

Safeguarding Alliance for Zero Extinction (AZE) sites as an urgent action to implement Decision XIV/1 on the assessment of progress towards Aichi Targets and options to accelerate progress

The Alliance for Zero Extinction is a global initiative that aims to prevent extinctions by identifying and safeguarding key sites which are home to the last population of Endangered or Critically Endangered species. With the assistance of the Global Environment Facility¹, we are pleased to report a number of recent advancements in AZE conservation, including:

- The formal **recognition of all AZE sites as Key Biodiversity Areas** – the most irreplaceable subset;
- **A global update of all AZE sites**, launched at CBD COP14, identifying 853 AZE sites for 1,483 AZE trigger species and available via an interactive map at the updated website www.zeroextinction.org;
- Following the development of **national AZE Alliances** in several countries, a new **national AZE list** for Brazil also unveiled at CBD COP14;
- The integration of AZE site conservation in national conservation planning, with AZE site conservation included in 21 **National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans** and **national AZE ordinances** declared for the first time in Brazil in July and November 2018;
- The inclusion of AZE sites, as a type of Key Biodiversity Area, in the **safeguard policies and guidance of international financial institutions** such as the World Bank and the International Finance Corporation².

Current protected area (PA) coverage of Alliance for Zero Extinction (AZE) sites by country (data supplied by BirdLife International)

Country/territory	Area of AZE sites covered by PAs (%)	Number of AZE sites	Total area of AZE sites	Total PA coverage of AZE sites
Spain	100%	2	63098	62969
Equatorial Guinea	100%	1	84188	84185
Portugal	100%	1	4639	4639
French Southern Territories	100%	1	890	890
Cayman Islands	100%	1	326	325
Panama	99%	4	606136	602637
Malawi	98%	3	389907	383136
Rwanda	98%	1	102461	100884
Taiwan (China)	96%	3	137510	131674
Ghana	96%	1	48169	46202
Thailand	95%	3	81781	77405
Guadeloupe	94%	1	42194	39499
Côte d'Ivoire	93%	3	564114	522879

¹ <https://www.thegef.org/project/alliance-zero-extinction-aze-conserving-earths-most-irreplaceable-sites-endangered>

² <http://zeroextinction.org/policy/international-financial-institutions/>

Dominican Republic	92%	4	208134	191792
Honduras	91%	13	1270608	1153650
Aruba	90%	1	4012	3612
Australia	88%	35	9120511	8034900
Venezuela	87%	12	5701402	4938897
Ethiopia	87%	3	1183065	1025506
Reunion	85%	2	10347	8769
Cambodia	84%	3	811182	681791
Tanzania, United Republic of	82%	12	988340	806535
Viet Nam	80%	9	390096	310147
Costa Rica	79%	7	1244071	988208
Ecuador	77%	28	2228230	1705491
São Tomé and Príncipe	77%	3	56205	43136
Kenya	76%	6	660840	504521
Colombia	71%	38	2996578	2124549
Cuba	69%	20	1962965	1361116
Jamaica	69%	5	201595	138120
Canada	69%	2	5305258	3646806
Armenia	68%	1	382573	261691
Italy	68%	1	92759	63162
Hong Kong (China)	68%	1	54877	37287
Argentina	64%	19	7023441	4521974
Christmas Island	63%	1	14199	8927
Madagascar	62%	49	5825089	3610156
Comoros	61%	3	30700	18595
Brazil	59%	52	5895130	3466514
Guinea	58%	1	42153	24252
China	57%	35	5372954	3058653
New Zealand	55%	4	92626	51314
Japan	53%	6	622468	332566
Trinidad and Tobago	52%	1	38038	19664
India	50%	20	1198502	598579
South Sudan	50%	1	2642408	1320121
Myanmar	47%	5	1940870	912815
El Salvador	47%	1	6179	2875
Peru	45%	43	8029467	3634849
Congo, The Democratic Republic of the	44%	7	4249588	1888242
Indonesia	41%	40	3259631	1343884

Mexico	40%	110	11622318	4629676
Puerto Rico	38%	5	99464	38113
Sri Lanka	37%	16	209110	77827
United States of America	36%	29	3132323	1125212
Cameroon	36%	9	561006	199716
Bolivia	33%	14	1981997	648711
Northern Mariana Islands (to USA)	31%	1	5246	1610
Mauritius	28%	2	22834	6433
Morocco	25%	3	327830	83206
New Caledonia	24%	3	88211	21218
Philippines	23%	12	557231	125424
Belize	23%	1	1180337	274892
South Africa	22%	14	3763138	826132
Guatemala	21%	8	1295114	276871
Greece	20%	2	28224	5761
Norfolk Island	20%	1	4718	949
Malaysia	19%	9	1273824	237166
Uruguay	16%	1	819470	127084
Fiji	15%	4	57141	8323
Uganda	9%	3	125600	11674
Chile	8%	20	1351871	101554
Haiti	5%	7	506485	25880
Israel	5%	3	55571	2948
Papua New Guinea	4%	8	537061	19452
Bermuda	4%	2	1082	42
Pitcairn Islands (to UK)	3%	2	6275	191
French Polynesia	0%	9	44632	0
Solomon Islands	0%	5	668744	2677
Mozambique	0%	5	393866	0
Turkey	0%	2	686728	0
Somalia	0%	2	266678	0
St Helena (to UK)	0%	2	12206	0
Seychelles	0%	2	5598	4
Congo	0%	1	1229888	0
Russian Federation	0%	1	572072	0
Angola	0%	1	200227	0
Paraguay	0%	1	161658	0
Lao People's Democratic Republic	0%	1	160701	77

Bahamas	0%	1	96406	0
Algeria	0%	1	96389	0
Samoa	0%	1	86543	0
Afghanistan	0%	1	45386	0
Dominica	0%	1	14992	21
Syrian Arab Republic	0%	1	14522	0
Liberia	0%	1	13192	0
Micronesia, Federated States of	0%	1	10547	0
Iran, Islamic Republic of	0%	1	6458	0
Austria	0%	1	3575	0
Cape Verde	0%	1	1141	0
Gabon	0%	1	979	0
Barbados	0%	1	190	0
Grand Total	54%	853	117689304	63779836