



**UNODC**

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime



# Crimes that Affect the Environment: Challenges and Responses

# UNODC Mandate



## UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME AND THE PROTOCOLS THERE TO



## UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION AGAINST CORRUPTION



UNITED NATIONS

# CRIMES THAT AFFECT THE ENVIRONMENT



Acts that cause environmental pollution or degradation

1



Acts involving the movement or dumping of waste

2

Acts that result in the depletion of natural resources

3



Trade or possession of protected or prohibited species of fauna and flora

4



# CRIMES THAT AFFECT THE ENVIRONMENT



Wildlife  
crime



Forest  
crime



Crimes  
in the  
fisheries  
sector



Crimes  
in the  
minerals  
sector

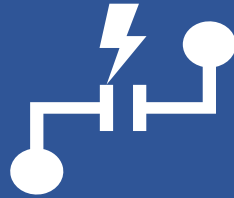


Waste  
trafficking

# RECURRING CHALLENGES IN COMBATING CRIMES THAT AFFECT THE ENVIRONMENT



Context specificity



Vulnerable supply chains



Inadequate laws & lack of enforcement



Weak law enforcement capacity



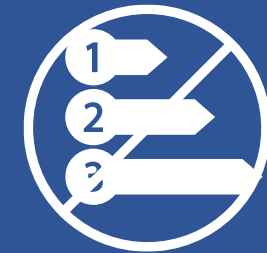
Corruption



Lack of cooperation



Lack of awareness



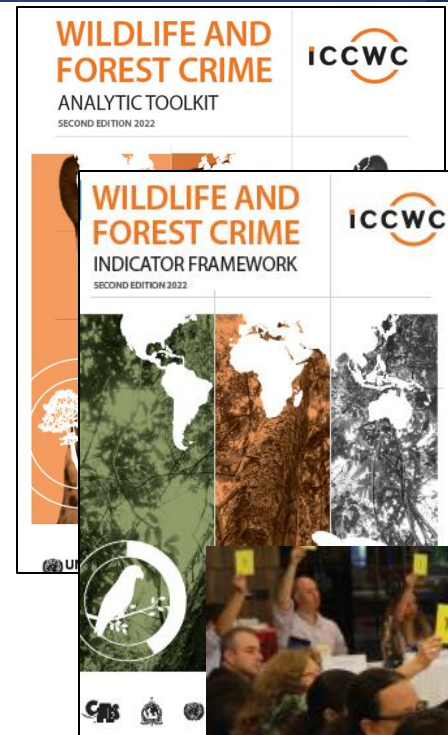
Lack of prioritization



# Understanding the Context



- World Wildlife Crime Report
- Global Analysis on CAE
- Other analytical & operational efforts



- 17 countries supported to implement recommendations
- 8 Indicator Framework Assessments
- 2 Toolkit Assessments



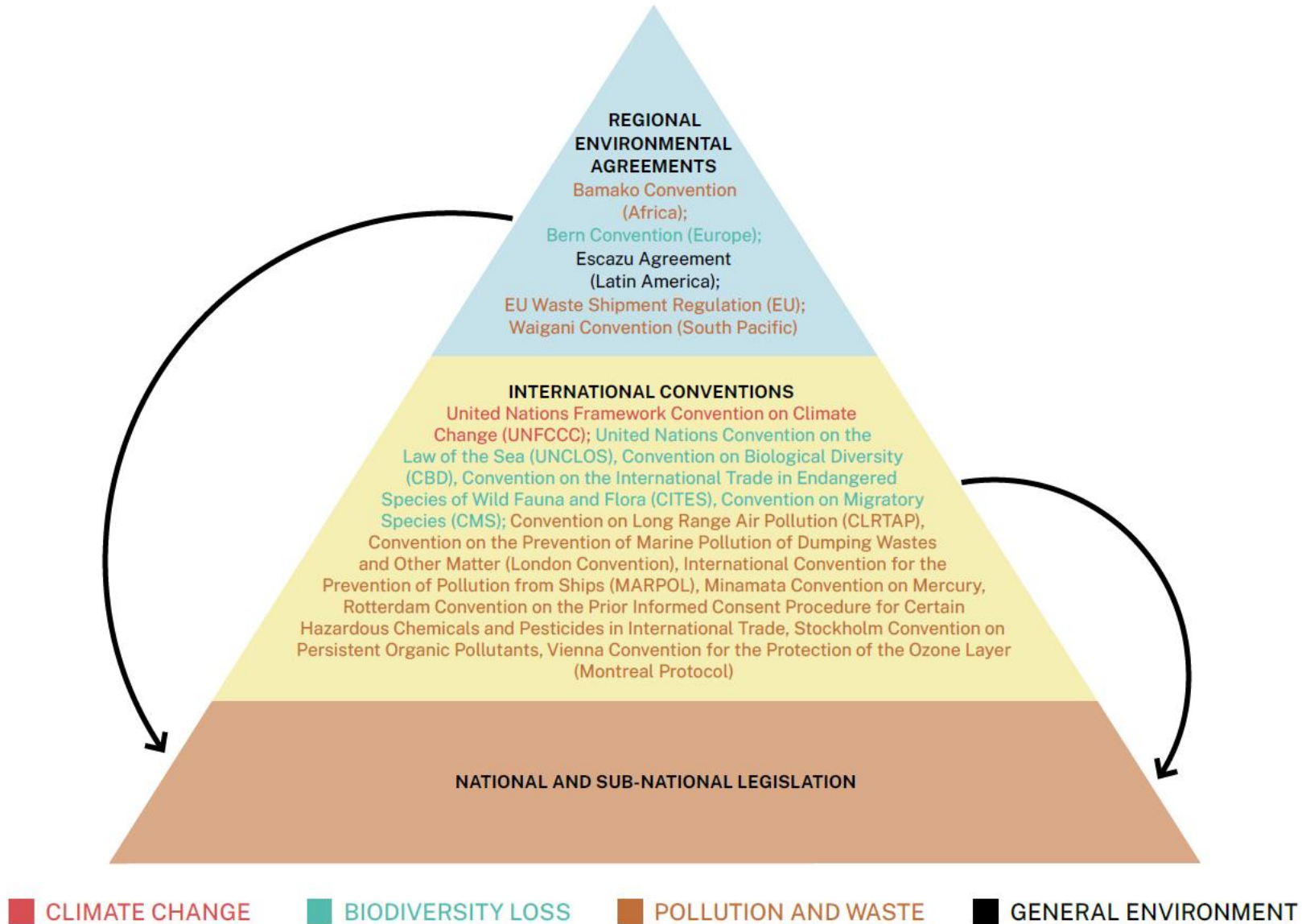
# Understanding the Context

## The landscape of criminalization

Part 1 of the Global Analysis on Crime that Affect the Environment



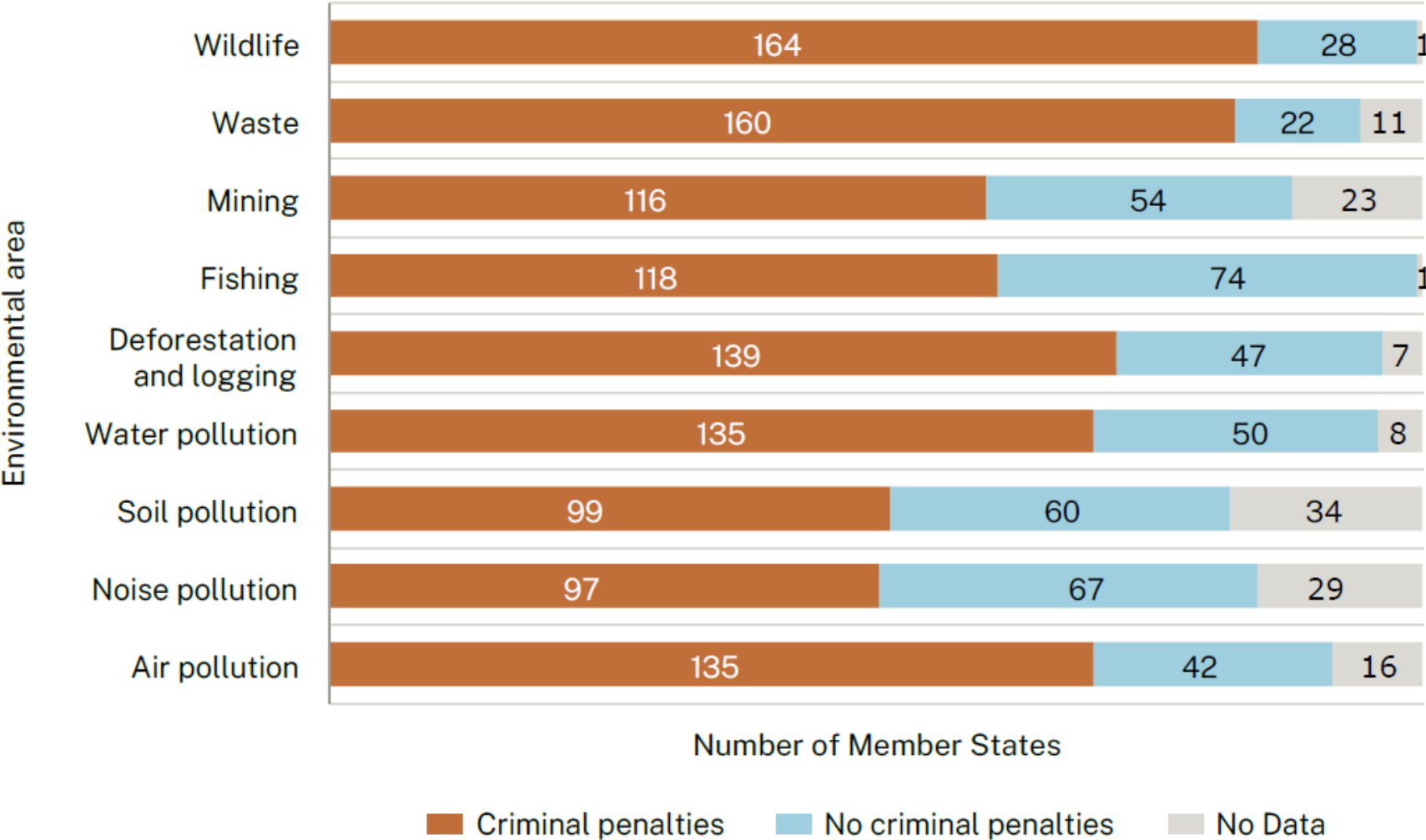
# No single instrument covers all crimes that affect the environment





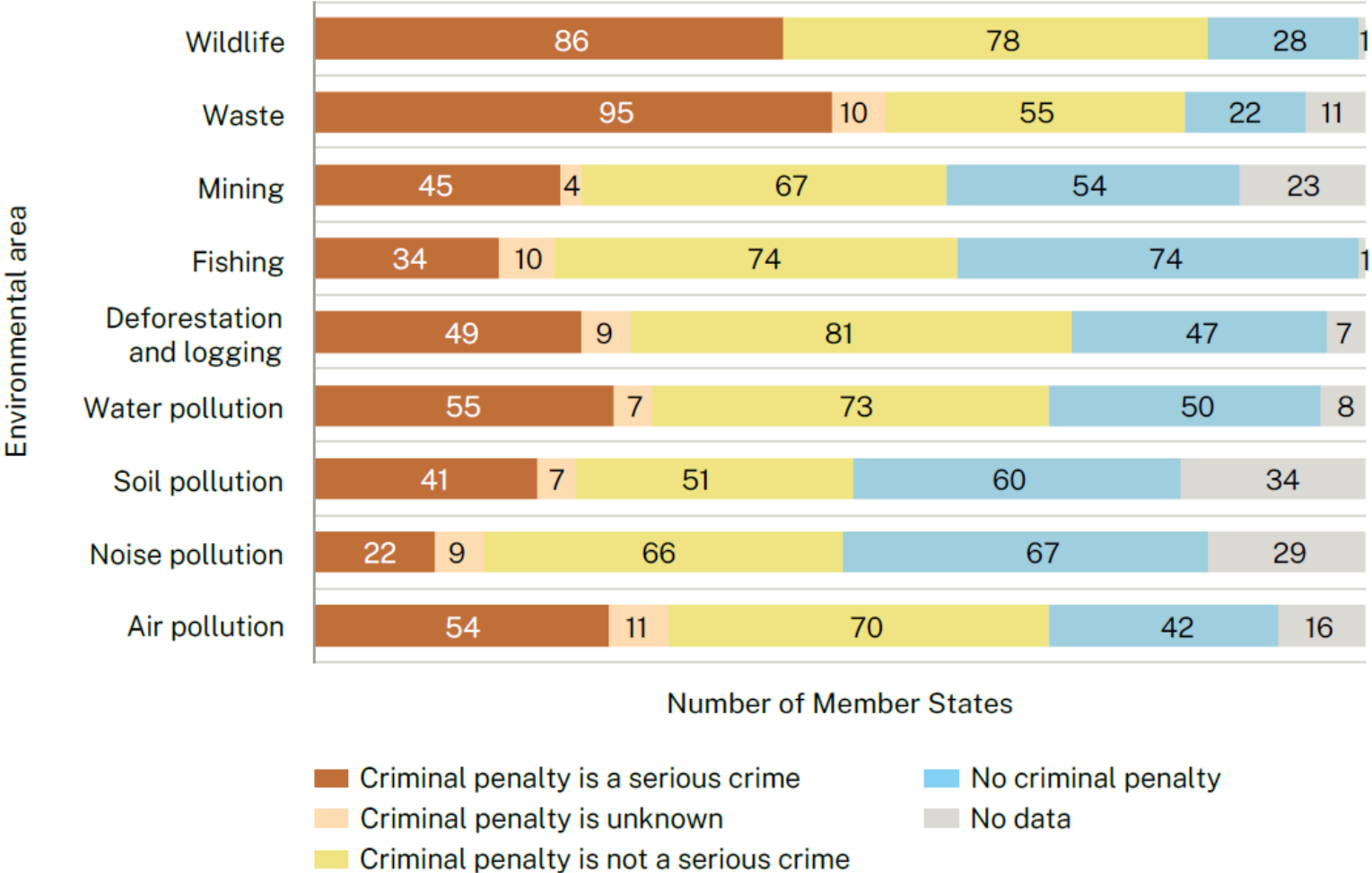
# Criminalization of behaviors that harm the environment varies across areas

Figure 1 – State of criminalization (Number of UN Member States)



# Behaviors that harm the environment not uniformly considered as a serious crime

Figure 3 – Member States with legislation meeting the UNTOC definition of serious crime of at least four years in prison

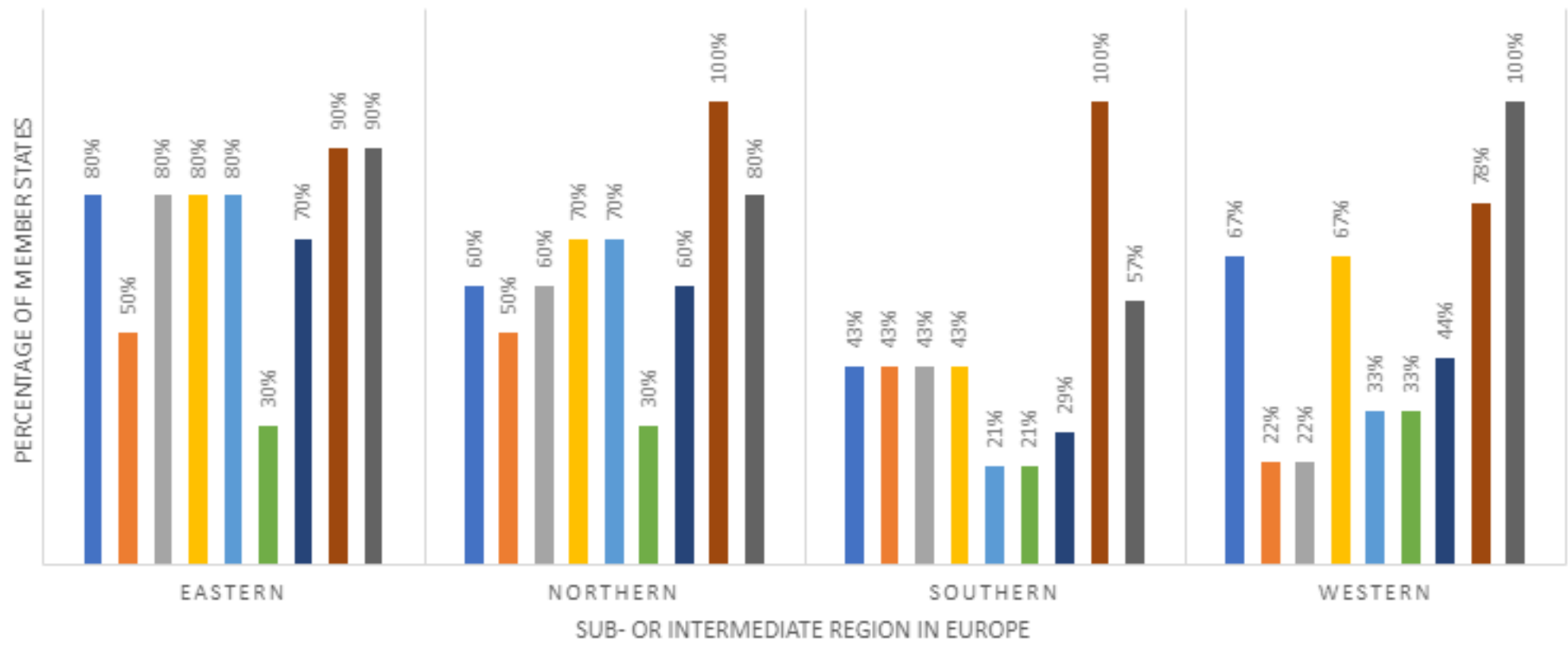


# Holding legal persons liable - particularly for fisheries and forestry



## PERCENTAGE OF CRIMINALIZATION OF RELATED OFFENCES IN SUB- OR INTERMEDIATE REGIONS IN EUROPE

■ Air Pollution  
 ■ Noise Pollution  
 ■ Soil Pollution  
 ■ Water Pollution  
 ■ Deforestation and Logging  
 ■ Fishing  
 ■ Mining  
 ■ Waste  
 ■ Wildlife



# WORLD WILDLIFE CRIME REPORT



**Summary, conclusions and policy implications**

**Chapter 1: Introduction**

**Chapter 2: Characterizing wildlife trafficking and associated crime**

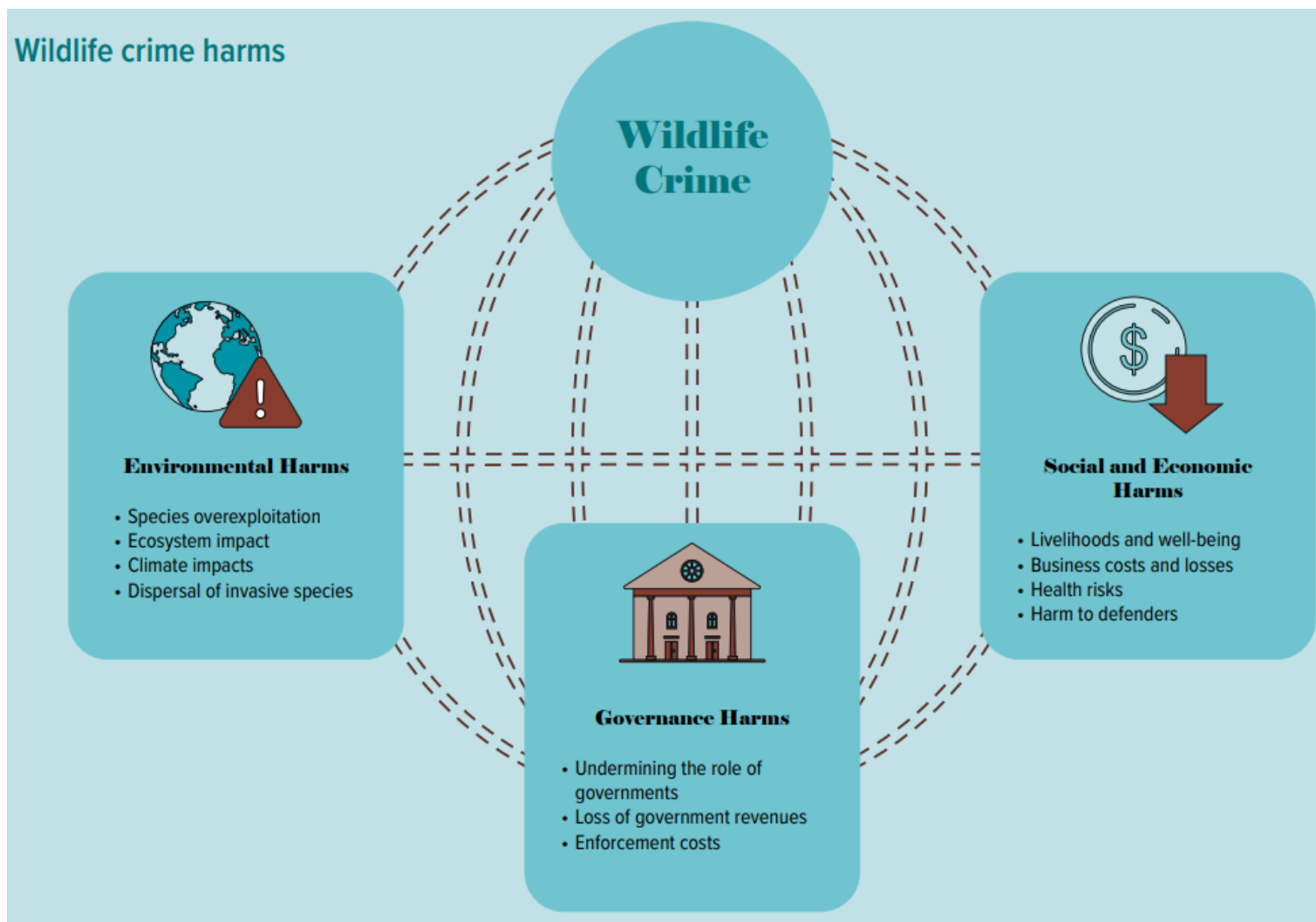
**Chapter 3: The impacts and harms of wildlife crime**

**Chapter 4: What is driving wildlife crime patterns and trends?**

**Chapter 5: What works to decrease wildlife crime?**

**Case studies**

# WORLD WILDLIFE CRIME REPORT

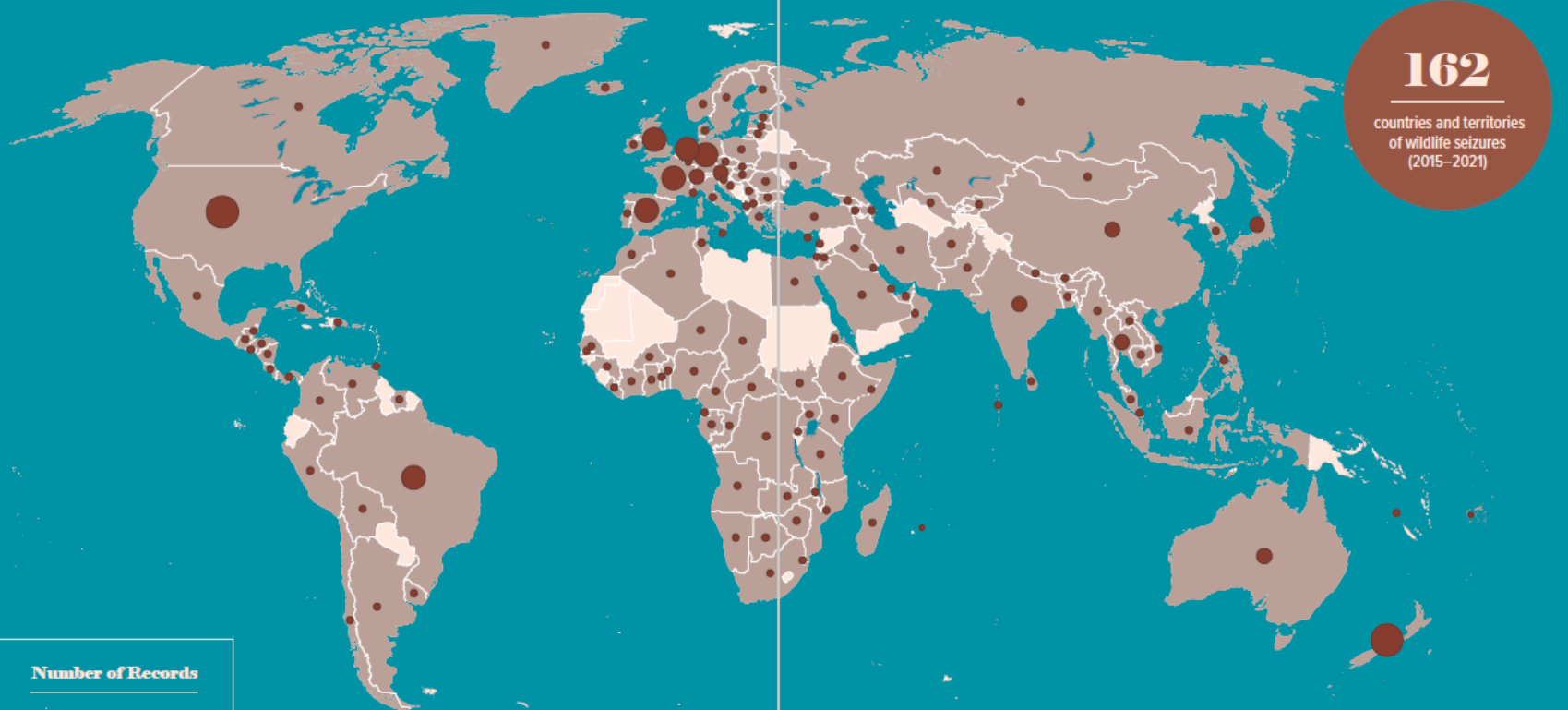


**Harms of wildlife crime  
– diverse and pervasive**

# WORLD WILDLIFE CRIME REPORT

Map

Number of seizure records in the WWCR3 analytical dataset per country/territory 2015–2021



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Final boundary between the Republic of Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan has not yet been determined.

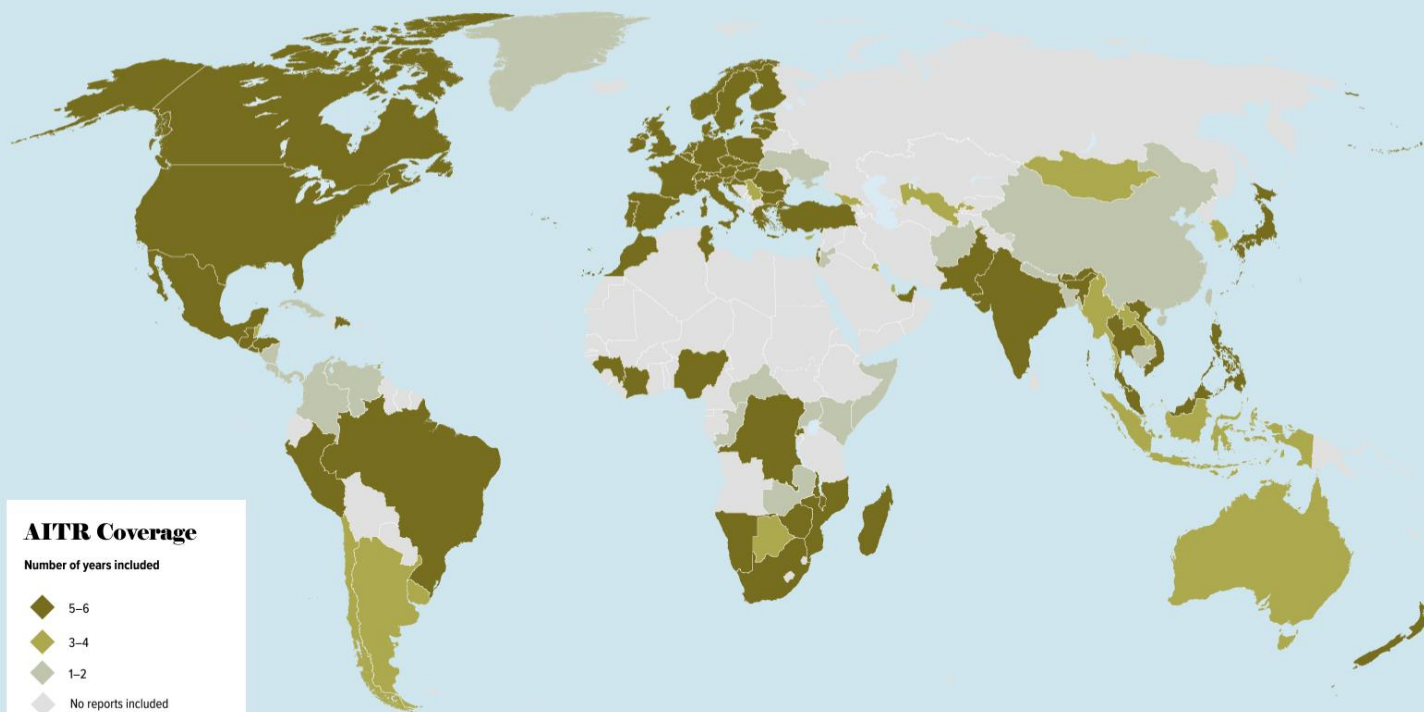
Dotted line represents approximately the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the parties.

A dispute exists between the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning sovereignty over the Falkland Islands (Malvinas).

Certain countries and their territories report separately under CITES. Dots therefore reflect both categories.

**Wildlife crime  
remains a  
worldwide  
challenge**

# WORLD WILDLIFE CRIME REPORT



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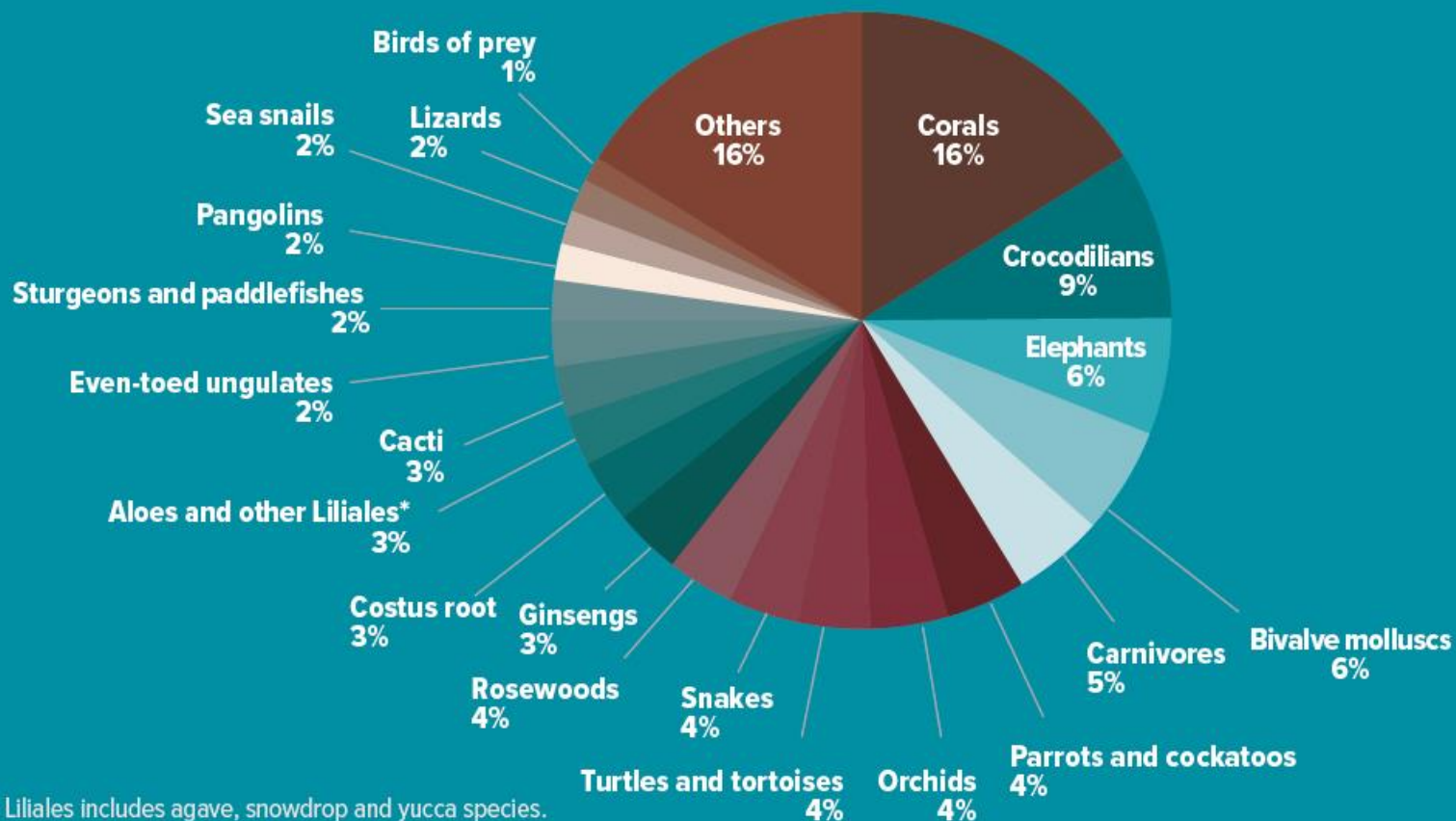
## CITES ANNUAL ILLEGAL TRADE REPORTS (AITRS) INCLUDED IN THE WWCR3 ANALYTICAL DATASET 2016–2021



# WORLD WILDLIFE CRIME REPORT

## Diversity of species recorded in seizures

Percentage share of all seizure records by species group 2015–2021

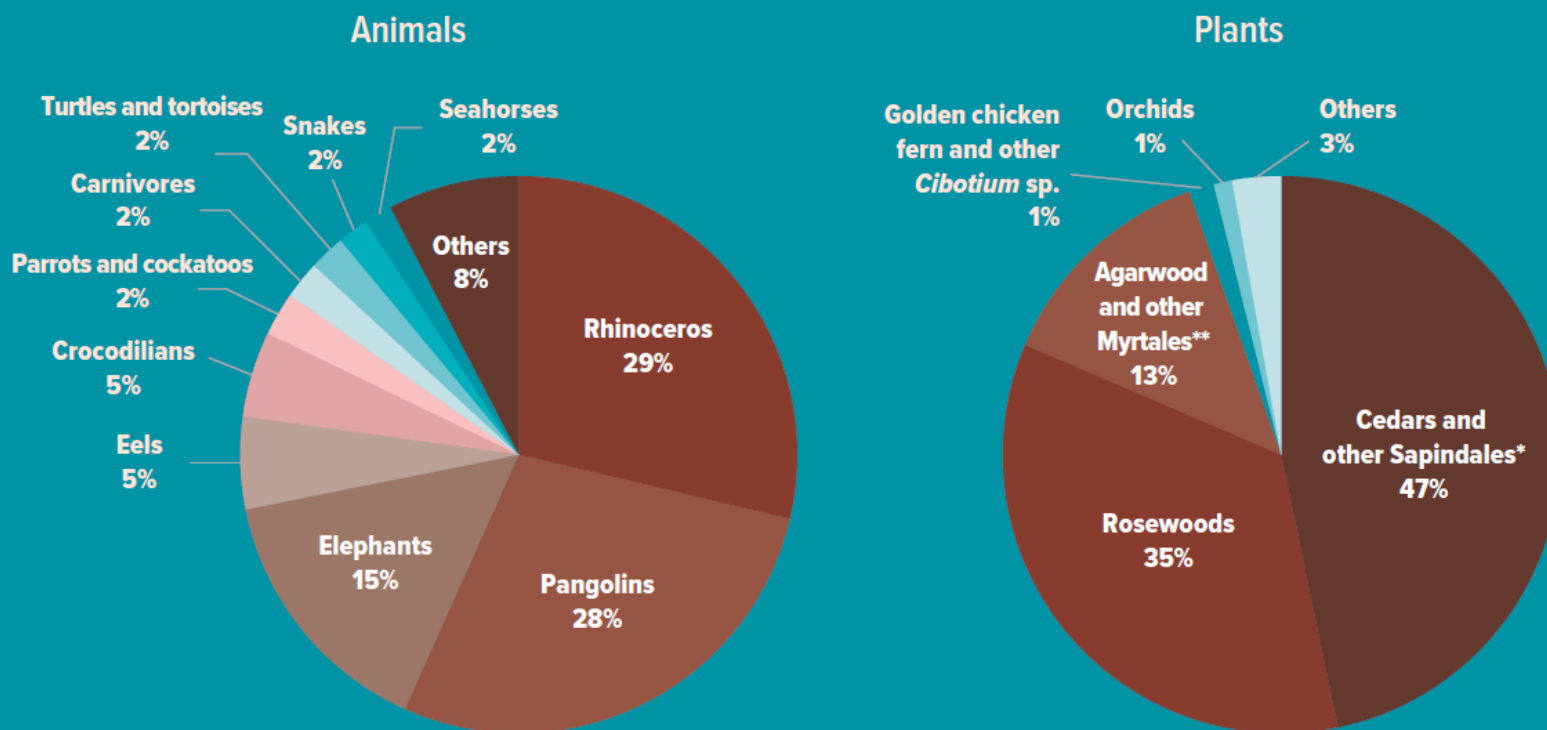


**4,000**  
species  
reported in  
seizures  
during 2015-  
2021

# WORLD WILDLIFE CRIME REPORT

## Species most affected

Just 15 broad markets comprised the bulk of the observed illegal wildlife trade during 2015–2021 based on standardized seizure index

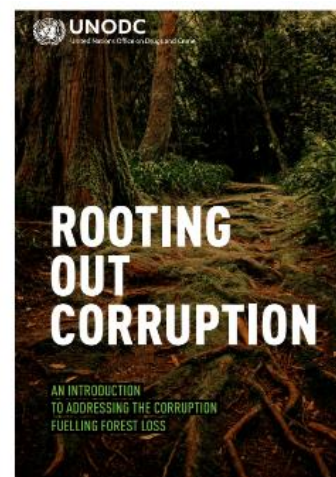
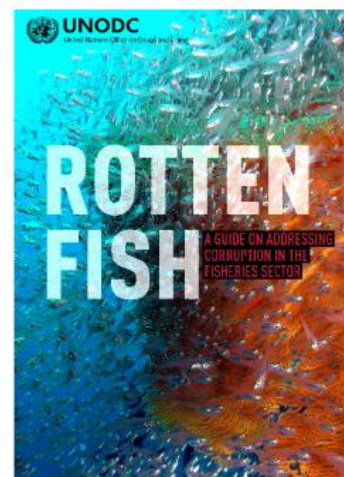
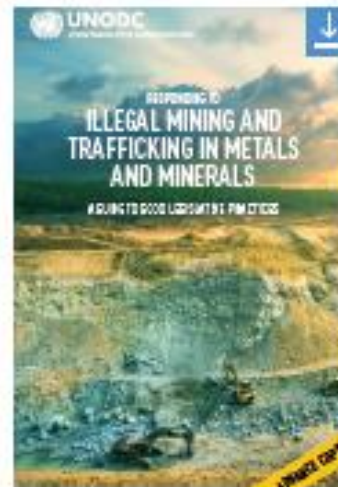
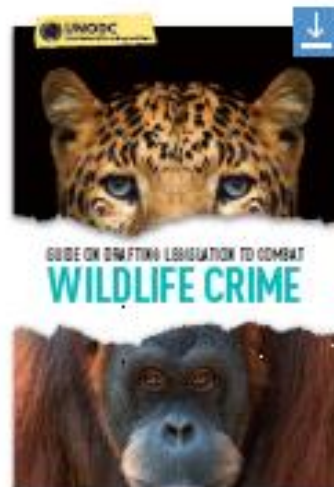


\* Other Sapindales species include mahogany, holy wood and *Guaiacum*

\*\* Other Myrtales species include ramin and eucalyptus

## Major Markets

# PREVENT AND DETER: STRENGTHENING LEGAL AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORKS



# GOING BEYOND SEIZURES: STRENGTHENING NATIONAL CAPACITIES FOR INVESTIGATION

- Capacity building & mentorship
- Crime Scene management & awareness



- Forensic analysis and evidence and specialized technical assistance



# ENSURING JUSTICE: ENHANCING PROSECUTION AND ADJUDICATION CAPACITY

- 17 Rapid Reference Guides



- Sensitization and awareness



- Capacity Building for Prosecutors and Judges
- Practical guides and tools



# JOINING FORCES ACROSS BORDERS: STRENGTHENING REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

- Wildlife Inter-regional Enforcement Meetings
- Wildlife Enforcement Networks
- Operations (Mekong Dragon, SAMA I)
- Informal Law Enforcement Network on Minerals Related Crime



# ACCELERATING GLOBAL MOMENTUM: RAISING AWARENESS AND SHARING KNOWLEDGE

- Animals in Danger
- Engagement in intergovernmental processes
- Links between crimes that affect the environment and climate change



ILLEGAL WILDLIFE TRADE  
AND CLIMATE CHANGE  
Joining the dots



Crimes that Affect  
the Environment  
and Climate Change



# KEY AREAS FOR THE BALKANS

Context specific data and  
evidence



Strengthening of legislative and  
institutional frameworks



Enhancing Prosecution and  
adjudication capacity



Strengthening national, regional  
and international cooperation



Raising awareness



# THANK YOU!



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