Wiki Loves Earth is a photo contest of the natural monuments, where participants picture protected areas and upload their photos to Wikimedia Commons. The goal of the project is, on one hand, to picture under a free license as many natural monuments and protected areas as possible, on the other hand, to contribute to nature protection by raising public awareness.

After years of successful organisation of Wiki Loves Monuments there was an idea of a similar contest for natural monuments. The idea of Wiki Loves Earth was born in April 2012 during a discussion at Wikimedia Conference. The idea was realised for the first time in Ukraine, where the contest was held from 15 April to 15 May 2013. Wiki Loves Earth became international in 2014 with 16 participating countries from four continents, and expanded its geography further in the following years.

In 2020, during the eighth edition of Wiki Loves Earth, 34 countries all over the world organized local contests. Among those, 7 countries have joined the competition for the first time: Belarus, Bolivia, Ireland, Guinea, Kenya, Rwanda, Turkey. The contest lasted between May 1 — July 31. Usually, WLE takes place between May and June, but due to the world health situation, it was extended by one more month. We have received 106,240 submissions, and 23% of these pictures are used in wiki projects. The contest attracted 9,095 uploaders, and 83% of them have registered on Commons after the start of the competition.

The contest was organised in each country by local volunteers, either affiliated to a chapter or a user group or not. Each national jury submitted 10 local winners, totalling 340 pictures submitted to the international jury.
Winners were determined by the 6-person international jury. Members were selected by the international team. The jury team was formed to be as diverse as possible: they are representatives of six countries and four continents. International jury members have different backgrounds: they are experienced Wikimedians and professional photographers.

340 nominations were submitted to the international organising team by the national juries of the participating countries. Each country was allowed to submit up to 10 images.

The nominations were collected in a judging tool managed by non-voting jury moderators. After pre-filtering ineligible files (small resolution below 2Mpx, not depicting any protected natural sites or species) 337 out of 340 photos were submitted to the jury. On the first stage, all jurors rated all images with stars from 1 (poor) to 10 (very good). 43 images with ratings higher than 6 were selected as candidates for the final round. After the screening and checking relevancy of these photos the organizing team chose 39 photos that competed in the final evaluation by the jury members.

On the final stage, jury members rated (from 1 to 20) and commented on the 39 images. Comments were visible to other jury members, while rankings were not. These rankings were added together, and a combined jury ranking was produced. In case of equality of points in the final round, points from the first round were used as a tiebreaker.
Osama Silwadi, Palestine

Osama Silwadi is a photojournalist, visual storyteller, archivist and folklorist. He worked with several local press organizations, French Press Agency, Reuters. In 2004, he founded the Apollo Agency, the first Palestinian photography agency. Osama was a jury member of several photography awards and contests, such as “Youth Eyes on the Silk Road” organized by UNESCO, Wiki Loves Monuments. Silwadi’s photos were published in leading international newspapers and magazines, such as National Geographic, Time and Newsweek. He also has held many local and international exhibitions, including in Palestine, Jordan, Egypt, United Arab Emirates, Italy, United States and France.

Carlos Figueroa, Chile

Carlos Figueroa is a dentist and active Wikipedian since 2005 and has contributed to Wikimedia Commons since then. As a part of Wikimedia Chile board since 2017, chair since 2020, he has been in charge of the “Chile in images” project which portrays the main cultural events in the country. Also, Carlos was a member of the national jury of 2018 and 2019 editions of Wiki Loves Earth, and jury for other photographic contests, such as “6 months that changed Chile” and “Revealing Sites”.

Margaret Donald, Australia

Margaret Donald finds it an extraordinary privilege to be able to see the world through others’ eyes. Her first contribution to Wikipedia was an image to the Australian Wiki Science competition 2017, where her photograph of Velleia paradoxa was among the winners. She continues to contribute plant images to the Commons and has already uploaded 1050 photos of plants & habitat. In May 2020, 10284 pages on 65 wikis were using her images. She also has been incorporating other plant & habitat images into articles in addition to uploading them.
**Shani Evenstein Sigalov, Israel**

Shani Evenstein Sigalov is an educator, researcher and Free Knowledge advocate, focusing on bridging gender, language and social gaps. She works at Tel Aviv University, where she explores the intersection between technology, education and Openness. She serves as an EdTech Innovation strategist at the School of Medicine; she is a lecturer on campus, having designed and led courses related to Wikimedia projects, and she is currently pursuing her PhD at the School of education, focusing on learning via the Semantic Web, more specifically, using Wikidata as a learning platform. Shani has joined the Wikimedia Movement in 2011, and has been heavily involved in Outreach efforts. While serving on the Board of Wikimedia Israel, Shani has been involved in setting up Wiki Loves Monuments. She has a deep appreciation of art & photography and enjoys adding free-licensed media files to WikiCommons. As of 2019, she serves on the Board of Trustees of the Wikimedia Foundation.

**Elena Tatiana Chis, France/Romania**

Elena Tatiana Chis is an architect working in restoration and interior design in France. She is a part-time freelance graphic designer, passionate about photography (landscape and architecture), monuments and travel. Some of Elena’s photos were presented in different exhibitions, some of them published in architectural magazines and books, web articles (UNESCO), calendar (2013 KLM Social Calendar) etc. In 2016, she got to the top 10 winners of WLM in the following countries: 1sr and 5th place in Morocco, 3rd place in Peru, 3rd and 4th place in Tunisia. The 3rd place in the national competition in Peru also became 42th place in the international competition. In 2017 Elena got the 3rd place for Wiki Loves Monuments Italy, Tuscany. In 2018 she was lucky again to get the 9th place in Wiki Loves Monuments France and next year she became one of the jurors of the French competition. Elena is also one of the Wiki Loves Monuments coordinators in Romania and one of the members of Wikimedians of Romania and Moldova User Group since 2018.

**Nipah Dennis, Ghana**

Nipah Dennis is a photographer based in Accra, Ghana. During his time at the university, he discovered photography from an online street photography publication. From there, he started reading about the medium and first started practising with his roommate’s iPhone before getting his first digital camera. He has worked in many different categories in photography before finally focusing on documentary and photojournalism. Nipah is currently on the journey of finding the best practices in visual storytelling. He is a contributor to Wikimedia Commons and a 2019 winner of Wiki Loves Africa.
Photographer: Touhid Parvez Biplob
(Touhid biplob)
Site: Satchari National Park
Location: Habiganj District, Bangladesh

Chestnut-tailed starling (Sturnia malabarica), Satchari National Park.

Jury comments
Really like this one. Very dynamic, good focus on the subject and also good resolution.

I like the colors the movement and action, details, lovely one.

A useful photograph for both park and species.
Alcedo atthis (Common kingfisher) hunting in water. Natural reserves and contiguous areas of the Po river belt. [English]

Alcedo atthis (Martin pescatore) cacciando in acqua. Riserve naturali e aree contigue della fascia fluviale del Po. [Italian]

**Photographer:** Luca Casale  
**Site:** Po River Delta  
**Location:** Veneto, Emilia Romagna, Italy

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**Jury comments**

- Good quality, dynamic, good focus, really like it.
- Good one, drops of water and eye of bird looks same, good details.
- Always good to see both a species and how it lives. (here having dived into the water and having caught a fish)
Photographer: Nawas Sharif (Nawas505)
Site: Ratargul Swamp Forest
Location: Gowain River, Fatehpur Union, Gowainghat, Sylhet, Bangladesh

Ratargul Swamp Forest. [English]

Jury comments

Impressive sunlight and reflection. Nice illustration of rhododendron unique phenomenon of the Carpathian.

I love the light, Composing using all elements.
Photographer: Senth Aathavan Senthilverl (Senthiaathavan)
Site: Yala National Park
Location: Southern and Uva Provinces, Sri Lanka

Baby tufted gray langur (Semnopithecus priam) nestled under its mother’s care at Yala National Park - Sri Lanka. [English]

Semnopithecus priam, අංකුරා [Sinhala]

Jury comments

Good capture. Very expressive.

I love this one. the composition and the light on the face of the baby. Wonderful depth and perfect lighting.

Babies always give hope, nice catch and nice light.
The karst formation known as the Pinnacles, located near the top of Mount Api, Mulu National Park. [English]

Jury comments

I love this. It shows us how the place looks.

Shows what I imagine is the specific to this park: the wonderful geological formations and the steaminess.

Taman Negara Gunung Mulu. [Malay]
Photographer: Ruchapong deemak
Site: Khao Yai National Park
Location: Hin Tung, Thailand

Malayan owl (Bubo sumatranus). [English]

Bubo sumatranus, อมยิ้มฮูด [Thai]

Jury comments

A good one.

I like this one, bit not sure about quality.

Illustrates the malayan owl and its daytime habits particularly well.
Trimeresurus erythrurus. Red-tailed bamboo pitviper in attack mode. [English]

বাংলা: সুন্দরবন পূর্ব বন্যপ্রাণ অভয়ারণ্য থেকে এই ছবিটি তোলা। [Bangla]

**Photographer:** Md Mehedi hasan456  
**Site:** Sundarbans East Wildlife Sanctuary  
**Location:** Ganges Delta, Bangladesh

**Jury comments**

It’s very sensitive moment, photographer but efforts waiting for the right moment.

I like the composition of this photo. Even though there are a lot of greens, the subjects still stands out and sharp.

It is a great picture, and we know the species and it is caught at a wonderful point.
Locals fishing in Taal Lake despite of the danger brought by Taal Volcano Eruption. [English]

Photographer: Michael Angelo Luna (Micluna)
Site: Taal Volcano Natural Park
Location: Batangas, Philippines

Jury comments

“A good image. I love this one. A sense of scale.

Nice color, nice composing, not really sharp.”
Photographer: Сергей Мирошник
Site: Pushcha-Vodytsky Forest Park
Location: Kyiv, Ukraine

Sympetrum flaveolum, Pushcha-Vodytsky Forest Park, Obolon district. [English]

Sympetrum flaveolum, Пуща-Водицький лісопарк, Оболонський район. [Ukrainian]

Jury comments

“Nice color.

A common dragonfly beautifully photographed.

Very beautiful colours in this photo. I like how the background colours compliments the subject.”
Photographer: Khaustova Nadezhda
(NadezhdaKhaustova)
Site: South Kamchatka Nature Park
Location: Kamchatka Peninsula, Russia

Red fox (Vulpes vulpes) in front of the Vilyuchik Volcano, South Kamchatka Nature Park: Kamchatka Peninsula, Russia.  

[English]

Лиса-огневка (Vulpes vulpes) на фоне вулкана Вилючинская сопка, Южно-Камчатский природный парк: Камчатский край, Россия.  

[Russian]

Jury comments

I like that the image is layered. We see the area in the foreground and the area in the background. Gives us more information of the site.

Love the fox, curled up, warm and alert at its vantage point. He is the focus of the image. But oh, what a splendid background.
Ol Doinyo Lengai (Oldoinyo Lengai), „Mountain of God“ in the Maasai language, is an active volcano located in the Gregory Rift, south of Lake Natron within the Arusha Region of Tanzania, Africa. [English]
Aplastodiscus arildae. Caparao National Park, located in Iúna (ES), Irupi (ES), Ibitirama (ES), Dores do Rio Preto (ES), Divino de São Lourenço (ES), Alto Jequitibá (MG), Espera Feliz (MG), Caparaó (MG), Alto Caparaó (MG). [English]

Aplastodiscus arildae. Parque Nacional de Caparao de nível Federal, localizado (a) em Iúna (ES), Irupi (ES), Ibitirama (ES), Dores do Rio Preto (ES), Divino de São Lourenço (ES), Alto Jequitibá (MG), Espera Feliz (MG), Caparaó (MG), Alto Caparaó (MG). [Portuguese]
Common Kingfisher (Alcedo atthis) with caught fish for feeding the children. [English]

Das Eisvogel-Männchen (Alcedo atthis) hat eine Groppe erbeutet und ist auf dem Weg zur Bruthöhle. [German]

Photographer: Herwig Winter (Hwbund)
Site: Geo-Naturpark Bergstraße Odenwald
Location: Germany

Jury comments

Nice one, but normal.

This is an average photograph but then it gives information about the bird, size and colours. Also the fish gives it more information on what it feed on. A tight crop could have worked best.

The detail is excellent.
When the sunset come from the corner of Gili Lawa stunning horizon, it’s like the world is blessed all over again. [English]

Taman Nasional Bromo Tengger Semeru. [bahasa Indonesia]

**Photographer:** Andhika bayu nugraha  
**Site:** Bromo-Tengger-Semeru National Park  
**Location:** Tengger Massif region, East Java, Indonesia

"Like it. It’s a bit mystical. I love the layers in the photo. However, I am not sure if that’s the actual colors if the place. But it gives information on what to see at the place.

Agree about the possibly dodgy colours, but it certainly picks out so much which is characteristic and exciting about this place."
Photographer: Dipu ME-12  
Site: National Botanical Garden  
Location: Dhaka, Bangladesh

Kingfisher, National Botanical Garden. [English]

বাংলা: জাতীয় উদ্ভিদ উদ্যান, বাংলাদেশ [Bangla]

This is an average photograph but then it gives information about the bird, size and colours. Also the fish gives it more information on what it feed on. A tight crop could have worked best.

The detail is excellent.
16th place
Photographer: Fabiosart
Site: Geothermal alteration fields
Monte Rotondo and
Sasso Pisano
Location: Italy

17th place
Photographer: Burak Demir
Site: Lake Meke
Location: Konya Province, central Turkey

18th place
Photographer: Touhid biplob
Site: Satchari National Park
Location: Bangladesh
19th place
Photographer: Sultan Ahmed Niloy
Site: Nijhum Dwip National Park
Location: Bangladesh

20th place
Photographer: Filippo Fratini
Site: Secche di Tor Paterno
        marine protected natural area
Location: Italy

21st place
Photographer: Senthiaathavan
Site: Wilpattu National Park
Location: Sri Lanka
22nd place
Photographer: Hendrapictures
Site: CRU Samponiet Reserve
Location: Aceh, Indonesia

23rd place
Photographer: Byrdyak
Site: Masai Mara National Park
Location: Kenya

24th place
Photographer: Todi.leggieri
Site: Wetlands of Fossano and Sant’Albano Stura
Location: Italy
25th place
Photographer: Samdesherpa
Site: Manaslu Conservation Area
Location: Manaslu range, Nepal

26th place
Photographer: Hwbund
Site: special area of conservation
Kaiserstuhl
Location: Germany

27th place
Photographer: Yash Bhattarai
Site: Gokyo lake system
Location: Nepal
28th place
Photographer: Sven Damerow
Site: Gülper lake
Location: Germany

29th place
Photographer: Shemlongakit
Site: Philippine Eagle Center
Location: Davao, Philippines

30th place
Photographer: Afrianto silalahi
Site: Tesso Nilo National Park
Location: Pelalawan Regency, Riau Province, Indonesia
31st-32nd place
Photographer: VITORBBARBOSA
Site: Environmental Protection Area of the Trindade and Martim Vaz Archipelago
Location: Porto Seguro, Brazil

31st-32nd place
Photographer: Hwbund
Site: Nature reserve Glockenbuckel von Viernheim
Location: Germany

33rd place
Photographer: Paula Borkovic
Site: Slunjčica
Location: Karlovac, Croatia
34th place
Photographer: Pitchayawat
Site: Khao Yai National Park
Location: Thailand

35th place
Photographer: Farid AMADOU BAHLEMAN
Site: Pendjari National Park
Location: Benin

36th place
Photographer: Jonkmania
Site: Nyungwe park
Location: Rwanda
37th place
Photographer: Paula Borkovic
Site: Slunjica River
Location: Rastoke, Croatia

38th place
Photographer: Ivankazaryan
Site: Cappadocia
Location: Turkey

39th place
Photographer: Сергій Мірошник
Site: Birch Grove, Desnianskyi district
Location: Kyiv, Ukraine