



EU action plan against wildlife trafficking (2022)

28 June 2023

Illegal wildlife trade

- Driver of global biodiversity loss
- Destructive socio-economic impacts
- Links to other forms of organised crime
- Weakens the rule of law and legitimate institutions
- Very lucrative – low risk/high reward
- Estimated at around \$20 billion per year
- Co-mingled with legal trade

International Context

- CITES 19th Conference of the Parties to CITES (aka “World Wildlife Conference”) in Panama City, 14-25 November 2022
- Positive outcomes
- CoP19 adopted proposals regulating international trade in more than 500 additional species
- Resolutions to strengthen action against wildlife trafficking, enforcing the existing rules and fostering global partnerships
- 15th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity taking place in Montreal on 7-19 December 2022 – Targets 4,5,6,9 under GBF concern wildlife

Why an Action Plan at EU level

- Address the EU responsibility as a global hub for trafficking in wildlife
- Provide a comprehensive framework bringing together all aspects of the fight against wildlife trafficking
- Raise the profile of this fight at Member State level, within the EU and with international partners

Overview

2022-2027

4 priorities, 17 objectives, 69 actions

Evolution and not a revolution

Building up on previous 2016 Plan

Comprehensive approach, updating and responding to new challenges and trends

In line with all relevant strategies and coherent and complementary to other instruments

Increased focus on online crime, transparency, cooperation with stakeholders and actions along the entire enforcement chain

Preventing wildlife trafficking and addressing its root causes

Strengthening the legal and policy framework

Enforcing regulations and policies to fight wildlife trafficking effectively

Strengthening the global partnership of source, consumer and transit countries

Implementation of the Action plan – collective effort

- Member States, European Commission
- Other EU actors/agencies/networks (EEAS/HRVP, Europol, Eurojust, ENPE)
- International bodies (CITES, Interpol, UNODC, WB, WCO)
- Stakeholders: civil society, academia, private sector and local communities and indigenous peoples

Tracking progress

Including to:

- build a light reporting mechanism for EU Member States and stakeholders, based on existing reporting frameworks.
- identify indicators to measure the results achieved in terms of the overall impact of the revised EU action plan against wildlife trafficking.



THANK YOU

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