

off the fence.

Voices Of Earth

6 x 60'

EPISODIC BREAKDOWN

1. South Sudan/Mongolia

For thousands of years, the Mundari of South Sudan have devoted their lives to caring for their bulls and sacred cows. On the other side of the world, the Dukha of Mongolia preserve an ancient relationship with their beloved reindeer.

Cattle theft continues to bleed South Sudan with thousands of deaths each year. In the twilight of Dukha culture, some 50 families are struggling to preserve an age-old pact with their reindeer.

2. Iceland/Indonesia

Every spring, the inhabitants of the island of Flatey in northern Iceland, await the arrival of the eider duck. On the other side of the planet in Indonesia, the Gayo people of the island of Sumatra maintain a sustainable pact with the wild civet.

Many rural areas of Iceland face a slow depopulation. Haffstein and his descendents will probably be the last gatherers of eider duck down in Flatey. Hardiknas and his family continue harvesting the Kopi Luwak in a sustainable manner, while thousands of civets are put in cages to satisfy the demand of the international market.

3. Ethiopia/Madagascar

Every night in Ethiopia, hyenas walk the streets of Harar. They are the guardians of the fourth holiest city in Islam. According to legend, in Madagascar the inhabitants of Antagnavo turned into the crocodiles who watch over the sacred lake today.

Population growth threatens the last remaining ecosystems in wild nature. Large predators and human beings face an increasingly difficult coexistence, while Yusuf and Zafilosy retain a unique relationship of friendship and respect with hyenas and crocodiles

4. Mozambique/India

In South West India, the Toda people have protected the wild hives of the Apis Cerana bee for centuries. On the other side of the Indian ocean, the Yao people of Mozambique follow the flight of the greater honeyguide bird in search of honey.

Every year human beings destroy more than 26 million hectares of forest – an area equivalent to the United Kingdom. Deforestation, pesticides, extensive farming and fires have wiped out almost 60% of the world population of bees - the most important insect on the planet.

5. Peru/Galicia (Spain)

In Spain, the Galician people keep alive the Rapa das Bestas - an ancient Celtic tradition that protects wild horses and mares. Every year, the Quechua people of Peru celebrate the Chaccu of the vicuña, a festival dating back to the time of the Inca empire.

At the start of the 21st century, the Galician Mountain Horse was declared to be in danger of extinction. Today the tradition of A Rapa das Bestas helps these mares and horses to continue grazing in the woods of Galicia. In the 1950s indiscriminate hunting drove the vicuñas to the brink of extinction. Thanks to the Chaccu, today thousands of them run free in the Andean mountain range.

6. Brazil

In Amazonian Brazil, the Awá-Guajá people retain a pact of unique coexistence with their Hanimas - wild animals orphaned during the hunts, who are adopted as another family member. Every minute mining, deforestation, fires, drug trafficking and extensive cattle farming destroy the equivalent of 3 football pitches of original forest in the Brazilian Amazon.

It's home to more than 6,000 animal species, 40,000 plant varieties, 300 indigenous groups and the last remaining uncontacted human beings.