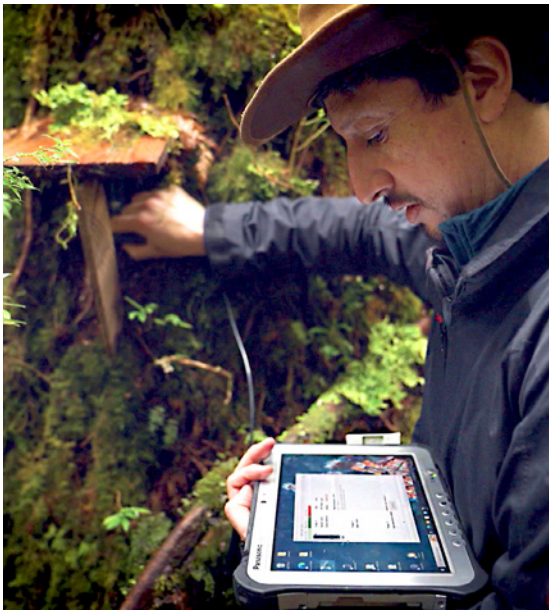




Protecting Nature

For these people, the environment is the key to survival: individuals, families and small organizations are tackling the consequences of climate change on their doorstep. And moving mountains in the process.

Their efforts usually begin on a small scale. Planting trees in Brazil, for example, to protect the rainforest. Or in Chile, where the life of an ancient tree takes precedence over the construction of a road. Sometimes, cases reach the International Court of Justice, such as one from Hawaii where the environment is closely intertwined with local cultural identity. And in Ecuador, where a court ultimately granted legal rights to a river.

For these campaigners, the natural world is not something to be taken for granted. It underpins their very existence, their livelihood and their way of life. Just as in Colombia, where fishers have realized that to continue their work, they have no choice but to fight corruption. Protecting Nature – people and their grassroots engagement for the global protection of our environment.

154984
Documentary,
05 x 15–30 min.,
2027, HD;
Arabic, English, Spanish

01 x 20 min.,
Portuguese

154984 001
Brazil: Planting Trees to Protect the Rainforest
Wigold Schaffer began planting a forest over 40 years ago. Today, his daughter, Carolina Schaffer, has taken over the project. Her organization Apremavi works with local farmers to protect the rainforest and the araucaria trees in the Mata Atlântica.

154984 002
Chile: Defending One of the World's Oldest Trees
Deep in Chile's ancient rainforest, a 5,000-year-old tree stands on the brink of destruction. Scientists and activists fight to stop a highway that threatens the fragile ecosystem. Will they succeed before it's too late?

154984 003
Ecuador: Legal Rights for a River?
An Ecuador court ruled that the Machángara River has legal rights – thanks to support from the indigenous population and scientists. A key question: Should nature be legally protected in the same way as humans?

154984 004
Hawaii: A Way Out of the Climate Crisis
Young Hawaiian women are fighting in court for their future – and to preserve their culture. Navahine and Kaliko are campaigning to tackle the consequences of climate change and to create a decarbonized transport system. It's clear just how closely the environment and cultural identity are intertwined in Hawaii.

154984 005
Colombia: Where Environmental Activists Fear for Their Lives
Yuli Velásquez is challenging powerful oil companies, corruption and violence in Colombia. Together with other fishers, she's fighting for clean rivers, justice – and for her own survival, both as a person and as a fisher. Giving up is not an option.



