

WILDLIFE TRAFFICKING



THREAT

Wildlife trafficking is a lucrative form of transnational organized crime, generating billions of dollars of illicit revenue each year and decimating species, such as elephants, rhinos, pangolins, and more.

Illegal wildlife products are transported through multilevel illicit networks of criminal intermediaries that exploit porous borders and weak institutions.

Wildlife trafficking converges with other forms of transnational organized crime such as trafficking of drugs and weapons. These crimes undermine security, fuel instability, and threaten the rule of law.

RESPONSE

INL's programs in Africa, Asia, and Latin America work at the national, regional, and international levels.

Working globally, INL helps minimize gaps criminal networks can exploit, fosters interoperability between countries, regions, and continents, and responds to shifting threats and emerging needs.

INL works with other U.S. agencies, international organizations, and civil society partners to implement these programs.



INL plays an important role in the fight against the illicit trade of wildlife by building criminal justice sector capacity in partner nations along the entire supply chain for wildlife trafficking.

INL'S OBJECTIVES

- **Strengthening interdiction efforts at ports, airports, border checkpoints, and other transit areas to disrupt the flow of illegal wildlife products.**
- **Building investigative and enforcement capacity of our foreign enforcement partners at all levels.**
- **Enhancing prosecutorial and judicial capacity to ensure effective laws are in place and developing capacity to prosecute and adjudicate wildlife crimes worldwide.**
- **Facilitating international cooperation between justice sector entities to counter the illegal trade of wildlife.**

