



# partnering to protect biodiversity

human energy

wild files vol. 11



## situation

2016

Environmental impact assessments help us identify ways to avoid, reduce or offset potentially significant impacts.



To establish a "baseline"—a good understanding of pre-project conditions—a standardized methodology is needed to:

- identify the biodiversity in a potential project location
- inform impact assessment and identification of mitigation measures
- monitor performance during project construction and operations



conservation international

**2,000+ partners**  
in more than  
30 countries

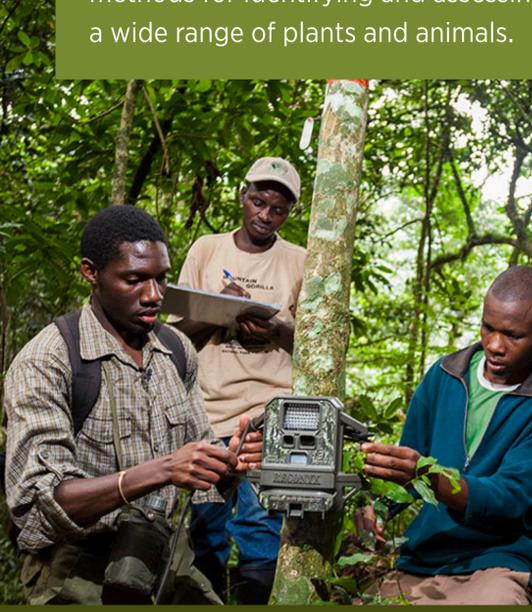
**1,200 protected areas**  
in 77 countries



## actions taken

We partnered with Conservation International (CI) to create a handbook for environmental field managers and professional biologists.

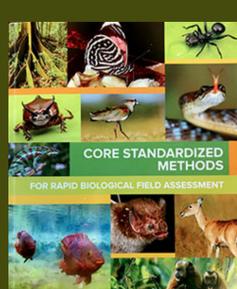
CI engaged multiple experts to develop a set of standardized methods for identifying and assessing a wide range of plants and animals.



These science-based methods can be conducted relatively rapidly and are adaptable to different environments.



## results



### core standardized methods for rapid biological field assessment

These methods were published for public use in 2016. They focus on tropical terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems, including:

- plants
- large mammals
- bats
- small rodents
- birds
- reptiles
- amphibians
- freshwater fish
- certain insects

### benefits of the field guide:

- enables biodiversity data comparisons to other locations using same methodology
- enables interpretation of how many species occur at a site
- provides population-level abundance beyond presence-absence determination
- enables better understanding of how biodiversity changes over time

Since 1991, CI's Rapid Assessment Program teams have conducted a variety of biodiversity surveys;

in more than **123** terrestrial, freshwater and marine environments



leading to the discovery of more than **1,500 new species**

and the protection of **20 million hectares** of land, marine and coastal areas



our actions were consistent with our goal to conserve biodiversity:

**we strive to avoid or reduce the potential for significant impacts on sensitive species, habitats and ecosystems**