A brighter, greener future
Help us secure it
Welcome to ClientEarth

Back in 2006, I was told that Europe’s green movement was lacking a fundamental tool. There was an urgent need for a team of lawyers and scientists who could help set European lawmaking on the right path.

This team would ensure robust legal defence of nature and of people’s right to a healthy environment. They would provide legal representation for the planet.

My family foundation provided the seed funding to make ClientEarth a reality, and we have been joined by a growing number of foundations, institutions and major donors since.

With their support, ClientEarth has become an unmatched legal resource for nature.

So far, ClientEarth’s lawyers have challenged and broken down barriers to justice in both national and EU courts. They have beaten the UK government in court on air pollution; shepherded through vital improvements to Europe’s fishing laws and created a first-of-its-kind ‘bible’ of forest and wildlife laws in Ghana, among many other projects.

We believe in the power of the law to bring about profound and lasting systemic change. Imagine if nations wrote and enforced laws that properly protected our children’s health, and the health of the environment we depend upon.

We have built a team that can make this possible, but there is much more work to do.

We need the support of people who believe we can forge a brighter, more sustainable future for our planet. I invite you to join us on our journey, and hope that you will be inspired to help us secure a better world for us all.

Thank you, and welcome to ClientEarth.

Winsome McIntosh
Chair, Board of Trustees

Our vision is of a planet where all life is diverse, abundant and thriving. We want a home where people and nature flourish together.”
ClientEarth is Europe’s leading environmental law non-profit, and the first European charity providing dedicated legal capacity for the environment.

Justice for the planet
We are lawyers and scientists working to find positive solutions to local, national and global environmental challenges. We work alongside governments, policymakers, businesses, communities and NGOs to achieve long-term, sustainable change.

The power of the law
We know strong laws are the best tool we have to protect the environment. Laws shape how we interact with each other and with the world around us. They can transform the way we treat our planet, and ensure that positive change is lasting.

A brighter, greener future
By combining legal expertise with scientific understanding, we work to conserve and protect precious natural resources. We tackle issues from climate change to deforestation; we prevent habitat loss and fight air pollution. We find real, workable solutions to the planet’s most crucial challenges.

ClientEarth creates solutions that no one else has thought of, blending legal expertise with scientific know-how. They are a powerful champion for the environment.

Howard Covington
ClientEarth Trustee

“"The law is a powerful tool for positive social change. We have the imagination and the expertise to use it.”
Defending environmental rights

The law is our planet’s best defence. At ClientEarth, we make sure the environment is at the heart of law-making.

Our lawyers give nature the voice it so desperately needs, and makes sure the laws that protect it are properly written, effectively implemented and rigorously enforced.

We write strong laws
We translate our policy solutions into arguments for new or improved laws, and ensure that governments make them a reality.

We champion policies based on sound science
Policy lays out guiding principles to help decision-makers address an issue, and provides the foundation for new and reformed laws.

We make sure good laws are properly implemented
Passing a law is not the end of the story. We make sure laws are applied effectively, and keep the pressure on governments to ensure the law achieves its aim.

We enforce laws
As a last resort, we litigate, bringing cases to make sure laws are respected and upheld. Litigation can accelerate environmental reform and break down systemic barriers to change.

DEFENDING RIGHTS

70% We helped community groups in the Republic of Congo defend their rights and their forests. 70% of reforms they wrote are included in a new draft forest law.
Europe has the potential to lead the world in fighting climate change. Our staff use a range of legal tools to mend the relationship between people and planet.

**Building a clean energy system**
Europe must decarbonise to guarantee a clean, safe energy future. We use the law to ensure governments make this crucial shift, from supporting community-owned renewables to bringing strategic litigation to prevent new coal power plants and drive the transition to a clean, modern energy future.

**Driving responsible investment**
We’re working to convince governments, businesses and investors that environmental threats are also economic threats, and pushing them to reduce their exposure to the risks of climate-damaging activities. Those with the most influence over our economic future must now consider our environmental future too: we are challenging them to fulfill their responsibility.

**Championing access to justice**
People need to understand how the choices affecting their environment are made. Too often, governments control this crucial information, denying people their right to access it and hold authorities to account. We champion these rights because they’re essential in the fight to protect our planet.

**PREVENTING CO₂ RELEASE**

- **64m**
- We have prevented the annual release of more than 64 million tons of CO₂ by fighting unlawful coal power expansion in Poland.

“Tackling international issues
We find effective, practical ways to combat climate change and use our legal tools to make them a reality.”
Our work protects the people, communities and wildlife that depend on a healthy environment with cleaner air, safer seas and growing forests.

Defending biodiversity on land and at sea
We make sure the world’s habitats, ecosystems and valuable but vulnerable species are protected by strong laws. We ensure fish are caught sustainably and help consumers make informed choices about the seafood they buy.

Safeguarding our forests
We work in Europe and Africa to stop damaging deforestation, protecting not only the forests but the planet as a whole. We help write new laws and strengthen existing ones, making sure legal protection takes root for forests and the people that depend on them.

Keeping people safe from toxic chemicals
We work to protect people from dangerous chemicals found in everyday products like toys, sunscreen and deodorant. We ensure governments create strong controls for toxic chemicals and monitor trade talks to ensure people’s health is prioritised over commercial interests.

Fighting for cleaner air
Air pollution causes the early deaths of tens of thousands of people each year in the UK alone, and we need change now. With just one lawyer, we sued the UK government over air pollution – and won. We’re now replicating our work across Europe because we believe everyone has the right to breathe clean air.

ClientEarth’s legal work embeds the principles that will protect not only people and wildlife, but the world at large for future generations.

Phil Harvey ClientEarth Patron and Creative Director of Coldplay
Our work is funded entirely by the generous contributions of those who recognise ClientEarth’s unique approach to environmental action and change.

Securing a better future

Join us on our journey
More and more donors are seeing ClientEarth as an investment worth making. Now we need your support to keep fighting for the legal rights and protection of the world we all depend on.

Our donors are enlightened, generous and committed. They are champions of our work. They provide crucial support allowing us to protect people’s health, preserve magnificent places and wildlife, advance clean energy and combat climate change.

Working in partnership
In return, we build meaningful and collaborative partnerships with our supporters. They help shape the work that we do and underpin our every victory.

A lasting impact
Your gift will support all aspects of our work and by enabling our success, will have a deep and lasting impact on our planet and all our futures.

“Our donors are champions of our work. They provide the crucial support that allows us to protect people’s health, preserve magnificent places and wildlife, advance clean energy and combat climate change”
Join our Leadership Circle
The vision of our leadership donors has enabled ClientEarth to become Europe’s leading environmental law organisation. They are champions of our legal and scientific work, and stand alongside ClientEarth with a deep commitment to environmental change.

Plant a seed for change
Our programme work is growing all the time as we respond to new opportunities to use the law to challenge environmental injustice. Our donors help us to seed new areas of work and inspire other funders to do the same.

Be part of a global solution
Our work is global. We work across five continents and more than 25 countries and jurisdictions. Our donors are a worldwide community, so we ensure that gifts are tax effective, whether from the UK, Europe or the US.

Leave a powerful legacy
Everything we do is to ensure we leave a sustainable legacy. The world is facing an uncertain future. By remembering ClientEarth in your estate planning, you can make sure it is a brighter, greener one.

Thank you for your support
Find out more
www.clientearth.org

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