

## Documentaries & Factual - Human/Social Interest



### The Last Defenders

**Episodes:** 3 x 60 mins

**Language:** English

**Year:** 2022

**Producer:** Peddling Pictures

**Distributor:** Mediacorp

We go deep into Southeast Asia's jungles to see what's causing the devastating extent of deforestation. Wildlife is also under constant threat from increased poaching, which has created high-risk battlegrounds for environmental defenders. Why do they risk their lives, and at what price?

In the Philippines, ranger Kuhkan Maas and his colleagues face shootings and assault from encroachers as they protect Masungi Georeserve, a watershed vital in preventing floods in the capital Manila.

In Indonesia, we follow Hendra Saputra and his team of rangers who live for weeks-on-end in the jungle to protect the Leuser Ecosystem, the last place on earth with tigers, elephants, orangutans, and rhinos in the wild.

In Thailand, Netnapa Ngamnet, the head of a ranger patrol team in Thailand's biggest national park, Kaeng Krachan takes us on armed patrols. Her zero tolerance policy towards environmental crimes makes her a target to criminal syndicates.

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**For sales enquiries on content distribution:**

Grace Chia [gracechia@mediacorp.com.sg](mailto:gracechia@mediacorp.com.sg)

Tracy Sim [tracysim@mediacorp.com.sg](mailto:tracysim@mediacorp.com.sg)



### Episode 1 – The Last Defenders of the Philippines

The Masungi Georeserve in the Philippines is a nature sanctuary near the capital, Metro Manila. It also serves as a vital watershed that helps prevent floods and landslides affecting over 14 million people.

Forest rangers Kuhkan and Moktar Maas, along with reforestation officer John Paul Magana are part of Masungi Georeserve Foundation, defending the lands against illegal resorts and quarries inside the protected zones.

### Episode 2 – The Last Defenders of Indonesia

The Leuser Ecosystem in Indonesia is the last place on earth with tigers, elephants, orangutans, and rhinos together in the wild. It is under a constant threat of poaching, that feeds a multimillion-dollar international wildlife trafficking industry.

Hendra Saputra, Dahlawi, and their team of forest rangers patrol the rich expanse of the tropical rainforest, putting their lives at risk as they follow leads on possible poaching grounds and snares.

### Episode 3 – The Last Defenders of Thailand

Kaeng Krachan is Thailand's biggest national park and provides a vital sanctuary for a fragile ecosystem.

Netnapa Ngamnet and her team of forest rangers are on the front lines protecting the park from the constant threat of deforestation and poaching. She is also a member the King of Tigers Task Force, an elite unit that investigates environmental crimes. In both her jobs, she faces danger daily - be it from armed poachers or criminal syndicates.

But her determination to uphold environmental protection laws brings her into conflict with the indigenous Karen people. Displaced from her home, Gib Tonnampetch and her family struggle to make ends meet in their relocation village. Gib wants to return to her ancestral lands deep within Kaeng Krachan, to continue the Karen people's centuries long tradition of rotation crop cultivation.

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