a standalone issue. Through research, advocacy and movement-building, the campaign reinforced the understanding that effective forest protection is inseparable from the advancement of gender equality, territorial rights and social justice.

3.2 Climate Justice and Forests

The Climate Justice and Forests Campaign continued to challenge false climate solutions and advocate for real, community-led responses to the climate crisis. Throughout 2025, the campaign worked closely with members, allies and social movements to expose the failures of carbon markets, REDD+, bioenergy, carbon dioxide removal technologies and other market-based approaches while advancing rights-based and gender-just alternatives.

The international climate policy context remained deeply challenging. The continued expansion of carbon markets under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, growing corporate influence within climate negotiations and insufficient climate finance commitments from developed countries reinforced the urgency of GFC's advocacy work.

Throughout the year, GFC maintained an active presence in major climate policy spaces, including the Bonn Climate Conference (SB62), COP30 in Belém, and numerous regional and international advocacy processes. Through side events, press conferences, webinars and policy dialogues, the campaign consistently amplified the perspectives of Indigenous Peoples, local communities, women and frontline defenders.

One of the campaign's most significant achievements was the continued development of the Real Solutions agenda. Building upon years of work exposing false solutions, GFC worked with members and allies to highlight practical alternatives rooted in Indigenous knowledge, community governance, ecosystem restoration, food sovereignty and social justice.

A major milestone was the publication of Forest Cover 70, From False Solutions to Transformative Change: How Communities are Overcoming Systemic Barriers to Climate Action. Developed with contributions from member groups across multiple regions, the report documented real-world examples of communities successfully advancing rights-based and gender-just climate solutions while overcoming structural barriers created by political and economic systems.



The campaign also intensified its work on specific false solutions. Research, advocacy and communications activities focused on carbon markets, large-scale bioenergy production, carbon dioxide removal technologies, geoengineering and climate-related financial mechanisms. New publications and briefings examined the impacts of these approaches on forests, biodiversity and local communities while providing evidence to support alternative pathways.

GFC continued to play an active role within major international alliances and networks, including Demand Climate Justice (DCJ), the HOME Alliance and the Biomass Action Network (BAN). These partnerships enabled the coalition to strengthen collective advocacy efforts and expand the reach of community-led perspectives within international policy discussions.

COP30 represented a particularly important moment for the campaign. GFC organised and contributed to numerous official side events, press conferences and Peoples' Summit activities focused on climate finance, non-market approaches, food systems transformation, gender-just climate solutions, geoengineering, biodiversity protection and forest governance. Through these activities, the coalition strengthened global opposition to false solutions while advancing practical alternatives grounded in human rights, social equity, gender justice and ecological integrity.

Despite increasingly difficult political conditions, the campaign helped expand international awareness of the risks posed by false climate solutions and strengthened momentum behind community-led, gender-just and rights-based approaches to climate action.



Celebrating 25 Years of the Global Forest Coalition

The year 2025 marked an important milestone for the Global Forest Coalition as we celebrated our 25th anniversary.

Founded in 2000, GFC emerged from a shared concern among Indigenous Peoples' organisations, civil society groups and environmental movements that forests were increasingly being treated as commodities rather than living ecosystems and homes for communities. Over the past quarter century, the coalition has grown into a diverse global network united by a commitment to rights-based, gender-just and community-led approaches to forest governance.



During these twenty-five years, GFC and its members have consistently challenged the structural drivers of deforestation, biodiversity loss and climate change. We have worked alongside Indigenous Peoples, local communities, women's organisations, youth movements and environmental defenders to advocate for policies that respect rights, strengthen community governance and protect biodiversity.

While the political and environmental landscape has changed significantly since 2000, many of the corechallenges remain. Corporate capture of environmental governance, extractivism, land grabbing, criminalisation of environmental defenders, unsustainable production and consumption patterns, and the promotion of market-based false solutions continue to threaten forests and forest-dependent communities around the world.

At the same time, the anniversary provided an opportunity to reflect on the strength and resilience of our movement. The solutions that GFC has championed for twenty-five years — community conservation, Indigenous leadership, agroecology, food sovereignty, gender justice and rights-based governance — are increasingly recognised as essential responses to the interconnected crises of climate change and biodiversity loss.

As we enter our next chapter, GFC remains committed to building a stronger, more diverse and more influential movement capable of transforming the systems that drive environmental destruction and social injustice.

3.3 Unsustainable Livestock Production

Industrial livestock production remains one of the leading drivers of deforestation, biodiversity loss, climate change and human rights violations. Throughout 2025, GFC's Unsustainable Livestock Campaign continued its work to expose these impacts while promoting equitable, humane and sustainable food systems based on agroecology, food sovereignty and community-led alternatives.

A major achievement during the year was the continued growth of the Just Food Transition Network (JFTN). Building upon years of advocacy and collaboration, the network emerged as an increasingly influential international platform connecting organisations, social movements, researchers, farmers and rights holders around a shared vision for transforming food systems. Through consultations involving more than 50 contributors and input from over 120 individuals from 35 countries, the network advanced a roadmap for transitioning away from industrial animal production toward just and sustainable food systems.

The campaign also prioritised capacity building among member groups. A significant initiative was the multilingual training programme "How to Follow the Money that Fuels Unsustainable Livestock," delivered in English, Spanish and French. These trainings strengthened the ability of member organisations to investigate financial flows supporting industrial livestock operations and to conduct evidence-based advocacy targeting public and private financiers.



The trainings led directly to the development of new case studies by member groups in Ecuador and Benin. These studies examined the environmental, social and economic impacts of industrial livestock and aquaculture financing, highlighting links between financial institutions, ecosystem destruction, land conflicts and community rights violations.

Research remained a central pillar of the campaign's work. New publications examined misleading narratives promoted by the industrial livestock sector, including carbon farming schemes, sustainable intensification claims and technological fixes presented as climate solutions. These studies demonstrated how many of these approaches fail to address the structural causes of environmental degradation while enabling continued expansion of industrial animal production.

The campaign also strengthened its engagement in international advocacy processes. Through partnerships with the Stop Financing Factory Farming Coalition, Demand Climate Justice and

numerous food sovereignty movements, GFC helped elevate concerns regarding industrial livestock production within climate, biodiversity and development policy discussions.

At COP30 and the Peoples' Summit, GFC organised and participated in events highlighting the urgent need for food systems transformation as part of climate action. Campaign representatives worked alongside farmers' organisations, Indigenous Peoples, women's groups and environmental justice movements to advocate for a just transition away from industrial animal agriculture and toward agroecological alternatives. As an active part of wider networks, GFC also released three briefings related to the nexus between the globalized food system, concentrated around unsustainable livestock and the climate crisis, and co-organized a protest at the entrance of the Agrizone, a privileged space for agribusiness.

The campaign's work throughout 2025 further demonstrated that food systems transformation is not only necessary for addressing climate change and biodiversity loss, but also for advancing social justice, public health, rural livelihoods and community resilience.



3.4 Extractive Industries, Tourism and Infrastructure

The Extractive Industries, Tourism and Infrastructure (ETI) Campaign continued to challenge the destructive impacts of extractive industries, large-scale infrastructure projects, mass tourism and the growing financialisation of nature. Throughout 2025, the campaign worked closely with communities, Indigenous Peoples, grassroots organisations and social movements to expose the social and environmental impacts of these industries while promoting community-led alternatives rooted in territorial rights, gender justice, biodiversity protection and climate justice.

A major focus of the campaign during the year, in close coordination with the Climate Justice campaign, was opposition to the proposed Tropical Forest Forever Facility (TFFF), a financing mechanism widely promoted ahead of COP30 as a solution for tropical forest conservation. While many governments and institutions welcomed the proposal, GFC and its allies raised serious concerns regarding its underlying reliance on the commodification and financialisation of forests and nature.

The ETI Campaign coordinated a growing international coalition of organisations from Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America to critically analyse and challenge the TFFF. Through webinars, regional consultations, in-person meetings and policy briefings, the campaign strengthened understanding among members and allies regarding the risks posed by the initiative. Capacity-building activities included a global webinar in May, a multi-regional strategy meeting in São Paulo, regional trainings for African organisations, and a dedicated workshop in Indonesia with WALHI and allied organisations.

The campaign's advocacy reached new levels during COP30 and the Peoples' Summit in Belém, Brazil. GFC helped coordinate a broad civil society response to the TFFF and published the first critical assessments of the initiative, highlighting concerns around accountability, forest governance, Indigenous Peoples' rights and the role of financial





markets in conservation policy. Together with allies, GFC helped launch the international declaration "No to TFFF, Yes to Life," which was endorsed by more than 200 organisations worldwide.

The ETI Campaign also continued its broader work addressing extractivism and corporate impunity. Throughout the year, campaign representatives collaborated with social movements, environmental justice organisations and Indigenous Peoples' organisations to strengthen resistance to mining, fossil fuel extraction, monoculture plantations and destructive infrastructure projects. Particular attention was paid to the impacts of these projects on women, Indigenous Peoples and local communities, who continue to bear a disproportionate share of environmental and social harms.

In addition to its advocacy work, the campaign contributed to broader discussions on just transitions, climate justice and territorial sovereignty through active participation in the Peoples' Summit process. GFC staff played an important role in shaping discussions within the Summit, helping to ensure that opposition to false solutions and support for community-led alternatives featured prominently within civil society mobilisation efforts.

As governments and corporations increasingly promote market-based approaches to conservation and climate action, the ETI Campaign remains committed to exposing the structural drivers of environmental destruction while supporting rights-based, community-centred alternatives.

4 Quality Management and Planning

Throughout 2025, GFC continued to strengthen its organisational systems, governance structures, member engagement and strategic planning processes.

A key priority remained strengthening participation and leadership among member groups across all regions. Through webinars, consultations, trainings, assemblies and working groups, GFC facilitated greater engagement among members while supporting collective learning and strategy development. Particular emphasis was placed on ensuring meaningful participation by Indigenous Peoples, women, youth and grassroots organisations.

Capacity strengthening remained central to this work. Across all campaigns, GFC organised a wide range of webinars, workshops, consultations and training programmes that enhanced members' understanding of climate and biodiversity policy processes, financing mechanisms, gender justice, food systems, extractivism and false solutions. These activities helped strengthen members' advocacy capacities and foster greater collaboration across regions.

The coalition also continued investing in alliance-building. Throughout the year, GFC collaborated closely with numerous international networks and movements, including Demand Climate Justice, the HOME Alliance, the CBD Alliance, the CBD Women's Caucus, Women and Gender Constituency, the Biomass Action Network, the Stop Financing Factory Farming Coalition and many others. These partnerships expanded opportunities for collective advocacy and strengthened the influence of community-led perspectives in international policy spaces.



Communications remained an important component of GFC's work. Through newsletters, webinars, press conferences, policy briefings, social media, podcasts and media engagement, the coalition continued to amplify frontline voices and strengthen public awareness of the interconnected crises of climate change, biodiversity loss and social injustice.

At the same time, the organisation faced significant challenges. The global political environment became increasingly difficult, with growing support for false solutions, shrinking civic space in some countries, and mounting threats against environmental and human rights defenders. Many member organisations also faced funding constraints and increasing pressure on their capacity.

Despite these challenges, GFC continued to demonstrate resilience, adaptability and strong accountability. Regular monitoring, collaborative planning processes and close coordination with members and partners ensured that the coalition remained responsive to rapidly changing political circumstances while maintaining focus on its strategic objectives.

As GFC celebrated its 25th anniversary, the coalition also underwent an important leadership transition. In January 2026, Mary Louise Malig stepped down from her role as Policy Director after years of dedicated



service to the organisation and the broader climate justice movement.

Following a transition process led by the Board, Ismail Wolff was appointed as the new Policy Director. Ismail joined GFC in 2022 as Strategic Communications Manager and has since played a key role in strengthening the coalition's advocacy, communications and movement-building work.

With more than seventeen years of experience across international NGOs, grassroots movements and advocacy networks, Ismail brings extensive expertise in human rights, environmental justice, coalition-building and organisational leadership. His work has focused on connecting policy advocacy with grassroots action, strengthening collaboration across regions, and supporting community-led approaches to social and environmental change.

The transition reflects GFC's commitment to organisational continuity, shared leadership and long-term institutional strengthening. By combining new leadership with the coalition's established values and strategic direction, GFC is well-positioned to continue supporting members and advancing its mission in the years ahead.

Challenges and Lessons Learned

While 2025 was a year of significant achievements, it was also marked by considerable challenges. Globally, shrinking civic space, increasing political polarisation and the growing influence of corporate interests within climate and biodiversity policy processes created an increasingly difficult environment for civil society advocacy. The continued promotion of carbon markets, biodiversity offsets, geoengineering and other market-based approaches required substantial investment of time and resources to ensure that community-led perspectives remained visible within international debates.

Many GFC member organisations also operated in contexts characterised by growing threats to environmental defenders and human rights activists. In some cases, research activities and field investigations had to be delayed, adapted or conducted under heightened security precautions due to risks faced by researchers, community leaders and environmental defenders. These challenges underscored the increasingly difficult conditions under which many of our members work.

The coalition also continued to face a challenging funding environment, with increased competition for resources across the civil society sector. At the same time, growing demand for support from communities and partners placed additional pressure on organisational capacities.

Despite these obstacles, several important lessons emerged. The value of strong alliances and movement-building was repeatedly demonstrated, particularly in relation to international advocacy around climate and biodiversity policy. Continued investment in member engagement, capacity strengthening and cross-regional collaboration also proved critical to maintaining momentum and achieving collective impact.

The year reinforced the importance of flexibility, adaptability and solidarity in responding to rapidly changing political circumstances. It also highlighted the need to continue investing in the safety, wellbeing and long-term sustainability of the individuals and organisations at the forefront of environmental and social justice struggles.

5 Conclusion

The year 2025 demonstrated both the scale of the challenges confronting forests and forest-dependent peoples and the growing strength of the movements working to address them.

Across all its campaigns, GFC continued to challenge the root causes of deforestation, biodiversity loss and climate change while supporting alternatives grounded in human rights, gender justice, Indigenous knowledge, food sovereignty and community governance.

From strengthening feminist organising and advancing gender justice, to challenging extractivism and false climate solutions, to promoting food systems transformation and defending community rights, the coalition worked alongside its members and allies to advance a shared vision of ecological integrity and social justice.

COP30 and the Peoples' Summit in Belém served as powerful reminders that transformative change is possible when communities, social movements and civil society organisations work together across regions and sectors. Throughout the year, GFC helped strengthen these connections, expand collective advocacy and amplify the voices of those most affected by environmental destruction.

As the coalition moves beyond its twenty-fifth anniversary, the challenges ahead remain immense. Yet the growing strength of community-led movements, the resilience of Indigenous Peoples and local communities, and the determination of women, youth and frontline defenders continue to provide hope and direction.

The Global Forest Coalition remains committed to building a future in which forests are protected, rights are respected, biodiversity flourishes and communities are empowered to determine their own futures.

Together, we will continue to challenge false solutions, confront environmental injustice and advance the real gender-responsive solutions needed for a just and sustainable world.



6 Financial Summary Report

Grants	2025 (€)	Budget (€)	2024 (€)
Green Livelihoods Alliance through WECF: contribution to Forests for a Just Future program and Gender Justice campaign	385709	395600	363513
Swedish Society for Nature Conservation: core funding	97217	53480	69631
Bread for the World: raising awareness and demystifying false climate solutions and their impacts	54440	51120	45879
Misereor: contribution to campaigns against unsustainable livestock farming	32118	29960	25202
Grassroots International: contribution to debunk REDD+ as a solution to deforestation and climate change	12010	22367	22804
Tiny Beam (Brighter Green): study false solutions and financial flows of industrial livestock production	16885	19826	0
American Jewish World Service: core funding	27977	25234	21760
Friends of the earth: support the Stop Financing Factory Farming campaign	8883	10492	15481
Environmnetal Paper Network: contribution to climate campaign and biomass working groups	15024	4958	12184
Action Aid: contribution to collaboration with the Climate Land Ambition and Rights Alliance	9368	9419	6457
Indigenous Information Network: contribution to Tourism and Biocultural Community Rights project	0	0	4713
Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund: strengthening Conservation of Key Biodiversity Areas in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan	0	0	2855
Heinrich Böll Foundation: Support for Geoengineering Monitor and related work	29000	35000	0
CS Fund/Tides: redirecting Climate Finance away from False Climate Solutions	32630	36183	0
Private Donations	1698	0	12603
	722959	**693639**	**603082**

Expenses	2025 (€)	Budget (€)	2024 (€)
Third party assignments	185798	299309	251434
Staff costs	221028	85165	99531
Travel expenses	70188	55940	50559
International workshops and events	0	0	168804
Publications and other communication	192143	209106	0
Administration costs	19510	21000	22572
Office costs	32594	23119	7682
	721261	**693639**	**600582**



People, Forests, Rights

Global Forest Coalition (GFC) is an international coalition of 134 NGOs and Indigenous Peoples' Organisations from 74 countries defending social justice and the rights of forest peoples in forest policies. We believe in forest conservation by and for people, and the sustainable co-existence of forest ecosystems, Indigenous Peoples and local communities as a way of protecting forests. We would like to express our gratitude to our members and all other institutions, donors, communities, groups and individuals that help us realise our campaign objectives.

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