

CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES  
OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA

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Geneva (Switzerland), 17-28 August 2019

## INTERNATIONAL CONSORTIUM ON COMBATING WILDLIFE CRIME (ICCWC)

This document has been prepared by the Secretariat and is submitted on behalf of the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICCWC) in relation to the agenda item 15.5 on the *International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime*. The document is divided into four sections and a summary of each section is provided below. Additional details, maps,<sup>1</sup> tables and Infographics can be found in the further pages of the present document.

**Part 1. [ICCWC flagship products](#)**

This section includes an overview of the *Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit*, the *Indicator Framework for Wildlife and Forest Crime*, the *Guidelines on Methods and Procedures of Ivory Sampling and Analysis*, the *Best Practice Guide for Forensic Timber Identification*, the *Wildlife Crime and Money Laundering training program* and the *World Wildlife Crime Report*.

**Part 2. [Implementation of the ICCWC Toolkit and Indicator Framework](#)**

To date (August 2019), 30 requests for toolkit implementation have been received by ICCWC from countries in Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean. Implementation has been successfully completed in 12 countries and is at different stages of implementation in 18 others. This section includes a summary of progress on each request for Toolkit implementation received from Parties and is presented in a table as well as a map.<sup>1</sup>

**Part 3. [ICCWC tools and services in practice & coordinated law enforcement support](#)**

This section highlights examples of key activities implemented by the Consortium in support of the recommendations resulting from the implementation of the ICCWC Toolkit in the different countries. It also highlights recent activities implemented by ICCWC in support of the implementation of Decisions agreed by the Conference of the Parties to CITES, and operational support to enhance the capacity of enforcement officers across the world to respond to wildlife crime.

**Part 4. [ICCWC Strategic Programme Infographics](#)**

This section consists of Infographics developed by ICCWC to highlight key activities delivered by the Consortium in 2017 and 2018, as well as the allocation of the funds received from donors to the ICCWC Strategic Programme, which includes the generous contributions received from the European Union, France, Monaco, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

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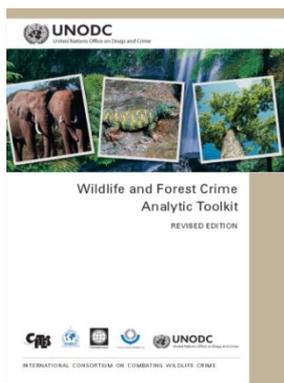
<sup>1</sup> Designations do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of ICCWC or its individual partner agencies concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area, or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

## Part 1. ICCWC flagship products (for additional information, tools and services, click [here](#))

The [ICCWC Menu of Services](#) provides an indicative list of the training courses, tools and services available through ICCWC partner agencies. These can be delivered globally in accordance with the ICCWC Strategic Programme. Drawing upon their complementary mandates, unique pool of knowledge and expertise, and extensive national and regional networks, the five ICCWC partner agencies are uniquely placed to deliver a range of comprehensive interventions to strengthen criminal justice systems and build long-term capacity among authorities to address wildlife crime, providing them with the tools, services and technical support they need. Generous contributions from donors enable the Consortium to provide extensive support to national agencies, sub-regional and regional networks responsible for wildlife law enforcement. The Menu of Services is available in English, French and Spanish on the ICCWC web portal.

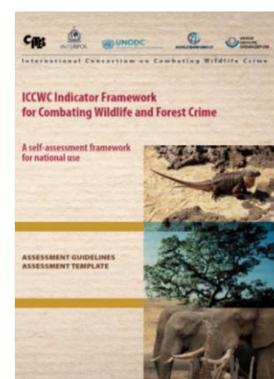


The **ICCWC Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit** (2012) provides government officials, Customs, police and other relevant enforcement agencies with a framework to conduct a comprehensive analysis of their preventive and criminal justice response to wildlife and forest crime and identify technical assistance needs. The country's capabilities are assessed in relation to relevant legislation, law enforcement measures, prosecutorial and judicial capacities, factors that drive offences, the effectiveness of preventive measures, and the availability and use made of data. The Toolkit is available in Chinese, [English](#), [French](#) and [Spanish](#). See the Toolkit [Fact Sheet](#) and implementation [step by step guide](#) for more details.



The **ICCWC Indicator Framework for Wildlife and Forest Crime** (2016) is a self-assessment tool designed for use by countries at national level to measure and monitor the effectiveness of their law enforcement responses to wildlife and forest crime.

It can be used in conjunction with or independently from the Toolkit and consists of 50 indicators against which countries can measure their own progress. The Indicator Frameworks consists of Assessment Guidelines and an Assessment template. The *Assessment Guidelines* provide an overview of the ICCWC Indicator Framework and introduce the 50 indicators and the eight enforcement outcomes they are grouped under. It also provides practical guidance on completing an assessment using the ICCWC Indicator Framework and discusses the analysis of results including the more detailed exploration of results using the ICCWC Toolkit. The *Assessment Template* provides the full measurement details of all 50 indicators to conduct the national assessment. The Indicator Framework is available in Chinese, [English](#), [French](#), [Portuguese](#) (template only) and [Spanish](#).



In support of the deployment of forensic applications to combat elephant poaching and illegal trade in ivory, the Consortium developed the **ICCWC Guidelines on Methods and Procedures of Ivory Sampling and Analysis** (2014), available in Chinese and [English](#). To complement the Guidelines, ICCWC has also developed a **training video on ivory sampling** that is available in [Arabic](#), [Chinese](#), [English](#) and [French](#).



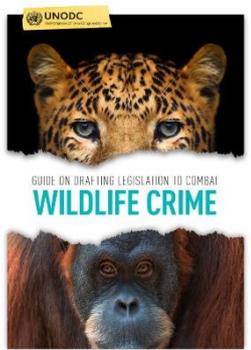
ICCWC has also delivered a **Best Practice Guide for Forensic Timber Identification** (2016) which facilitates the use of forensic science to combat illicit trafficking in timber, and covers the whole chain of custody, providing information on best practices and procedures from the crime scene to the court room, to ensure that forensic data are credible and admissible in court.

The **Wildlife Crime and Money Laundering training program** (2016) is a four-day workshop to help Financial Intelligence Units (FIUs), investigators, prosecutors and judges to overcome the investigative, legal and procedural challenges related to wildlife crime and money laundering cases. It aims to develop capacity to standardise procedures in detecting illegal transactions and suspicious activities, and to investigate, prosecute and adjudicate money laundering cases related to wildlife trafficking. Individual programme modules are being tailored to the needs of the different practitioners, to help them choose effective strategies, understand complex criminal patterns, reconstruct financial transactions, and apply relevant procedures or statutes.

The **World Wildlife Crime Report** takes stock of the present wildlife crime situation with a focus on illicit tracking of specific protected species of wild fauna and flora, and provides a broad assessment of the nature and extent of the problem at the global level. It includes a quantitative market assessment and a series of in-depth illicit trade case studies for species increasingly being seized by authorities as they gain prominence among consumers. The second edition of the WWCR, to be released in late 2019, incorporates updated data from UNODC's World-WISE seizure database through 2017 as well as case studies on new species of concern.

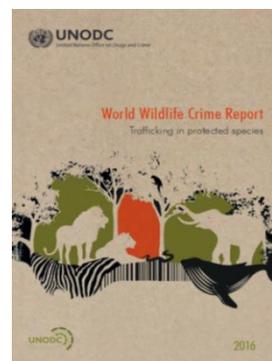
*Information sheets on the different tools and services available through ICCWC are available on the ICCWC website.*

Other products developed by ICCWC partner agencies which Parties are encouraged to draw upon:



The **Guide on Drafting Legislation to Combat Wildlife Crime** (2018) aims to assist Parties in protecting wildlife by criminalizing serious wildlife offences, as defined in this Guide, thereby enhancing Parties prosecution and criminal justice capacities. The Guide is intended as a technical assistance tool to assist Parties in reviewing and amending existing legislation and adopting new legislation against wildlife crime in line with the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the United Nations Convention against Corruption.

The **Customs – Police Cooperation Handbook (2018)** aims to foster increased cooperation between the Customs and Police agencies at the national level. While this document highlights the need for customs – police cooperation, on the one hand, it also offers professional insight on how to strengthen the collaboration between these institutions that are so important to a country's national security.



Further details are also available on the [ICCWC web portal](#).

For additional information, see also [SC69 Doc 31.2](#) and [SC70 Doc 30.2](#).

**Part 2. Table: Implementation of the ICCWC Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit and Indicator Framework (updated as of 2 August 2019)**

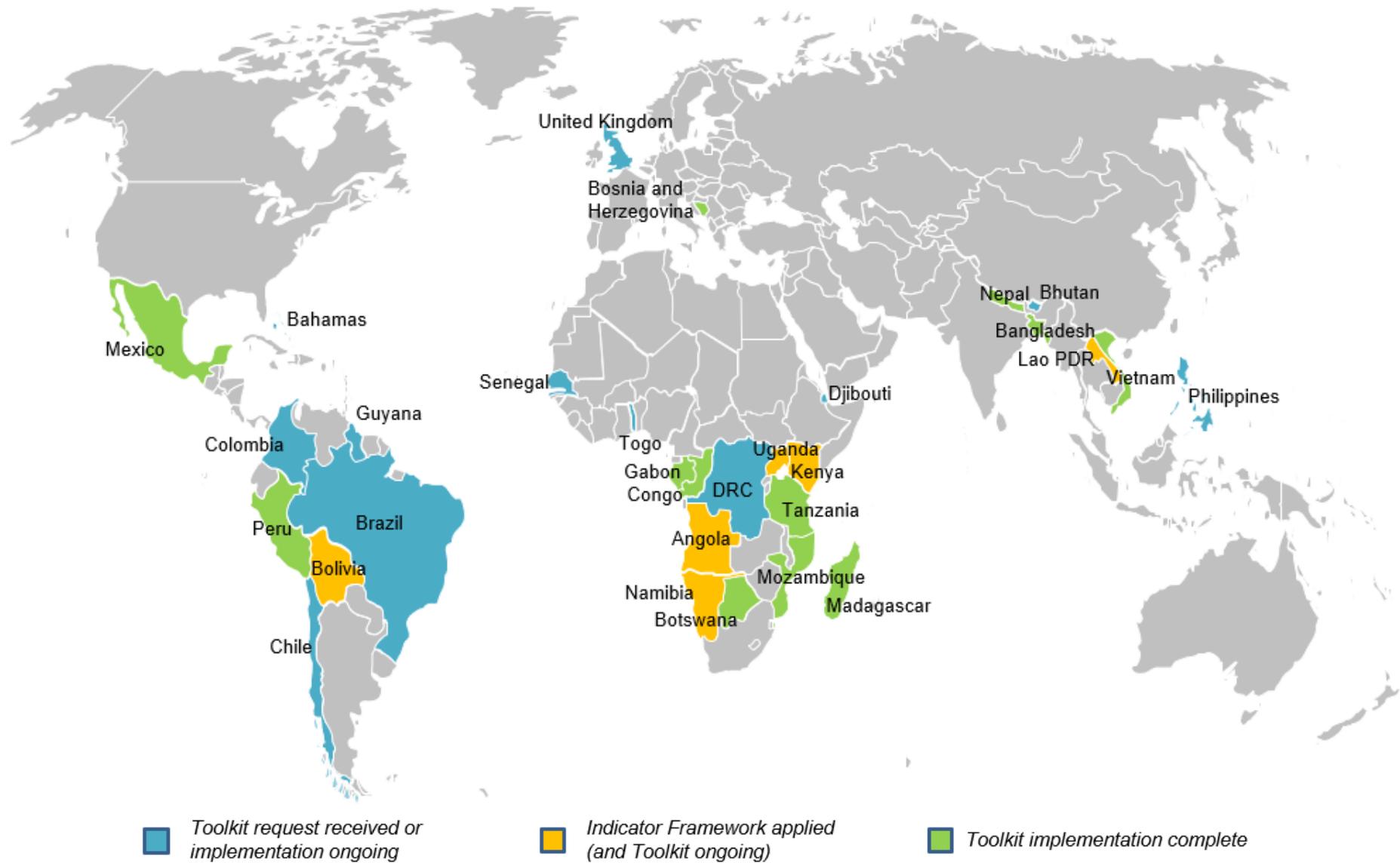
PARTY	ICCWC TOOLKIT IMPLEMENTATION STEPS [INDICATOR FRAMEWORK (IF) APPLIED SINCE 2018 AS PART OF STEP 4]								TARGETED SUPPORT PROVIDED ON RECOMMENDATIONS DIRECTED TO ICCWC
	STEP 1: REQUEST RECEIVED	STEP 2: NOMINATION OF FOCAL POINT	STEP 3: PREPARATORY WORK	STEP 4: INITIAL MEETING & INDICATOR FRAMEWORK	STEP 5: IN-COUNTRY MISSION	STEP 6: REPORT (DRAFT)	STEP 7: ACTION PLAN	STEP 8: COMPLETED (PRESENTED TO GOV.)	
Angola	✓	✓	✓	✓ + IF (2019)					
Bahamas	✓	✓	✓	✓					
Bangladesh	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ (2013)	✓
Bhutan	✓	✓							
Bolivia	✓	✓	✓	✓ + IF (2019)					
Bosnia and Herzegovina	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ (2018*)	
Brazil	✓	✓	✓						
Botswana	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ (2015)	✓
Chile	✓	✓							
Colombia	✓	✓							
Congo	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ (2016*)	
Djibouti	✓								
DRC	✓	✓	✓						
Gabon	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ (2015)	✓
Guyana	✓	✓							
Kenya	✓	✓	✓	IF (2018**)					
Lao People's Democratic Republic	✓	✓	✓	✓ + IF (2019)	✓				
Madagascar	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ (2018)	
Mexico	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ (2014)	✓

PARTY	ICCWC TOOLKIT IMPLEMENTATION STEPS [INDICATOR FRAMEWORK (IF) APPLIED SINCE 2018 AS PART OF STEP 4]								TARGETED SUPPORT PROVIDED ON RECOMMENDATIONS DIRECTED TO ICCWC
	STEP 1: REQUEST RECEIVED	STEP 2: NOMINATION OF FOCAL POINT	STEP 3: PREPARATORY WORK	STEP 4: INITIAL MEETING & INDICATOR FRAMEWORK	STEP 5: IN-COUNTRY MISSION	STEP 6: REPORT (DRAFT)	STEP 7: ACTION PLAN	STEP 8: COMPLETED (PRESENTED TO GOV.)	
Mozambique	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ (2017)	✓
Namibia	✓	✓	✓	✓ + IF (2019)					
Nepal	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ (2014)	✓
Philippines	✓	✓	✓						
Peru	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ (2014)	✓
Senegal	✓	✓							
Togo	✓	✓	✓	✓					
Uganda	✓	✓	✓	✓ + IF (2018)					
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	✓	✓	✓						
United Republic of Tanzania	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ (2016)	✓
Vietnam	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ (2015)	✓

\* Report completed and submitted to government.

\*\* Discussions between the country and ICCWC identified that the Toolkit might not be needed. As an alternative, the ICCWC Indicator Framework will be applied in the country. To date, a preparatory workshop has taken place. The full implementation of the IF is planned in late 2019.

Part 2. Map: Implementation of the ICCWC Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit (as of 2 August 2019)<sup>1</sup>



### Part 3. ICCWC tools and services in practice & Coordinated Law Enforcement Support

#### Examples of activities conducted by ICCWC to support the implementation of recommendations that resulted from the implementation of the ICCWC Toolkit in different countries

To date, the Toolkit has been fully implemented in Bangladesh (completed in 2013), Botswana (2015), Gabon (2015), Madagascar (2018), Mexico (2014), Mozambique (2017), Nepal (2014), Peru (2014), the United Republic of Tanzania (2016) and Viet Nam (2015).<sup>1</sup> Several examples of activities implemented to date are, *inter alia*, included below. No activities have been implemented in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Republic of Congo as the report has not officially been presented to the governments to date.



Following the use of the ICCWC Toolkit in **Bangladesh**, implementation of the recommendations included in-depth training delivered by CITES, INTERPOL and the WCO to strengthen the capacity of enforcement authorities, to implement and enforce CITES provisions. It focused on strengthening the skills of law enforcement officers from across the country to tackle wildlife and forest crime using a broad range of innovative and specialized investigation techniques. It also exposed these officers to several tools and services available through ICCWC partner agencies and highlighted the importance of targeted law enforcement responses. In addition, it promoted regional collaboration and

inter-departmental coordination among law enforcement agencies of Bangladesh.

The **Botswana** Toolkit Analysis report recommended that consideration be given to building further capacity in forensic services, amongst others. UNODC has since implemented a wildlife forensics capacity building project in partnership with the Botswana Department of Wildlife and National Parks (DWNP) and the TRACE Wildlife Forensics Network. A detailed review of wildlife forensic capacity was undertaken, and a regional workshop was held in Gaborone to discuss the sharing of wildlife forensic services on a regional basis. UNODC further supported the development of a Rapid Reference Guide entitled 'Wildlife Crime in Botswana: "Points to Prove": A Guide for Prosecutors and Investigators including Sample Charges and Best Practice Guidance'. Training has been delivered on the use of the Guide and further capacity building was delivered on case file preparation for over 110 officers from the DWNP, Directorate of Public Prosecution and Police prosecutors. UNODC has also been supporting the assessment of corruption risks and the implementation of anti-corruption measures in DWNP.

The **Gabon** Toolkit Analysis Report identified the need for review of non-deterrent penalties, the establishment of an inter- and multi-agency coordination structure to strengthen inter-ministerial cooperation, and comprehensive training and support for law enforcement officials to address wildlife crime. In response, the Government revised the penal code in 2018 in order to strengthen penalties for poaching and wildlife crime. UNODC worked with the Gabonese government to implement a law enforcement mentorship programme to improve national investigative and intelligence capacity. From November 2014 - March 2016, UNODC placed two international mentors (an intelligence analyst and a senior investigator) in Libreville to work with Agence Nationale Des Parcs (ANPN) and other partners to establish a system to develop and operationalise an intelligence and operations structure. UNODC mentors developed a detailed structure and plan to operationalise three cells: operations, intelligence and investigations. The mentors equipped and trained teams of eco guards on operations and intelligence matters. The mentors also identified and selected national specialists to take over this work and the project was formally handed over to ANPN in March 2016. At the time of writing, the Secretariat is in discussions with Gabon to identify possible dates to, in line with the recommendations of the Toolkit and further needs assessments conducted in the country, provide capacity building on CITES to enforcement authorities in the country.



At the time of writing, ICCWC partners are considering the recommendations resulting from toolkit implementation in **Madagascar**, to identify which can be best addressed with the funding available to ICCWC for this purpose. Activities under discussion include the potential development of a Rapid Reference Guide or sensitization and awareness workshops on wildlife offences for judges and prosecutors. A port assessment for a potential [Container Control Programme \(CCP\)](#) Port Control Unit is also being explored by UNODC and WCO.



In **Mexico** the Toolkit assessment identified 56 recommendations, in particular to a) strengthen the legal framework to consider WLFC as an organized crime and reinforce the legal attributions of the Federal Attorney's Office of Environmental Protection (PROFEPA); b) continue training and professionalizing public officials to detect, investigate, prosecute and adjudicate WLFC; c) promote more efficient inter-institutional coordination mechanisms; d) promote the systematization of information to produce data-based investigations and intelligence; and e) develop awareness raising campaigns targeting the population to reduce demand of wildlife products and

promote the report of the crime. In response, UNODC and PROFEPA convened a group of public officials from 10 Federal institutions and developed a list of priorities to enhance inter-institutional coordination and law enforcement actions to prevent and combat wildlife and forest crime in Mexico. These included the promotion of training workshops and the specialization of public officials; the creation of an inter-institutional committee to draft a national plan of action; and the development of awareness raising initiatives to reduce demand. In addition, in April 2017 the Mexican Law against Organized Crime was reformed and environmental crimes were included in the list of crimes to be investigated, prosecuted and sentenced as organized crimes. In November 2018, UNODC organized a training workshop to strengthen the investigation and prosecution of wildlife and forest crime. 68 public officials from different Mexican specialized authorities participated in activities focused on strengthening inter-institutional cooperation, forensics techniques, financial investigations, intelligence and investigative capacity in the areas of wildlife and forest crime



*Training workshop for the investigation and prosecution of wildlife and forest crime, Mexico City (September 2018)*

During the presentation of the ICCWC Toolkit report to the Government of **Mozambique** in Maputo in July 2017, a number of activities were identified for immediate support. In 2018 and 2019, thanks to generous funding from Germany and the European Union, the Consortium supported the development of a Rapid Reference Manual for investigators and prosecutors on wildlife crime. Training has been delivered on the use of the Guide benefitting over 65 prosecutors and investigators. Building on the work undertaken for developing the Manual, capacity-building tools for the Judiciary, including a bench book for judges, have been developed. Further training for criminal justice practitioners is programmed in 2019 and onwards. In addition, efforts have started to explore the possibility to implement the UNODC/WCO CCP in Mozambique to support the establishment of a Port Control Unit at the Maputo port and an Airport Control Unit for Air-Cargo at the Maputo Airport. An Airport and Port assessment mission took place in 5-9 February 2018 to lay the recommendations for implementation of the CCP. Additional activities will be considered in due course.



In **Peru**, following the implementation of the Toolkit, UNODC partnered with the US Department of Justice on the delivery of three inter-institutional workshops on illegal logging for prosecutors. The last workshop held in 2018 was also supported by the US Forest Service. The workshops were held between 2016 and 2018 in the regions of Loreto, Madre de Dios and Ucayali and aimed to promote inter-institutional coordination, address licensing and trade control of logging, promote joint work between national and local authorities and provide international experiences on law enforcement procedures, financial investigations, forensics techniques, interdiction, data collection and analysis and control procedures. In June 2019, UNODC held a national workshop to initiate the Design of a Rapid Reference Guide (RRG) for Investigators and Prosecutors on Wildlife and Forest Crime, which will focus on illegal logging and wildlife crime. Further training to roll out the guide is planned for the 2019 and onwards.



*Workshop to Design RRG for Investigators and Prosecutors, Lima, Peru (June 2019)*

In the **United Republic of Tanzania**, the Toolkit assessment was undertaken in partnership with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). A total of 57 resulting recommendations were incorporated into an Action Plan for implementation. Of these, 30 recommendations were prioritised and incorporated into the UNDP GEF6 programming proposal for 6.3m USD as specific activities under the programme. Additionally, a recommendation to ensure more robust coordination between investigators and prosecutors was prioritised through the training of a pool of 30 trainers and the launching of new Standard Operating Procedures for the investigation and prosecution of wildlife and forest crime along with the Tanzanian Rapid Reference Guide. This has resulted in the training of over 450 investigators and prosecutors in 17 training workshops conducted throughout the country. Furthermore, following a number of recommendations related to the enhancement of criminal intelligence processes, UNODC has engaged an expert consultant to work closely with the Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority to assist in developing intelligence systems and providing mentoring advice. In January 2019, UNODC organized two workshops on courtroom advocacy skills for prosecutors of wildlife and forest crime.

In **Uganda**, with funding provided by Germany and the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs of the United States of America, the Indicator Framework assessment was undertaken in November 2018. In the context of the Toolkit assessment, in-country expert visits took place in 2019 and the in-country visits will be finalized in quarter 3, 2019. Identified as one of the priority areas from the Indicator Framework process, capacity-building for investigators and prosecutors was supported through the dissemination of the Rapid Reference Guide for Wildlife Investigators and Prosecutors launched in 2018. Three dissemination roll-out training workshops were carried out in 2019 in the country bringing together officers from Uganda Wildlife Authority, the Office of the Director for Public Prosecution, Police, Judiciary and Civil Society.



In **Viet Nam**, 21 out of the 47 recommendations of the Toolkit report have been fully or partially addressed, while activities are currently being undertaken vis-à-vis 19 recommendation by UNODC, ICCWC and a number of partner organizations. In particular, the Toolkit analysis report demonstrated the complexity and widespread challenges in the national response to address wildlife and forest crime. UNODC used the results of the Viet Nam Toolkit report to inform the development of the UNODC work plan for 2016 and 2017 and is also using them to develop the work plan for 2018. The new Penal Code for Viet Nam was approved by the

National Assembly in June 2017 and entered into force from 1 January 2018. UNODC provided technical assistance to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment to review and revise the Environmental Chapter of the Penal Code. New provisions in the Penal Code are resolving 6 of the Toolkit recommendations. In 2016 UNODC conducted several activities which contributed to 5 recommendations outlined in the report: specialist law enforcement training courses for police, border army, customs and forestry officers in Viet Nam (April 2016); advanced anti-smuggling detection and investigation techniques for frontline officers in the border area (July 2016); a training course to build capacity of prosecutors to prepare and present wildlife crime cases in court (June 2016); a training course for selected environmental police officers on criminal intelligence development and use of intelligence software (August 2016). Furthermore, UNODC convened a policy dialogue between Viet Nam and Laos to discuss challenges and solutions to improve the response to trafficking of natural resources across land borders (April 2016). Lastly an inter-regional meeting for police and wildlife investigators from key African and Asian countries to exchange information and intelligence on wildlife crime cases was held (November-December 2016). In 2017, UNODC conducted a series of trainings in Viet Nam which contributed to a further 5 recommendations outlined in the report: a training course for police on online investigation of wildlife crime (April 2017); specialist law enforcement training courses - including on advanced anti-smuggling detection and investigation techniques for frontline officers in border areas (July, September and November 2017); a training for customs officers on risk profiling to enhance detection of illegal wildlife trade (September 2017), a training for instructors at the prosecution training academy on financial investigation and anti-money laundering, and the use of special investigation techniques in wildlife crime cases (September 2017). Furthermore, UNODC convened an inter-regional meeting for prosecutors from African and Asian countries to share information and discuss international legal assistance issues in March 2017. In 2018, UNODC in cooperation with the General Department of Vietnam Customs, conducted a training course on risk profiling to enhance interception of illegal wildlife trade for customs officers (September 2018), and a training on controlled delivery techniques for frontline officers (December 2018). UNODC further supported a workshop on the adjudication of cases relating to crimes against protected wildlife under the 2015 penal code, as amended in 2017, for judges and officials of the Supreme Court (August 2018) organized by the Supreme Court, in cooperation with USAID and the IGG Programme. UNODC, in cooperation with two USAID programmes and WWF/TRAFFIC conducted two cross-border training courses for Vietnamese and Chinese frontline officers (Customs and Police) in June 2019 and further cooperation strategies between the 2 countries will be discussed during a workshop in August 2019.

In addition, to support the implementation of specific recommendations and activities identified in the action plan highlighted above for Viet Nam, ICCWC jointly developed a project to convene a Wildlife Inter-Regional Enforcement (WIRE) meeting for Customs, followed by a Regional Investigative Analytic Case Meeting (RIACM) in Viet Nam during October 2017<sup>2</sup>. The meetings, convened back to back thanks to

<sup>2</sup> A WIRE is a meeting convened by UNODC designed in response to the need for intensified cooperation in the investigation of transnational criminal networks. It offers a specialized platform to convene one category of officials at a time, with a view to build bridges among like-minded professionals from different countries. A RIACM is a meeting convened by INTERPOL to

generous funds from the government of France, connected African and Asian investigators to engage in discussions related to both strategic and tactical responses to wildlife crime, and to exchange information and intelligence and initiate joint investigations.

Parties that have implemented the Toolkit are encouraged to liaise with relevant Parties, donors or international and national organizations as may be appropriate to request support and facilitate the implementation of the recommendations of the Toolkit. Similarly, Parties, donors and relevant international and national organizations with ongoing initiatives, programmes and activities in the different countries concerned are encouraged to liaise with national authorities to explore how their ongoing efforts could align with the recommendations of the Toolkit.

Examples of activities implemented by the Consortium to enhance the capacity of enforcement officers across the world to respond to wildlife crime:

In June 2017, the World Bank delivered on behalf of ICCWC a pilot training on financial investigations in Kenya, in which 31 participants from relevant agencies, including the Financial Intelligence Unit, Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS), Ports Authority, the Office of the Director of Public Prosecution, the Anti-Corruption Agency and the Judiciary participated. Based on experiences from this pilot implementation of the **ICCWC AML training programme**, the training is being further tailored and improved. A second training was delivered in the Republic of Tanzania from 13-17 November 2017. As part of the implementation of the ICCWC Strategic Programme, the Consortium will implement several activities in selected countries building on the experiences from Kenya and Tanzania.

The Consortium supported the **‘Thunder-series of Operations’** conducted as part of the implementation of the ICCWC Strategic Programme and mobilized from 43 countries in 2017 to 109 countries in 2019 in support of efforts to combat wildlife crime at the global level. These have been complemented by additional targeted activities at the national and regional level.



**Operation Thunderbird<sup>3</sup>** took place from 30 January to 19 February 2017 and was initiated by the INTERPOL Wildlife Crime Working Group (WCWG) and coordinated by ICCWC, in close cooperation with Environment Canada, the UK Border Force and the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). Operation Thunderbird, involved police, customs, border agencies, environment, wildlife and forestry officials from 43 countries and territories. Information and intelligence was shared ahead of the operation to assist in identifying specific targets and areas for action. These included wildlife and forest crime hotspots and bottlenecks where checkpoints could be established, in addition to operations at airports and national

*support investigations and operational analytical work., in particular to follow-up on transnational investigations linking organized criminal networks through information exchange and the development of operational plans to target these networks.*

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.interpol.int/News-and-media/News/2017/N2017-022>

borders. Operation Thunderbird resulted in 390 investigations, of which there have been 88 completed prosecutions thus far. Countries identified the involvement of at least 898 suspects and reported 1,400 seizures of illicit products worth an estimated USD 5.1 million. The information and intelligence resulting from the operation was analysed by INTERPOL and the product of this analysis will inform future national, regional and international enforcement efforts.

From 1 to 31 May 2018, the Consortium supported **Operation Thunderstorm**,<sup>4</sup> the second in the 'Thunder' series of operations, initiated by the INTERPOL Wildlife Crime Working Group and coordinated by INTERPOL and the WCO on behalf of ICCWC. Operation Thunderstorm targeted the criminals and global networks behind wildlife crime, and involved police, customs, border, wildlife, forestry and environment agencies from 92 countries and territories. Operation Thunderstorm resulted in 1,974 seizures, including over 1.3 tonnes of elephant ivory, 8 tonnes of pangolin scales, 4,000 birds and 27,000 reptiles. It enabled enforcement authorities to identify 1,400 suspects and triggered investigations, arrests, and prosecutions worldwide.<sup>5</sup> As ongoing investigations resulting from the operation unfold in different countries, further arrests and prosecutions are foreseen. In July 2018 for example, authorities in the United Kingdom executed warrants during follow up work in relation to seizures made during Operation Thunderstorm.<sup>6</sup> The information gathered during the operation will also be analysed by INTERPOL, and as appropriate, channelled to relevant authorities and used in ongoing and planned activities of the Consortium.



From 4 to 30 June 2019, INTERPOL and the WCO coordinated **Operation Thunderball**,<sup>7</sup> with police and customs administrations leading joint enforcement operations against wildlife and timber crime across 109 countries. The intelligence-led operation identified trafficking routes and crime hotspots ahead of time, enabling border, police and environmental officers to seize protected wildlife products ranging from live big cats and primates to timber, marine wildlife and derived merchandise such as clothing, beauty products, food items, traditional medicines and handicrafts. Initial results have led to the identification of almost 600 suspects, triggering arrests worldwide. Further arrests and prosecutions are anticipated as ongoing global investigations progress.

<sup>4</sup> [https://cites.org/eng/news/month-long-trans-continental-operation-hit-wildlife-criminals-hard\\_20062018](https://cites.org/eng/news/month-long-trans-continental-operation-hit-wildlife-criminals-hard_20062018)

<sup>5</sup> Photos (courtesy of INTERPOL and participating countries) are available on the CITES [Flickr](#) page. For additional information, including a [video message](#) from Canada on behalf of the organizing committee, see INTERPOL Press Release: <https://www.interpol.int/News-and-media/News/2018/N2018-058>.

<sup>6</sup> <https://twitter.com/ukwildlifecrime/status/1019903347350962178>

<sup>7</sup> [https://cites.org/eng/news/wildlife-trafficking-organized-crime-hit-hard-by-joint-interpol-wco-global-enforcement-operation\\_10072019](https://cites.org/eng/news/wildlife-trafficking-organized-crime-hit-hard-by-joint-interpol-wco-global-enforcement-operation_10072019)

## OPERATION THUNDERBALL 2019

Tackling illegal wildlife crime



**Targeted investigate support, trainings and Regional Investigative and Analytical Case Meetings** have continued to take place in support of ongoing investigations. For example, a Support Team was deployed to Ha Noi, Vietnam in 2019, in response to large-scale ivory and pangolin scales seizures. Working in coordination with customs and police, supported by the INTERPOL National Central Bureau, suspects were identified, as well as an additional illegal shipment was profiled and intercepted.

In May 2019, INTERPOL hosted an **Annual Meeting on Wildlife Trafficking in Central and West Africa** in Yaoundé, Cameroon. The meeting aimed at launching a number of operational activities in the two regions and was an initial step for further planned operational activities in West and Central Africa and as part of the implementation of the ICCWC Strategic Programme. Efforts in the two regions will be guided by the findings and recommendations of the *Threat Assessment report for West and Central Africa*.

Additional **specialized training** was provided by UNODC between April and July 2019, throughout Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam focusing on enhancing skills and knowledge in advanced investigation techniques targeting wildlife crime syndicates. The training covered post seizure investigations techniques such as controlled delivery, financial investigations and undercover operations. These specialized training events have enhanced the ability of front-line wildlife crime investigators to respond to wildlife crime as serious organized crime. The training has provided the tools and knowledge to front line officers to combat this sophisticated crime type.

Part 4. ICCWC Strategic Programme Infographics



IN 2017

### SUPPORT TO OPERATION THUNDERBIRD

30 January - 19 February 2017



49 participating countries

  
 Illegal trade in wildlife and timber

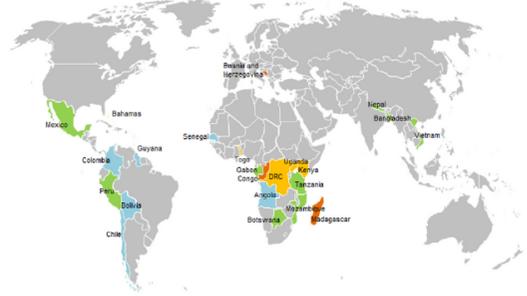
  
 1,400 seizures

  
 Estimated to be worth more than USD 5.1 million

  
 390 investigations

  
 89 individuals jailed

### ICCWC Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit



- Toolkit implementation complete
- Toolkit implementation in process
- Toolkit implementation in planning phase
- Toolkit request received

### TORTOISES AND FRESHWATER TURTLES TASK FORCE



25-27 April 2017

Held in Singapore

15 countries represented

Strengthen CITES implementation & law enforcement responses to combat illegal trade in tortoises and freshwater turtles, their parts & derivatives.

### WILDLIFE INTER-REGIONAL ENFORCEMENT MEETING (WIRE) & REGIONAL INVESTIGATIVE AND ANALYTICAL CASE MEETING (RIACM)







  
 16-20 October 2017

Exchange of knowledge and information on wildlife crime: Trends, routes, patterns, modus operandi, etc.

### ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING TRAINING



June 2017  
31 participants

November 2017

28 participants



Help Financial Intelligence Unit, investigators, prosecutors & judges to overcome the investigative, legal and procedural challenges related to wildlife crime & money laundering cases (detection of illegal transactions & suspicious activities, investigation, prosecution etc.)

For more information see: SC69 Doc. 31.2







<https://cites.org/eng/prog/iccwc.php>

## SUPPORT TO OPERATION THUNDERSTORM 1 - 31 May 2018

92 participating countries



Illegal trade in wildlife and timber



1,974 seizures

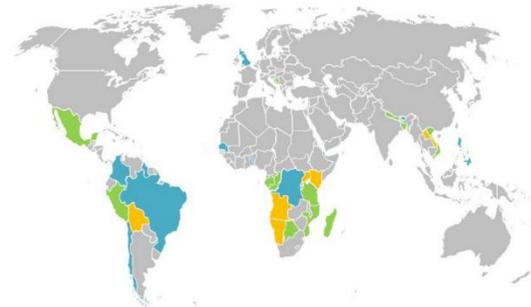


1,400 suspects identified



Ongoing investigations

## ICCWC Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit and Indicator Framework



■ Toolkit request received or implementation ongoing
 ■ Indicator Framework applied (and Toolkit ongoing)
 ■ Toolkit implementation complete

## NATIONAL IVORY ACTION PLAN (NIAP) TASK FORCE AND REGIONAL INVESTIGATIVE AND ANALYTICAL CASE MEETING (RIACM)



1-4 May 2018



Held in Maputo,



24 countries represented

Strengthen NIAP implementation, share best practices & identify opportunities for resource mobilization, law enforcement actions and long term collaboration among enforcement authorities to combat poaching and illegal trade in ivory.

## WILDLIFE INTER-REGIONAL ENFORCEMENT MEETING (WIRE)



19-21 November 2018

100 customs, police officers, wildlife officials, financial investigators, and prosecutors from 8 Asian and 12 African countries with the aim of improving Africa-Asia cooperation

## KEY TOOLS AND SERVICES DEVELOPED

West and Central Africa Wildlife Crime Threat Assessment

Directory of laboratories conducting wildlife forensic testing



ICCWC Menu of Services



For more information see: CoP18 Doc.15.5 and SC70 Doc 30.2



<https://cites.org/eng/prog/iccwc.php>



## EUROPEAN UNION CONTRIBUTION TO ICCWC STRATEGIC PROGRAMME

13.5 million EUR

### TACKLING WILDLIFE AND FOREST CRIME

Implementation of ICCWC Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit, resulting recommendations and the ICCWC Indicator Framework for Combating Wildlife and Forest Crime.



### LAW ENFORCEMENT CAPACITY BUILDING

Capacity building across a number of areas, including training in the use of wildlife forensic science, implementation of anti-corruption measures and strategies; and specialized investigation techniques.

### LAW ENFORCEMENT OPERATIONS

Regional and global law enforcement activities and operations; as well as the design and delivery of targeted training and law enforcement mentorship programmes.



### INTEGRATED AND COORDINATED APPROACH

Delivery of the Strategic Programme; strengthened synergies with other European Union responses to wildlife and forest crime in order to address the entire illicit supply chain and mobilize all relevant stakeholders.



# FRENCH CONTRIBUTION TO THE ICCWC STRATEGIC PROGRAMME



€ 85,000



MINISTÈRE DE L'EUROPE ET DES AFFAIRES ÉTRANGÈRES

## CITES Mission to Viet Nam

18-22 September 2017

 Focus on CITES CoP17 Decisions on Rhinoceros

Meetings with: wildlife law enforcement, CITES Management Authority & other local authorities 

Visit of 2 "carving villages" 

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**Key priorities to combat rhino horn trafficking**

-  Map out criminal groups
-  Collaborate in operations and investigations
-  Forensic sampling
-  Guidelines to identify worked rhino horns
-  Implementation of new 2017 penal code

•••

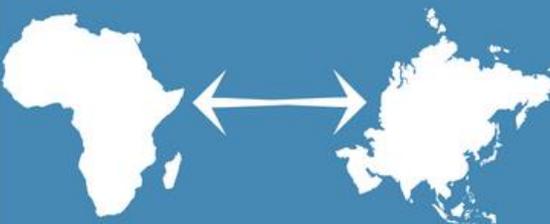
For more see SC69 Sum 4 (Rev. 1)

## WIRE/RIACM in Viet Nam

16-20 October 2017

WIRE-Customs: Wildlife Inter-Regional Enforcement meeting for Customs officers

RIACM: Regional Investigative and Analytical Case Meeting



Exchange of knowledge & information: Trends, routes, modus operandi, etc.

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 Next steps:

- \* Information and intelligence sharing
- \* Targeted investigations
- \* Follow up operation & activities

For more information see: SC69 Doc.31.2  
<https://cites.org/eng/prog/iccwc.php>





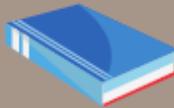
Federal Ministry  
for the Environment, Nature Conservation  
and Nuclear Safety

# German support to the ICCWC Strategic Programme

## MOZAMBIQUE and UGANDA



ICCWC Toolkit and ICCWC Indicator  
Framework implementation



Development of a Rapid Reference Manual for  
prosecutors and investigators of wildlife crime

## MOZAMBIQUE



Development of a bench book for judges



Capacity building of investigators,  
prosecutors and judiciary



# MONACO CONTRIBUTION TO THE ICCWC STRATEGIC PROGRAMME

€ 200,000

2017

Threat assessment on illegal wildlife trade in West & Central Africa



2018



CITES Timber Task Force

2019

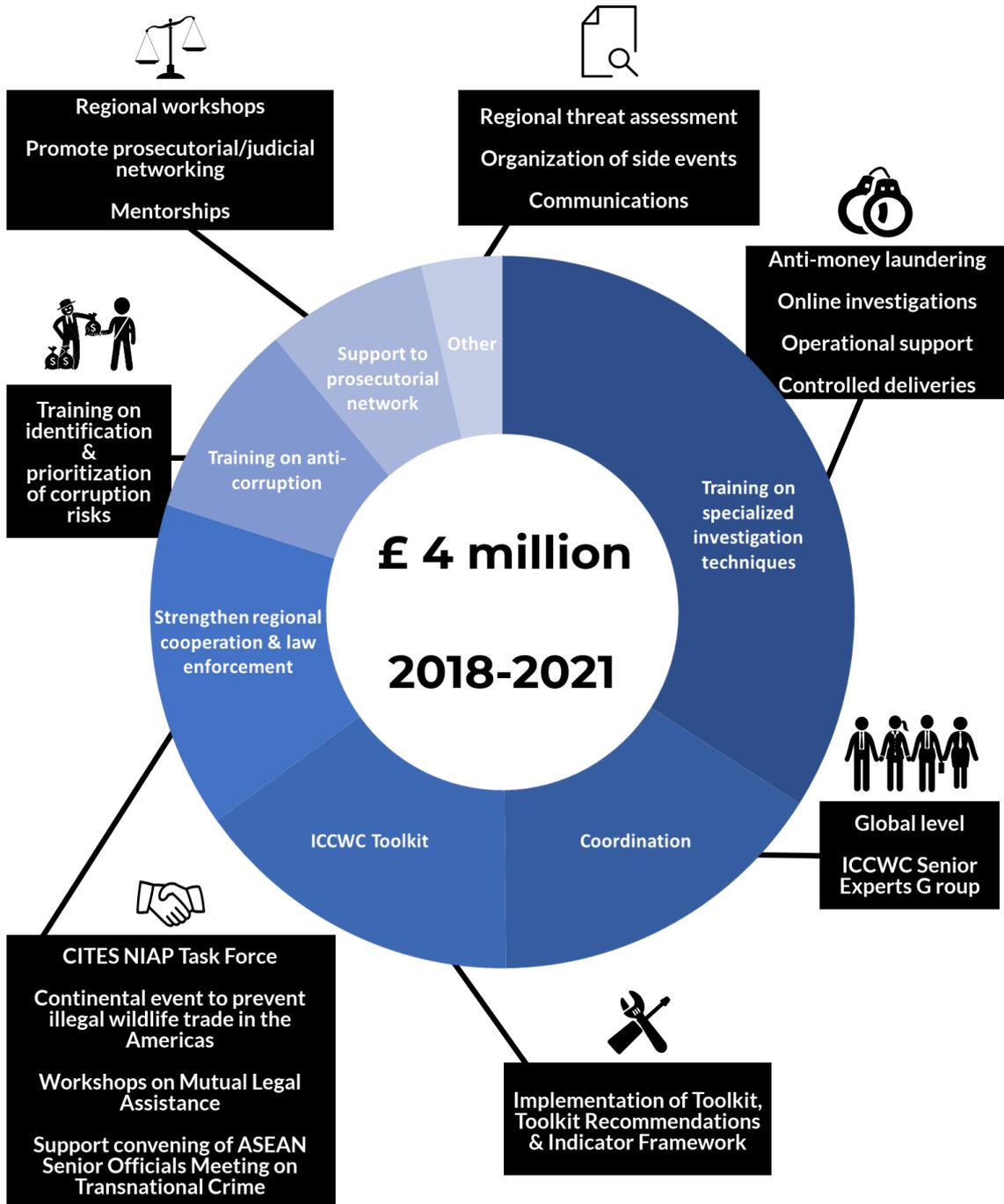
Law enforcement support & operations



2020



Implementation of the ICCWC Anti Money laundering Training Programme



<https://cites.org/eng/prog/iccwc.php>



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
SUPPORT FOR THE ICCWC  
STRATEGIC PROGRAMME



**Strengthening Wildlife Enforcement Networks (WENs)**

**2019**  
**Development of Guidelines to**  
**strengthen WENs**



**2019**  
**3rd global meeting of**  
**WENs**



**2019 + 2020**  
**Implementing WEN**  
**Guidelines in South America**



**2019 + 2020**  
**Targeted support for WENs**  
**globally**

