# WORLD RANGER ACTION PLAN

A diverse and professionalized ranger workforce is recognised, valued, respected, and supported as guardians of protected and conserved areas by 2030



















#### **IRF**

The International Ranger Federation (IRF) was founded in 1992 and is a worldwide, non-profit membership-based organization, established to develop, advance, and promote the ranger profession. The IRF recognizes rangers and protected and conserved area workers, whether state, regional, communal, Indigenous, or private, as essential on-the-ground planetary health professionals that are responsible for safeguarding nature, cultural and historical heritage, and protecting the rights and well-being of present and future generations. The IRF is the standard-bearer for the ranger profession globally and the voice of ranger associations and rangers everywhere.

internationalrangers.org

#### **URSA**

The Universal Ranger Support Alliance (URSA) is a global coalition of conservation organisations building a network of well-supported, professional, and capable rangers, who can act effectively as custodians of the natural world. URSA advocates for the creation of inclusive and effective teams at the forefront of protecting nature, people, and the planet. URSA's priorities include representation, recognition, and resources for rangers around the world.

ursa4rangers.org

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## **Glossary and Abbreviations**

Code of Conduct (CoC): Institutionalized professional codes of conduct establish clear ethical standards and accountability which guide behavior, build trust and ensure consistent, responsible practices across the ranger profession. The IRF's Code of Conduct was developed with and for the ranger community with guidance from the UN High Commissioner on Human Rights. It provides a policy template with associated guidance for users to adapt, adopt and implement. For more information visit the IRF Code of Conduct.

Force For Nature App (FFN): The Force For Nature App is a mobile tool for assisting rangers, Ranger Associations and ranger employers with their critical work. It connects the global community of rangers on a platform where they can share stories, meet other rangers and share best practice. It also supports functional tools, learning materials and surveys aligned with the Rangers for 30x30 framework and the WRAP30.

High Ambition Coalition for Nature and People (HAC): The HAC is an intergovernmental group of 120 countries championing a global deal for nature and people that can halt the accelerating loss of species and protect vital ecosystems that are the source of our economic security.

Hyères Ranger Declaration: The declaration endorsed by 450 rangers and supporters from 88 countries who took part in the International Rangers Federation's (IRF) World Ranger Congress (WRC) in Hyères, France, from 7-11 October 2024.

Indigenous Peoples: As defined by IUCN follows the definition or "statement of coverage" contained in the International Labor Organization Convention (ILO) on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Independent Countries. Therefore, it includes: (1) peoples who identify themselves as "Indigenous"; (2) tribal peoples whose social, cultural and economic conditions distinguish them from other sections of the national community, and whose status is regulated wholly or partially by their own customs or traditions or by special laws or regulations; (3) traditional peoples not necessarily called Indigenous or tribal but who share the same characteristics of social, cultural and economic conditions that distinguish them from other sections of the national community, whose status is regulated wholly or partially by their own customs or traditions, and whose livelihoods are closely connected to ecosystems and their goods and services. The right to Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), as recognized by the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), has been developed specifically to protect the rights of Indigenous peoples.

International Ranger Federation (IRF): The worldwide, non-profit membership-based organization, established to develop, advance and promote the ranger profession. The IRF recognizes rangers and PCA workers whether state, regional, communal, indigenous or private, as essential on-the-ground planetary health professionals. Rangers are responsible for safeguarding nature and cultural and historical heritage and protecting the rights and wellbeing of present and future generations. The IRF is the standard bearer for the ranger profession globally and the voice of Ranger Associations and rangers.

www.internationalrangers.org

IRF Members: The IRF membership consists of over 220 Ranger Associations, organizations and associates, across seven regions.

IRF Partners: IRF partners include the Universal Ranger Support Alliance (URSA), the Thin Green Line Foundation (TGLF) and other conservation organizations that share the same vision of rangers.

Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KM-GBF): Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) adopted the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework in December 2022.

Local communities: in this context, this covers a vast array of individuals and groups ranging from those living in and relying on PCAs for their livelihoods, to local people using the area for recreation.

Protected and Conserved Areas (PCAs): Area-based conservation now encompasses two terms, protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs), as defined by IUCN, with PCA being the short-hand for these two terms.

Rangers: As defined by the IRF, rangers are individuals or groups of individuals that play a critical role in conservation. Rangers are responsible for safeguarding nature, cultural and historical heritage, and protecting the rights and wellbeing of present and future generations. As representatives of their authority, organization or community, they work, often for extended periods, in protected and conserved areas and wider land- and seascapes, whether state, regional, communal, Indigenous or private, in line with legal and institutional frameworks. The term ranger applies to any person regardless of title, including but not limited to wildlife warden, forest guard, forester, scout, watcher, game scout, marine ranger, park guard, and others working in conservation, with responsibilities for safeguarding nature, wildlife, biodiversity, landscapes and habitats, and for the preservation of cultural and historical heritage. To hear more about the diversity of rangers click here.

Ranger employers: Any organization that a ranger works for, whether government, an NGO, a community authority, or a private entity.

Rangers for 30x30 Framework: Target 3 of the Convention on Biological Diversity's Global Biodiversity Framework (KM-GBF), includes a requirement that at least 30 percent of the planet is equitably and effectively conserved and managed by 2030, this has become known colloquially as '30 by 30'. The IRF, URSA and other partners are calling for the KM-GBF to recognize rangers as essential planetary health professionals. The Rangers for 30x30 Framework (figure 1) outlines how this can be achieved, through a commitment by countries, agencies, managers, NGOs and donors to ensure that a diverse ranger workforce is able to deliver what has been agreed in a professional, responsible and accountable way.



Figure 1: The IRF's Rangers

SBSTTA: Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice of the CBD.

SDGs: Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations, with a deadline of 2030.

State of the Ranger report (SOTR): The objective of the State of the Ranger is to establish global indicators on the status of the ranger profession to track progress, guide decisions and investments, and catalyze change to enhance rangers' roles as essential planetary stewards. The baseline survey to develop the next SOTR was launched at the 2024 World Ranger Congress (WRC) in Hyères, France.

Thin Green Line Foundation (TGLF): A not-for-profit organisation that provides direct support to rangers so that they have the resources they need to protect wildlife and our natural world for the future.

Universal Ranger Support Alliance (URSA): A coalition of conservation organizations supporting and promoting the IRF to build a network of well-supported, professional, and capable rangers, who can act effectively as custodians of the natural world. We help them advocate for the creation of inclusive and effective teams at the forefront of protecting nature, people, and the planet. This time-bound support prioritizes recognition, resources and representation for rangers around the world.

World Commission on Environmental Law (WCEL): IUCN's network of environmental law expertise. WCEL advances environmental law around the globe by providing specialized knowledge and assistance to strengthen the legal foundations of the conservation of nature and sustainable development through the conceptual advancement of environmental principles, norms, and laws, and by building the capacity of communities to benefit from the environmental rule of law.

World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA): IUCN's network of PCA expertise, with over 2,800 members in 140 countries. Through these experts, WCPA provides scientific, technical and policy advice, and advocates for systems of marine, freshwater and terrestrial protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs) that result in positive outcomes for biodiversity conservation.

WEF: World Economic Forum

World Ranger Action Plan 2030 (WRAP30): The plan developed to turn the Hyères Ranger Declaration into implementable actions by the IRF, members and partners.

World Ranger Congress (WRC): The IRF World Ranger Congress is held every three years in a different location. The Congresses offer a platform for rangers to share knowledge, create partnerships and build capacity by exchanging ideas, techniques, best practices and conservation/management initiatives that have been tried and tested in conservation areas around the world. The main output from each IRF World Ranger Congress is an agreed declaration that all delegates commit to support post-Congress.

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Also, thanks to the 450 rangers and supporters from 88 countries who took part in the International Ranger Federation's World Ranger Congress in Hyères and endorsed the Hyères Ranger Declaration which forms the basis of the WRAP30.



## Message from the President of the International Ranger **Federation**

The Chitwan Declaration marked a pivotal moment in global conservation, laying the foundation for the first-ever World Ranger Action Plan. It was a bold step forward - one that recognized the essential role of rangers and began to chart a course for broader professionalization and greater support.

In 2024, the next declaration - the Hyères Declaration, emerged from the 10th International Ranger Federation (IRF) World Ranger Congress in France, capturing the collective voice and needs of rangers from around the world. It translates rangers' lived experiences, challenges, and aspirations into a renewed set of clear and actionable priorities.

Led by the IRF, this declaration sets the ranger sector on a transformative path - one that ensures rangers in the field can see and feel the direct impact of the high-level work undertaken by the IRF and its partners. It aims to bridge the gap between global policy and local reality, reinforcing the role of rangers as essential planetary health workers, safeguarding life on Earth.

I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to everyone who contributed to this vital document. The new World Ranger Action Plan will guide our collective efforts through to 2030, aligning with global biodiversity targets and ensuring that every step taken improves the lives and effectiveness of rangers worldwide.

However, in understanding that the IRF cannot implement all of these actions alone, we call on our partners, members, ranger stakeholders, and all those in a position to help - whether through policy, funding, or practical support - to take up these actions. Even contributing to just one initiative can make a meaningful difference. We must implement with urgency, if we are to achieve the desired change that is so critically needed.



Chris Galliers IRF President, September 2025

The WRAP30 is a shared commitment to building a safer, professional, and well-supported ranger workforce. In Asia, where rangers face the greatest risks and make the greatest sacrifices, this plan underscores our determination to safeguard them and to recognize the diverse roles they play as planetary health workers, roles that are critical to achieving ambitious biodiversity and climate commitments. Hamera Aisha, IRF Asia Representative

As African Regional Representative, I believe that the WRAP30 is crucial for protecting biodiversity and mitigating climate change, aligning with our mission to conserve nature and support sustainable livelihoods in Africa. Mohammed Dikko Bala, IRF Africa Representative

The WRAP brings life into the Hyères Declaration by enabling us all to take action to support rangers. Lars Scharfe, IRF Europe Representative

For Oceania's rangers, the WRAP30 turns the Hyères Declaration into meaningful actions across our islands and landscapes, guiding local associations and the region to lead change and shape conversations with employers, communities and partners. Amanda Dudgeon, IRF Oceania Representative

## Message from the Co-Chairs of Universal Ranger Support **Alliance**

The Universal Ranger Support Alliance (URSA) stands fully behind the World Ranger Action Plan (WRAP 203), a blueprint to ensure that rangers get the training, equipment, and recognition they urgently need. By supporting the International Ranger Federation through this plan, URSA will drive collective action for a fully professional ranger workforce able to protect ecosystems, people, and the climate.

Rangers remain critically under-resourced; many lack basic training, fair pay, and vital safety gear, despite their frontline responsibility in climate stability, water security, and nature-based solutions. The WRAP 2030 targets these gaps head-on, calling for radical investment so rangers can deliver more for nature and society.

URSA's role-through the WRAP 2030-is to mobilize global collaboration, build professional capacity, and connect rangers to conservation finance and policy opportunities they are too often excluded from. Rangers are not just implementers but key innovators and decision-makers: the WRAP 2030 strongly proposes that their voices be heard in conservation investment and policy design.

Collaboration remains URSA's foundation, and the WRAP 2030 cannot be achieved without it. By working together, we can empower rangers, secure ecosystems, and protect communities and economies for the future. The task is urgent and everyone's contribution is essential-because the world needs rangers, and rangers need our committed, united support.



Dr. Jamie McCallum



Dr. Rob Small Co-Chairs of URSA, September 2025

## Introduction

Rangers are the primary stewards of nature and cultural heritage, safeguarding these resources for future generations. Supporting their invaluable work is essential for protecting our planet's ecological and cultural treasures as vital contributors to planetary health.

This World Ranger Action Plan 2030 (WRAP30) is based on the inputs from 450 rangers and supporters from 88 countries who took part in the 10th International Ranger Federation's (IRF) World Ranger Congress (WRC) in Hyères, France, from 7-11 October 2024. It puts into action the Hyères Ranger Declaration, which was developed and endorsed by rangers at the congress. The WRAP30 articulates and actions this call from rangers to the IRF, IRF members and a diverse group of partners. The plan looks forward to 2030 and prioritizes actions to be completed by 2027 when the next WRC will be held in Argentina and the next State of the Ranger (SOTR) analysis will be conducted. The WRAP30 aims to inspire and coordinate partners across the world to deliver on the request from rangers in the Hyères Ranger Declaration.

The WRAP30 is ambitious. Whilst the previous Chitwan Action Plan developed by the Universal Ranger Support Alliance (URSA) following the WRC in Nepal in 2019 focused on developing a range of tools and guidance, the WRAP30 is more delivery oriented. It contributes to the long-term aim of shifting rangers out of the charity model and into the investment model, where conservation organizations, funders and national conservation bodies invest in rangers as essential planetary workers in the same way that nations invest in healthcare and police professionals. The WRAP30 assumes significant support, both financial and in-kind, from IRF members and partners within and beyond the conservation sector, to achieve the actions outlined in the plan.

As of June 2025, the IRF has 208 members, 136 of them being Ranger Associations, of which four are Regional Associations. Ensuring these members have the knowledge necessary to achieve the aims of the Hyères Ranger Declaration and Convention on Biological Diversity's Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (the CBD's KM-GBF) will only be possible if the tools and guidance developed by the IRF and URSA in recent years are institutionalized. The WRAP30 is thus focused on the actions outlined in the IRF's "Rangers for 30x30 Framework", which looks specifically at Target 3 of the KM-GBF.

#### The IRF's 2030 vision and goal

The IRF envisions by 2030, a world where rangers are recognized, valued, respected, and supported as essential planetary health workers (see box 1) working to protect our planet's natural and cultural heritage. Through shared commitment and collective action, the IRF seeks to build a future where a diverse ranger workforce has the conditions, capacity, and resources to carry out their vital work in a safe and supportive environment.

To achieve this vision, the IRF's goal is that by 2030, there is a framework of ranger advancement and professionalization; ranger networks and learning; and organizational sustainability and capacity, being utilized and applied to drive the ranger profession forward.



#### Box 1: Ranger: essential planetary health workers

Rangers play a critical role in conservation; they are essential planetary health workers that are responsible for safeguarding nature, and cultural and historical heritage, and protecting the rights and well-being of present and future generations. As representatives of their authority, organization or community, they work, often for extended periods, in PCAs and wider land- and seascapes, whether state, regional, communal, Indigenous, or private, in line with legal and institutional frameworks. They should be dedicated and knowledgeable and should always act in a professional manner.

The result is a world where rangers, as professionals, work in close collaboration with governments, local communities, Indigenous peoples, and other stakeholders in an accountable manner, to safeguard our heritage for society and future generations. The IRF aims to lead this vision through strategic planning, directing and coordinating the conservation community and its donors to implement and fund its underpinning actions.

## What is the WRAP30?

The WRAP30 is organized around five key themes outlined in figure 2, containing 107 actions.



Figure 2: The five themes of the WRAP30

Each theme (figure 2) contains objectives linked to achieving the ambitions of rangers outlined in the Hyères Ranger Declaration, and then a set of actions to implement these objectives. The first theme aims to elevate international and national recognition of rangers as essential planetary workers. The second, and by far the theme with most actions, is focused around the Rangers for 30x30 Framework (see figure 1) which focuses on ranger working conditions, competences and conduct. The third promotes inclusivity in the ranger workforce and the fourth theme aims to strengthen ranger representation and voice in global biodiversity, climate and sustainable development funding and agendas. The fifth, and final theme focuses on enhancing the IRF and partners' collaborative capacity to deliver this WRAP30.

As well as these five overarching themes, many of the WRAP30 actions fall under a communications or monitoring workstream. These are identified throughout the WRAP30 below.

#### Why do we need a Ranger Action Plan?

The CBD's global conservation targets cannot be achieved without an adequate area-based conservation workforce. Despite their critical role, many rangers lack access to basic equipment, training, adequate numbers and safeguards needed to perform their duties effectively and safely. The IRF's State of the Ranger Report 2024 (Volume 1) highlights the challenges faced (see figure 3) and sets a baseline for assessing progress to ensure all rangers are valued and regulated professionals with appropriate safeguards, policies and due diligence in place to ensure their essential role in supporting effectively and equitably managed conservation and sustainable development projects.

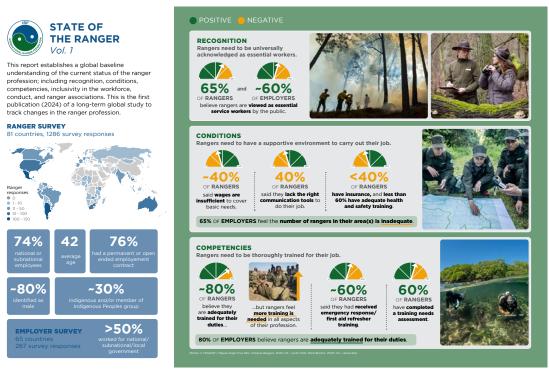
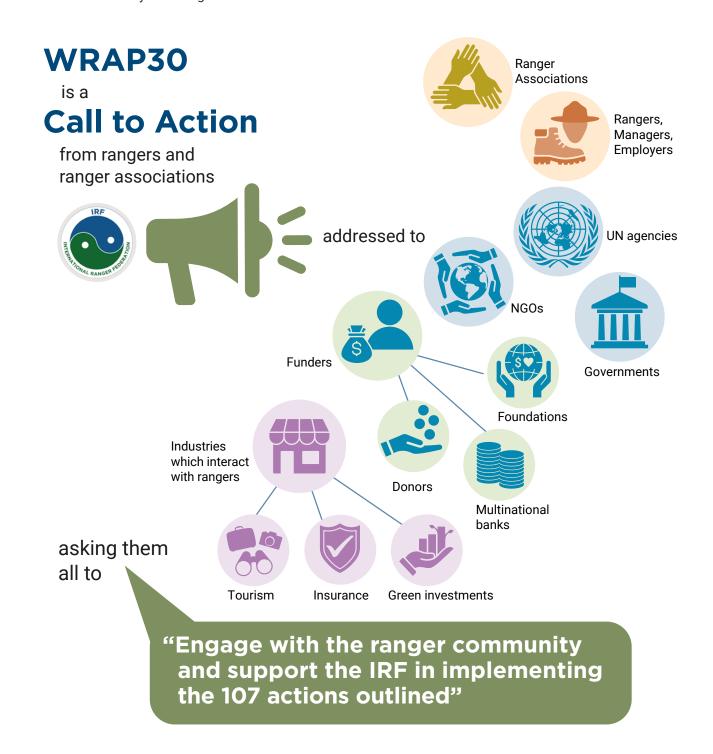




Figure 3: Summary of findings from the IRF's State of the Ranger Report 2024

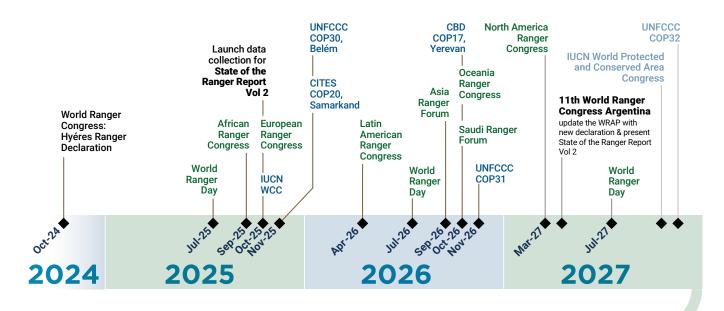
## The WRAP30: A Call to Action

The IRF with support from URSA and partners has made major progress in providing tools and resources to rangers, Ranger Associations, employers and funders around the world. The call now is for these tools to be fully implemented, lessons shared, and good practices ensured. There is, however, more work to fulfill the wishes of rangers outlined in the Hyères Ranger Declaration.



## The WRAP30 Timeline

The WRAP30 focuses on two distinct milestones, the next WRC in 2027 and the target date of 2030 of the KM-GBF. The 2027 WRC will produce a new declaration that will update the WRAP30. Figure 4 summarizes both key ranger and international conservation events building up to 2030 which provide a focus for reporting on implementation and impact of the WRAP30.



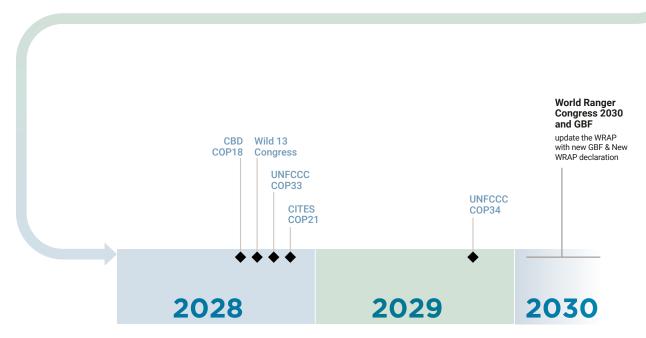


Figure 4: Development and implementation timeline for the WRAP30

- Ranger focused event
- Broader participation
- Events that directly influence future WRAPs

## **Developing the WRAP30**

The WRAP30 was developed by an initial review of the Hyères Ranger Declaration and the previous Chitwan Action Plan and its implementation. Unlike the Chitwan Action Plan, which was developed by URSA for the IRF, this plan is developed by the IRF with strong input and guidance from URSA.

Following the initial research phase, the action plan was refined and developed through ten online consultation workshops interviewing 31 people: four IRF Regional Representatives, three regional Ranger Associations, five URSA partners, ten URSA members, seven donors and multilaterals and four IUCN WCPA vice-chairs. These people also represented a wide range of organizations: the IRF, URSA, Game Rangers Association of Africa (GRAA), the European Ranger Federation (ERF), Chengeta Wildlife, Aaranyak, Akashinga, Wildlife Trust of India, LEAD Ranger, Panthera, Zoological Society of London (ZSL), Force For Nature, Re:wild, Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), Conservation International (CI), Fauna and Flora, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), IUCN WCPA, The Royal Foundation, UK Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), the High Ambition Coalition (HAC), International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) and Synchronicity Earth.

## **Navigating the WRAP30**

Throughout the action plan each WRAP30 Objective and corresponding Actions are displayed in a box format. The box formats provide information on: implementors, workstreams, audiences, as well as information on timescale (pre-2027 or between 2027-2030) - see Key to reading the WRAP30 below.

## **Key to reading the WRAP30**

Implementers:

**Organizations and** groups invited to collaborate in implementation in addition to IRF and URSA

Key: Symbols of intended audiences







Rangers, Managers, Employers



Associations

#### Specific objective and actions within this policy area

Objective #.#.

Detailed description of desired outcome

**Actions** 

#.#.#. Specific actions to bring about the objective or desired outcome Actions in **bold** = to be completed before the 2027 WRC Actions in purple = part of a communications workstream

Actions in green = part of a monitoring workstream



## **Action Plans**

#### 1. Role Recognition

Goal: the IRF and partners continue to elevate international and national recognition of rangers as essential planetary workers.







## International and national recognition of the ranger profession

#### **Objective 1.1**

Adequate recognition of the ranger profession within the International Labour Organization (ILO) and other labor organizations' standards (e.g., UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights) is secured.

#### **Actions**

- 1.1.1. Work with labor law experts to create a workable and realistic pathway to ranger recognition.
- 1.1.2. Provide guidance and good practice examples on the recognition of the ranger profession at the national and international levels.
- 1.1.3. Create a charter of ranger labor rights for endorsement by international organizations, ranger employers and governments.









#### **IUCN WCPA/ WCEL Labor law experts**









#### Rangers' rights in revised/new conservation laws

#### Objective 1.2

National legal frameworks recognize the ranger profession and ranger rights in line with international human rights norms and standards, ensuring rangers are adequately resourced and receive secure legal backing.

#### **Actions**

- 1.2.1. Work with labor law experts to develop capacity (e.g., webinars, peer-topeer support) within the IRF, IUCN WCPA and the IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law (WCEL) on the role of rangers and their international human rights norms and standards.
- 1.2.2. Use this capacity to support countries with legal advice related to the ranger profession when revising/developing conservation law.

#### **WHO IUCN WCPA One Health Task Force**





#### Recognition of rangers' prevention of zoonotic diseases

#### Objective 1.3

The World Health Organization (WHO) appreciates the role of rangers in wildlife management and the prevention of zoonotic diseases and provides an additional argument of rangers' recognition as planetary health workers.

#### **Actions**

- 1.3.1. Work with the WHO and WCPA's One Health Task Force to further the understanding of how rangers contribute to the prevention of zoonotic diseases.
- 1.3.2. Develop educational content on the role of rangers in one health (e.g., training videos within this series).

#### **Ranger Associations**









#### A diverse World Ranger Day

#### **Objective 1.4**

World Ranger Day communications represent rangers as gender and ethnically diverse and highlight their roles often as first responders and planetary health workers.

1.4.1. Develop communications campaigns, including metrics for monitoring success, for World Ranger Day celebrating the diversity of rangers, their roles as first responders and planetary health workers.









#### **Ranger Associations IUCN WCPA Journalists**









#### Ranger diversity guidance for the conservation and journalism sectors

#### Objective 1.5.

Communication guidance and campaigns support the narrative and image of a diverse ranger profession.

#### **Actions**

- 1.5.1. Produce guidance and media assets to ensure the diversity of ranger roles in communications, particularly in relation to the 2027 IUCN World Parks Congress.
- 1.5.2. Forge relationships with mainstream media partners to further amplify the messaging around rangers.
- 1.5.3. Work with Freelancing for Journalists and Journo Jobs networks to host a webinar or masterclass on rangers in media, raising awareness on what rangers are, where to source stories, how to depict rangers and which organizations to connect to.
- 1.5.4. Build relationships with environmental journalism programs and courses to develop lectures or short courses on ranger representation in media.

#### **FFN The Royal Foundation**









#### **Perceptions of rangers**

#### Objective 1.6.

The perception of rangers is diversified amongst key stakeholder groups.

#### **Actions**

- 1.6.1. Develop metrics and survey methods to assess perception of rangers (e.g., public, government, employer, gender) to enable trends to be tracked and analyzed.
- 1.6.2. Develop responses based on 1.6.1 to diversifying ranger perceptions (1.4 and 1.5).

#### The Royal Foundation









#### **Roll of Honor update**

#### Objective 1.7.

Wider recognition of the role of ranger families highlights the importance of rangers as planetary health workers, and the challenges and dangers they often face in safeguarding the world's protected areas.

1.7.1. Conduct a short review on the feasibility of developing the Roll of Honor and/or other IRF communication tools (2.7.1) with more details of families impacted by ranger deaths and injury.









#### 2. Rangers for 30x30 Framework

The Rangers for 30x30 Framework encompassed three key areas:

- · Ranger Working Conditions: Improve and standardize employment conditions, welfare, mental health, safety and insurance coverage for rangers globally, aligned with the IRF's Global Standard for Ranger Employment and Working Conditions
- Ranger Competences: Ensure rangers are in adequate numbers to be effective and have access to appropriate skills, training and knowledge aligned with local needs and with the IRF Global Ranger Competences, taking particular consideration of Indigenous knowledge systems
- Ranger Conduct: Ensure all rangers and ranger organizations uphold shared professional values and operate with integrity, transparency, and accountability. Embed the IRF Code of Conduct and safeguarding principles into global, regional, and national systems to promote ethical practice and protect rangers and communities.

**HAC WB WCPA ProPark SMART FFN Governments** 









#### Rangers for 30x30 Framework adoption

#### Objective 2.1.

Priority countries, IRF members, regional associations and partners formally adopt and implement the Rangers for 30x30 Framework, specifically the following IRF products or equivalents:

- The Global Standard for Ranger Employment and Working Conditions
- The Code of Conduct
- The Global Ranger Competences.

To ensure an efficient, effective, well-resourced and supported ranger profession.

#### **Actions**

- 2.1.1. Using State of the Ranger Report (SOTR) data and available regional data to develop a prioritization analysis identifying countries lacking or with ineffective:
  - Standards for ranger employment and working conditions
  - Codes of conduct
  - Ranger competences frameworks.
- 2.1.2. Develop implementation guidance on the *Global Standard for Ranger* Employment and Working Conditions which is clearly and widely understandable.
- 2.1.3. Facilitate formal adoption of the Rangers for 30x30 Framework, or equivalent, by priority countries, IRF members, regional associations and partners.
- 2.1.4. Provide support in implementing the Rangers for 30x30 Framework.









# ILO HAC WB WCPA ProPark SMART FFN Governments









#### Rangers for 30x30 Framework socialization

#### Objective 2.2.

IRF members, ranger employers, rangers, donors and other key stakeholders are familiar with the <u>Rangers for 30x30 Framework</u>, and are supported in implementing and embedding the framework into protected area performance standards.

#### **Actions**

- 2.2.1. Extrapolate from the Rangers for 30x30 Framework support packages (tools, advocacy materials, webinars, training modules, short videos and FFN ranger app programs) (2.3).
- 2.2.2. Promote and socialize the Rangers for 30x30 Framework (2.3).
- 2.2.3. Increase the number of formal commitments to implement the <u>Rangers for</u> 30x30 Framework.
- 2.2.4. Collect case studies to make the case for implementation of the <u>Rangers for</u> 30x30 Framework and promote through IRF comms (e.g., videos).
- 2.2.5. Develop or support existing peer-to-peer learning and mentorship/ twinning programs between all IRF regions to exchange knowledge, build networks and communities of practice around the <u>Rangers for 30x30</u> <u>Framework.</u>
- 2.2.6. Work with relevant organizations to ensure the <u>Rangers for 30x30 Framework</u> is referenced in key conservation assessment tools (e.g., IUCN Green List, CA|TS, Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool).

## Ranger Associations WCPA







#### Ranger training guidance

#### Objective 2.3.

Ranger training curricula are aligned with the <u>Rangers for 30x30 Framework</u> (competences and conduct in particular).

#### Actions

- 2.3.1. Produce an IRF paper on feasibility and options for developing an online database of ranger-related training.
- 2.3.2. Identify the requirements (e.g., production of modular training materials, step-by-step 'how to' briefings/ guidance notes, case studies and videos) for ranger training curricula to reflect the *Rangers for 30x30 Framework*.
- 2.3.3. Develop global guidance on ranger training.
- 2.3.4. Commission an internal review on the costs and benefits of the IRF endorsing third-party ranger training curricula and courses (benefits would include the IRF increasing its partnership and associate membership base).









#### WR **Royal Foundation** Chengeta etc.





#### Rangers for 30x30 Framework in funding eligibility

#### Objective 2.4.

Donor and government funding eligibility criteria are in accordance with the standards set in the Rangers for 30x30 Framework. The use of the Rangers for 30x30 Framework is promoted and data on its uptake are gathered.

#### **Actions**

- 2.4.1. Develop and implement a funder engagement strategy to promote the Rangers for 30x30 Framework in PCA funding eligibility.
- 2.4.2. Develop due diligence frameworks for investors, donors etc. to assess projects that employ rangers (e.g., the quality of the rangers' training, whether a Code of Conduct is used etc.).
- 2.4.3. Implement the engagement strategy with 20 conservation donors.
- 2.4.4. Develop a mechanism for the IRF to harvest data from donor due diligence for their reporting on the Rangers for 30x30 Framework uptake.

#### **Rangers Associations**





#### Rangers for 30x30 Framework commitment tracking

#### Objective 2.5.

Assessing quality and the stages of uptake (from adoption to implementation and verification) of the Rangers for 30x30 Framework generates data for continued funding and support, impact reporting, builds legitimacy in ranger competencies, contributes to ranger capacity-building efforts and provides an evidence base (through the State of the Rangers' Report SOTR) for developing and improving the Framework.

#### **Actions**

- 2.5.1. Develop processes to track formal commitments to the Rangers for 30x30 Framework and its components (e.g., through ranger welfare reform) in the SOTR report.
- 2.5.2. Support an update of the FFN app (5.7.) for Ranger Associations to track implementation of Rangers for 30x30 Framework and provide feedback on the Framework for review and adaptation.
- 2.5.3. Align the IRF-URSA Ranger Assurance Checklist into data collection and report in the SOTR report.
- 2.5.4. Identify measurable impacts of implementing the *Rangers for 30x30* Framework (i.e., for conservation, communities, ecosystem services etc. 2.2.4.) and trial reporting measurable impacts in the SOTR report.
- 2.5.5. Produce the SOTR in 2027 and launch at the World Ranger Congress in Argentina.









#### **Ranger Associations WCPA Academic partners**





#### Ranger mental health and well-being

#### Objective 2.6.

A global discussion on well-being, reduces stigma, builds peer support and improves understanding of issues, leading to institutional reforms and policies that prioritize ranger mental health and well-being.

#### **Actions**

- 2.6.1. Commission and disseminate a study that assesses:
  - the mental health impacts of ranger work
  - how psychological well-being influences conservation effectiveness, individual resilience, and risks such as misconduct
  - how aging, ill health or injury impacts mental health and well-being.
- 2.6.2. Using the findings, create a Mental Health and Well-being Toolkit for PCA managers and launch a global ranger-led awareness campaign.
- 2.6.3. Continue to share and exchange experiences of mental health and well-being and responses from rangers' employers.

#### **FFN TGLF**





#### Roll of Honor platform

#### Objective 2.7.

A global effort to collect accurate and effective data on ranger line-of-duty deaths and serious injuries provides evidence for communication and advocacy campaigns on the needs for increased ranger welfare and safety.

#### **Actions**

- 2.7.1. Building on the Roll of Honor, create and run an automated global online platform to more accurately and seamlessly collect reports on- and track line-of-duty deaths and serious injuries to rangers (possibly through the FFN app).
- 2.7.2. Implement outreach and training to constituents on how to report to the new system.

#### **Insurance industry**





#### Access to insurance

#### Objective 2.8.

Access to appropriate insurance schemes provides rangers with assurance that their, or their families, needs are supported in the case of death or serious injury.

#### **Actions**

- 2.8.1. Collect case studies and conduct a market analysis to make the case for better insurance policies.
- 2.8.2. Form partnerships with one or more insurance companies, brokers or underwriters to increase the number of rangers who have access to insurance schemes (4.3.1., 4.4.1. and 4.4.2.).









#### **Ranger Associations FFN WCPA Earth Ranger**









#### Ranger number norms and standards

#### Objective 2.9.

Changes and trends of ranger numbers, demographics, recognition, working conditions, competencies, conduct, inclusivity and association efficacy are regularly monitored and reported in the SOTR to inform international, regional and national or biome ranger policies and deployment, with the aim of achieving adequate ranger numbers to address site needs, and of seeing a decreasing trend (as reported in the SOTR) in ranger employers stating numbers are inadequate.

#### **Actions**

- 2.9.1. Collect data on ranger numbers and deployment through the FFN app and
- 2.9.2. Conduct global surveys of rangers, employers and associations.
- 2.9.3. Develop good practices for countries to determine their ranger densities.
- 2.9.4. Conduct a review and update the methodology, data analysis and presentation in advance of each SOTR cycle.

#### **Ranger Associations OHCHR IRF Partners**









#### Accessible guidance on social safeguarding for rangers and ranger managers

#### Objective 2.10.

Rangers, Ranger Associations and employers are conversant with the principles and practices of social safeguarding. These principles are implemented across regions, and monitored through simplified Human Rights Indicators.

#### Actions

- 2.10.1. Finalize and socialize the Key Human Rights Rangers Hold at Work report.
- 2.10.2. Integrate 2.10.1 into ranger manager training (2.3).
- 2.10.3. Socialize the above outputs with the IRF's partners, regional representatives and member associations.
- 2.10.4. Develop and disseminate accessible guidance on social safeguarding for rangers and ranger managers
- 2.10.5. Align ranger human rights indicators into the SOTR report.

#### **Ranger Associations**





#### Whistle-blowing and complaints mechanisms

#### Objective 2.11.

Accessible and confidential mechanisms for reporting unethical or illegal conduct ensure the safety and dignity of all rangers, especially women, Indigenous Peoples, and marginalized groups.

#### **Actions**

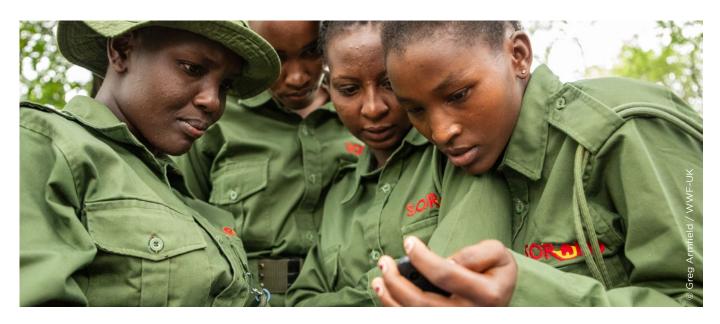
- 2.11.1. Ensure rangers are aware of whistleblowing and complaint mechanisms at the organizational/project level.
- 2.11.2. Promote the use of user-friendly, safe and anonymous channels to report illegal or unethical conduct amongst the IRF's member countries.











#### 3. Inclusive Workforce

Inclusive Workforce Goal: Address imbalances and systemic barriers in the ranger workforce. Promote equity and representation of Indigenous Peoples and local communities, women, LGBTQ+ individuals, youth, and other marginalized groups to create a fair, safe, and inclusive global ranger community.

#### WB **Academic partners**









#### Equity, equality and rights in the ranger workforce

#### Objective 3.1.

Ranger workforce equity at different levels of seniority and across different regions is increased by improving diversity and inclusivity.

#### Actions

- 3.1.1. Commission and disseminate a study, and related guidance to:
  - Assess how and where the IRF's Principles on Equity, Equality and Rights in the Ranger Workforce are implemented (using data from the SOTR report)
  - Outline applicable lessons from related sectors (e.g., police, fire services) on improving diversity and inclusivity
  - Align the IRF's equity, equality and rights principles with international equality frameworks
  - Collect, develop and disseminate case studies and advocacy briefs tailored to different stakeholders to increase understanding of benefits of a diverse workforce
  - . Develop a checklist of issues ranger employers should consider to maximize equity and inclusivity.
- 3.1.2. Based on the findings of 3.1.1, update as required the IRF's Principles on Equity, Equality and Rights in the Ranger Workforce and encourage implementation across the ranger workforce.
- 3.1.3. Disseminate the checklist (see 3.1.1) widely to encourage ranger employers, funders and Ranger Associations to ensure ranger diversity and inclusivity.









#### **WCPA** WB







#### **Building trust between rangers and communities**

#### Objective 3.2.

The practical guidance contained in the WCPA Good Practice Guidelines on Building Trust between Rangers and Communities builds community trust and interest in the ranger profession.

#### Actions

3.2.1. Promote the WCPA Good Practice Guidelines on Building Trust between Rangers and Communities and the use of the assessment tool included in the guidelines to identify gaps in management processes.

#### **ICCA** consortium







#### Traditional knowledge and Territories for Life

#### Objective 3.3.

Identifying, documenting and integrating Indigenous Peoples and local communities and their traditional knowledge systems into ranger operations and resource management helps to support more diversity in the ranger profession and in approaches to conservation management.

#### **Actions**

- 3.3.1. Commission and disseminate a study to develop guidance on:
  - Including traditional knowledge in IRF reports and tools
  - How to develop pathways for people without mainstream qualifications to become rangers
  - How to integrate Territories for Life rangers into the IRF, associations and members to support Indigenous and local community rangers.

#### **Ranger Associations**





#### Integrating rangers from Indigenous Peoples and local communities

#### Objective 3.4.

Good practices on integrating Indigenous Peoples and local communities into ranger operations help to overcome barriers for entry into the ranger profession.

#### Action

- 3.4.1. Support Ranger Associations to develop materials in local languages, as well as non-text and audio-based content (e.g., through the FFN app) to attract more diversity into the ranger profession.
- 3.4.2. Building on the outputs of 3.3.1 develop guidance and advocate for the employment of rangers with traditional knowledge rather than mainstream qualifications, particularly in Territories for Life.
- 3.4.3. Support and monitor the attendance of Indigenous Peoples and local communities rangers at IRF events and IRF-supported events.









#### **Gender experts**









#### **Gender equality**

#### Objective 3.5.

Implementing the recommendations from the Towards Gender Equality in the Ranger Workforce and any new research into gender diversity (e.g., ensuring safe spaces, policies and support mechanisms, codes of conduct, support networks, HR guidelines etc.) increases the numbers of women attracted to the ranger profession, empowers female rangers and team leaders, better-equips employers and donors and thus increases equality.

#### **Actions**

- 3.5.1. Commission gender experts to review the IRF's products and make recommendations on updating them for gender sensitivity.
- 3.5.2. Update the IRF's products as necessary.
- 3.5.3. Host, promote and monitor regional female ranger webinars, with a focus on events such as World Female Ranger Week.
- 3.5.4. Disaggregate data by gender in the SOTR to reflect progress towards equality, equity and rights across the ranger profession and identify potential issues around furthering gender equity.

#### **WCPA** Youth biodiversity organizations (e.g., GYBN, EarthEcho)





#### The next generation of rangers

#### Objective 3.6.

Involvement in - and understanding of - young people in the ranger profession creates a resilient workforce of essential planetary health professionals for the future built on principles of equity and diversity.

#### Actions

- 3.6.1. Develop an IRF Youth Working Group to review youth ranger models worldwide, draw out good practices, and support the IRF member Junior Ranger programs.
- 3.6.2. Promote a Young Ranger Award within the IUCN WCPA World Ranger Awards and empower winners as youth ambassadors.
- 3.6.3. Develop Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs), joint initiatives and youth outreach materials that make the ranger profession more attractive to young people.











#### 4. Ranger Representation

**Goal:** Strengthen ranger representation and voice in global biodiversity by supporting rangers and Ranger Associations to represent themselves effectively at key global events, and successfully advocate for rangers' inclusion in the development, implementation and monitoring of global biodiversity, climate and sustainable development funding and agendas.

#### **HAC**





#### Rangers in NBSAPs

#### Objective 4.1.

The inclusion of rangers as essential planetary health workers is seen as vital to implement National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) under the Kunming Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KM-GBF). NBSAPs contribute to rangers receiving the support needed to engage in national conservation effectively.

#### Actions

4.1.1. Conduct a review of NBSAPs and develop a short communication on ranger inclusion (or lack of) in NBSAPs with recommendations (based on the IRF URSA Ranger Assurance Checklist) for countries yet to complete their NBSAPs.









#### **HAC CBD** secretariat





#### Rangers in CBD negotiations

#### Objective 4.2.

Appropriate recognition of rangers in the CBD's post-2030 goals and funding is secured.

#### Actions

- 4.2.1. Negotiate with national governments and policy-making institutions to ensure rangers are represented in SBSTTA negotiations leading up to the CBD COP in 2030.
- 4.2.2. Work with the CBD secretariat to embed rangers onto the Labor and Workforce constituency and ensure rangers are a key agenda item in the **CBD** process.
- 4.2.3. Coordinate and advocate for ranger interests within SBSTTA negotiations.
- 4.2.4. Coordinate with the CBD to establish an IRF presence within the relevant constituencies or working groups.
- 4.2.5. Embed rangers' roles and needs in the funding allocation of GEF9 (2026-2030).

#### **Academic partners**









#### Ranger contributions to SDGs, ecosystem services and disaster risk reduction

#### Objective 4.3.

Rangers' contributions to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are recognized by national governments and international policy forums. Rangers' contributions to climate change mitigation, adaptation, resilience, nature-based solutions, carbon/biodiversity credits and finance mechanisms are recognized at CBD, the relevant UN COPs and various finance forums. Rangers' contributions to protecting and restoring ecosystem services are understood and quantified where possible, to provide additional arguments for rangers' recognition as planetary health professionals.

#### Actions

- 4.3.1. Commission and disseminate a study to:
  - Describe rangers' contributions to the SDGs.
  - Map and quantify rangers' contributions to ecosystem services (including managing and mitigating the climate crisis, preventing flood and fire damages and providing food and water security) building on the Decent Work in Nature-based Solutions Unlocking jobs through investment in skills and nature-based infrastructure 2024 report.
  - Outline how rangers and their risk-reduction services could be better acknowledged by the insurance industry.









#### Insurance sector





#### Risk reduction role of rangers

#### Objective 4.4.

Ranger contributions to risk-reduction and their role as first responders to natural disasters are recognized, understood and supported by the insurance sector, providing a sound business argument for ranger insurance provision.

#### **Actions**

- 4.4.1. In follow up to the study to 4.3.1, secure a joint statement from the insurance sector and an endorsement of the study by major relevant insurance companies.
- 4.4.2. Work with insurance companies to help design and orchestrate financial mechanisms, underpinned by the output from 4.3.1, to assist in providing insurance for rangers (2.8).

#### **IUCN WCPA** WEF **CBD UNFCCC FFN**









#### Ranger ambassadors

#### Objective 4.5.

Building the capacity of Ranger Associations and individual ranger ambassadors to engage and advocate for rangers in key international policy-making processes and meetings (including IUCN's World Conservation Congress, CBD, UNFCCC and UNCCD COPs). Advocating for inclusion results in better engagement with and recognition of rangers in biodiversity policy.

#### Actions

- 4.5.1. Establish an ambassador mentorship program to identify (1.7.1., 2.2.5., 3.6.2. and 5.6.2.) and train at least two rangers as representatives from each IRF region in public speaking and policy engagement to engage in national and international biodiversity policy-making processes.
- 4.5.2. Work with WCPA to link International Ranger Awards winners into the ambassador mentorship program (3.6.2.).
- 4.5.3. Coordinate diverse ranger delegations to attend each major international conservation event (including the IUCN World Parks Congress, World Economic Forum - WEF, CBD and Climate COPs). Equip delegations with targeted talking points and materials (e.g., elevator pitches) relevant to advocacy goals and encourage visibility through rangers' attire.
- 4.5.4. Compile case studies and data on how rangers have contributed and can contribute to policy-level biodiversity and climate decision-making.
- 4.5.5. Create communication content around ranger participation and outcomes at international meetings to advocate for further inclusion of rangers.









#### **FFN Ranger Associations**





#### Accessible policy for rangers

#### Objective 4.6.

Policy-level biodiversity and climate decision-making is more accessible and relevant to field rangers through ranger ambassadors and delegates reporting back on their involvement and outcomes (e.g., through newsletters and social media).

#### **Actions**

- 4.6.1. Develop communications plans to make global biodiversity and climate change policy discussions more accessible and relevant to field rangers.
- 4.6.2. Support ranger ambassadors, delegates and associations to disseminate these materials and messages.













### 5. Delivering the WRAP30: Enhancing the IRF and partners' collaborative capacity

Goal: Build the IRF's collaborative capacity to deliver and report on the WRAP30 and the IRF Strategic Plan throughout its membership, through partner engagement, equitable representation and demonstrable outcomes/ impacts for professionalizing the ranger workforce.



#### **WRAP30 financing**

#### Objective 5.1.

The IRF has sustainable and sufficient financial resources to implement the WRAP30.

#### **Actions**

- 5.1.1. Engage proactively with the private sector and participate in the Green Finance arena (for example, through events, presentations, papers, panels at Davos, WEF etc.) to promote and socialize the WRAP30 and the Rangers for 30x30 Framework.
- 5.1.2. Build new partnerships and potential funders to secure investment in the WRAP30.







#### WRAP30 implementers and financing

#### Objective 5.2.

The IRF's network, including members and partners, is sufficient in size and reach, is aligned with and supportive of the WRAP30, and contributes financial and in-kind support for its implementation.

#### **Actions**

- 5.2.1. Continue to build the IRF network and constituency.
- 5.2.2. Continue to build on the number of partners that support the IRF.
- 5.2.3. Develop sustainable finance and support for actions linked to the WRAP30 and the IRF strategy by identifying new funders and partners.











#### The IRF's governance equity and equality

#### Objective 5.3

The IRF's governance (structure, management and personnel) reflects geographic, gender, cultural and experiential diversity consistent with the IRF's inclusive workforce objectives, and governance and staffing of the IRF are adequate to support the implementation of the WRAP30 and the IRF mission.

#### Actions

- 5.3.1. Develop and implement a plan for the IRF to be sufficiently structured and staffed to support the implementation of the WRAP30 and the IRF mission.
- 5.3.2. Use the IRF's membership equity and equality policy to align IRF governance policies and develop and implement an IRF inclusivity plan.
- 5.3.3. As an interim measure, while diversity builds, ensure existing board members actively support, and where necessary mentor, future board members who will realize this diversity goal.









#### A supportive WRAP30 constituency

#### Objective 5.4.

The IRF has membership, partner and high-level support for the dissemination and implementation of the WRAP30 and the IRF Strategic Plan.

#### **Actions**

- 5.4.1. Translate the WRAP30 into Spanish, French and other widely accessible languages and disseminate to the IRF's members, partners and other key stakeholders.
- 5.4.2. Develop a ministerial declaration endorsing the WRAP30 and committing to implementing the Rangers for 30x30 Framework in-country.
- 5.4.3. Liaise with the High Ambition Coalition for Nature and People (HAC) and other partners to launch and execute a high-level launch event with ministries.
- 5.4.4. As the IRF grows its membership and partnerships, a suite of communications tools is used to socialize the WRAP30 to new stakeholders.









#### **WRAP30** communications

#### Objective 5.5.

Practical, low-maintenance and user-friendly tools are developed for ranager stakeholders to communicate about, and report progress on the WRAP30, with a focus on learning, improvement and accountability.

#### Actions

- 5.5.1. Develop a WRAP30 communications plan and associated material (e.g., short videos and social media content) for the IRF's members, including launches at regional ranger congresses in 2027, the World Conservation Congress and WRAP30 webinars.
- 5.5.2. Use stories, case studies and videos to communicate through the IRF's media channels (e.g., newsletter and social media) regular updates in WRAP30 implementation, capturing actions and sharing lessons learned.









#### **Ranger Associations**







#### Ranger and association WRAP30 capacity

#### Objective 5.6.

Ranger Associations across varied geographies, and selected ranger representatives from diverse backgrounds, are equipped with the skills and platforms needed to advocate effectively for delivery of the WRAP30.

- 5.6.1. Build the capacity of the IRF members to support the WRAP30, IRF advocacy and implementation of the IRF's tools following the guidance of the Role of Ranger Associations in Strengthening Ranger Workforce paper.
- 5.6.2. Support peer-to-peer virtual exchanges, mentorship/twinning programs, dissemination and translation of supporting material between the IRF's members to exchange knowledge, build networks and communities of practice, and enable learning.

#### **FFN**







#### Communicating the WRAP30 and tracking Rangers for 30x30 through FFN

#### Objective 5.7.

The Force for Nature (FFN) app continues to provide a forum to build and share knowledge to a growing online community of rangers and ranger supporters and encourages the exchange of knowledge about the IRF's work and implementation of the IRF's tools.

#### **Actions**

- 5.7.1. Expand the number of associations using the FFN app to connect with each other, with the IRF and with their rangers.
- 5.7.2. Through the FFN app, continue to provide a platform from which to share information campaigns, raise awareness and build capacity.
- 5.7.3. Build the capacity of the FFN app to track implementation of the Rangers for 30x30 Framework, provide feedback on the Framework for adaptation, collect data and case studies and consider hosting a new Roll of Honor platform **(**2.7**)**.









#### **Monitoring the WRAP30**

#### Objective 5.8.

A WRAP30 tracker helps the IRF to coordinate, manage and report the delivery of actions by a diverse group of implementers.

#### **Actions**

5.8.1. Develop a simple WRAP30 tracker with corresponding metrics and indicators for assessing implementation and impact of WRAP30 actions to allow regular reporting on progress to members and partners.









































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