**Region: Southern Cone**

Countries included: Argentina & Chile

**Threats to Biodiversity, Environment, and IPLC Regional Context:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Country | Threats to biodiversity and environment | Threats to IPLCs, and Root Causes |
| Argentina | * Pressures on Argentina’s biodiversity are primarily associated with the fragmentation and loss of native forests due to agricultural expansion.[[1]](#footnote-0) * From 2001 to 2018, Argentina lost 5.77Mha of tree cover, equivalent to a 15 percent decrease in tree cover since 2000, and 792Mt of CO₂ emissions. * In Argentina, the top 4 regions were responsible for 61 percent of all tree cover loss between 2001 and 2018. Santiago del Estero had the most relative tree cover loss at 25 percent compared to an average of 8.6 percent. | * Argentina is ranked 138th /178 on the [fragile states index](https://fragilestatesindex.org/country-data/). It had been unevenly improving across cohesion, economic, political, and social indicators since 2016. * According to Global Witness, at least two land defenders were killed in Argentina between 2016-2018. |
| Chile | * The main threats to biodiversity are changes in land use due to activities related to the forestry and agricultural sectors. Other threats are associated with urbanization, invasive alien species, forest fires, climate change and water extracted for mining and agricultural activities in the northern zone of the country.[[2]](#footnote-1) * From 2001 to 2018, Chile lost 1.95Mha of tree cover, equivalent to a 10 percent decrease in tree cover since 2000, and 462Mt of CO₂ emissions. * In Chile, the top 3 regions were responsible for 57 percent of all tree cover loss between 2001 and 2018. Bío-Bío had the most relative tree cover loss at 39 percent compared to an average of 13 percent. | * Chile is ranked 142 /178 on the [fragile states index](https://fragilestatesindex.org/country-data/). It had been gradually improving across cohesion, economic, political, and social indicators from 2012-2019, but the situation has severely worsened since then. * According to Global Witness, at least two land defenders were killed in Chile between 2016-2018. |

1. <https://www.cbd.int/countries/profile/?country=ar#facts> [↑](#footnote-ref-0)
2. <https://www.cbd.int/countries/profile/?country=cl> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)