



Provisional programme

Tackling illegal wildlife trade (IWT): strengthening transnational cooperation

Wednesday 13 – Friday 15 June 2018 | WP1607

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) highlights illegal trade in wildlife as the fourth most lucrative transnational crime after drugs, arms, and human trafficking, estimated to be worth up to £17 billion annually. Illegal wildlife trade (IWT) is not only pushing several iconic species to the brink of extinction but this organised crime, along with the associated corruption and illicit financial flows, is undermining sustainable development by depriving some of the poorest aid-dependent countries of billions of dollars-worth of resources. IWT has a detrimental impact on state institutions and governance, and fuels discontent and insecurity.

The cross-border nature of illegal hunting and trade in wildlife is not the problem of a single country or continent. The increasingly sophisticated tactics of transnational crime syndicates requires a transnational response in the form of strengthened cross-border cooperation between source, transit and destination countries.

In spite of high level commitment to tackle wildlife crime, intra-sector cooperation and cross-border partnerships have been hindered by an absence of standard operating procedures. Corruption also facilitates IWT, and this has been acknowledged internationally within a range of international fora including the UN, OECD, and G20. There have been calls for the international community to do more to tackle it, including following the UK-hosted anti-corruption summit in 2016.

In the lead up to the Illegal Wildlife Trade Summit to be hosted by the United Kingdom in October 2018, this meeting seeks to build on existing frameworks and identify innovative approaches to tackling IWT as a serious organised crime, and taking steps also to tackle the corruption associated with it. Building on expert discussions, including our 2015 event on [Wildlife crime and international security: strengthening law enforcement](#), this meeting will bring together approximately 55 people from selected countries in order to facilitate dialogue between law enforcement, intelligence communities, investigators, journalists and financial experts. In particular it aims to:

- Identify best practice and lessons learnt from successfully tackling other transnational organised crimes, including drugs and human trafficking;

In association with:



- Consider practical steps for the implementation of effective counter measures, including information and intelligence-sharing, towards successful prosecutions;
- Explore the role of corruption in facilitating IWT, and practical steps needed to combat it
- Foster and catalyse the development of partnerships between key agencies and organisations involved in the fight against IWT and the related corruption.

In association with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Wednesday 13 June

1500-1600

Participants arrive

1600

Welcome to Wilton Park

Julia Purcell

Programme Director, Wilton Park

Catherine Arnold

Head, Illegal Wildlife Trade, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, London

1615-1730

1. Illegal wildlife trade: what is the scope and scale of the crime?

This session will set out the landscape of existing IWT in the context of transnational organised crime. What are the trends? How and where do criminal networks operate? How are they financed?

Vanda Felbab-Brown

Senior Fellow, The Brookings Institution, Washington DC

Henri Fournel

Coordinator, Environmental Security, INTERPOL, Lyon

Churchill Collyer

Head, Law Enforcement, Wildlife National Parks, Ministry of Environment, Wildlife and Tourism, Gaborone

1730-1800

Tea/coffee

1800-1845

2. Opportunities and challenges

Based on a brief recap of recommendations from the 2015 Wilton Park meeting.

1845

Reception followed by dinner

Thursday 14 June

0800-0900

Breakfast

0915-1045

3. Tackling IWT: what works and what doesn't?

This session will draw on case studies tackling IWT as a serious transnational organised crime. What can be learned from existing approaches to transnational organised crime? (eg human trafficking, counterfeits, drug networks). What more is needed to foster collaborative cross-border strategies?

John Brown

Country Representative, Homeland Security Investigations, Nairobi

Xie Yi

Professor, Beijing Forestry University

Georgina Kamanga

Head, Intelligence and Investigation Officer, Department of National Parks and Wildlife (DNPW), Lusaka

1045-1115

Tea/coffee

1115-1245

4. Follow the money: enhancing international collaboration between governments, civil society, banks and enforcement agencies

What can be learned from existing good practice, building on experiences of financial experts, including FIUs and the banking sector?

Chair: Justine Walker

Head, Sanctions Policy, UK Finance, London

Atuweni Juwayeyi-Agbermodji

Director General, Financial Intelligence Authority, Lilongwe

Hennie Verbeek-Kusters

Chair, Egmont Group, Zoetermeer

David Fein

Group General Counsel, Standard Chartered, London

1300-1400

Lunch

1400-1445

Briefing for session 6 break out group facilitators in the Library

1400-1445

Free time / Garden tour

1500-1630

5. Tackling the corruption that enables IWT

Exploration of cross-sectoral collaboration to uncover and tackle IWT-related corruption.

John Penrose

Prime Minister's Anti Corruption Champion, Home Office, London

Ofir Drori

Founding Director, EAGLE Eco Activists for Government and Law Enforcement, Yaounde

Lawrence Seretse

Editor in Chief, Botswana Gazette

1630-1715

Photograph followed by tea/coffee

1715-1830

6. Building alliances: practical steps forward

Break out session.

Parallel breakout groups discussing ways in which to increase cross-sectoral alliances, building on current activities and identifying next steps towards the October Summit.

- Who needs to do what?
- How to improve collaboration between governments and private sector.
- In what ways can links be strengthened from organisations tackling other TNOCs?

Facilitators:

Crawford Allan, Senior Director, TRAFFIC, Washington DC

Christine Dawson, Director, US Department of State, Washington DC
Simone Haysom, Senior Analyst, Global Initiative Against Transnational Organized Crime, Oxford
Cathy Haenlein, Senior Research Fellow, Serious and Organised Crime, Royal United Services Institute (RUSI), London
Rachel Kramer, Senior Programme Officer, World Wildlife Fund, Washington DC
Michael Morantz, Analyst, Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), Paris
Olivia Swaak-Goldman, Executive Director, Wildlife Justice Commission, The Hague
Alex Vines, Research Director, Chatham House, London

1830 De-briefing for session 6 break out group facilitators in the Library

1845 Reception followed by dinner with speech by

Mark Field

Minister of State for Asia and the Pacific, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, London

Friday 15 June

0800-0900 Breakfast and checkout

0915-1000 **7. Reflections from break out groups**

Brief reports from breakout groups.

Chair: Susan Snyder

Director, Office of Anti-Crime Programs, US Department of State, Washington DC

1000-1100 **8. Ways forward and recommendations**

Commentators responding to feedback

1100-1130 Tea/coffee

1130-1145 **9. Evaluation survey**

Completion of online survey

1145-1245 **10. Looking to the future**

1300 Lunch

1400 Participants depart