Global Gateway

INTPA-NEAR Environment & Climate Week

27-31 March 2023
Brussels, Belgium

ICCWC

International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime

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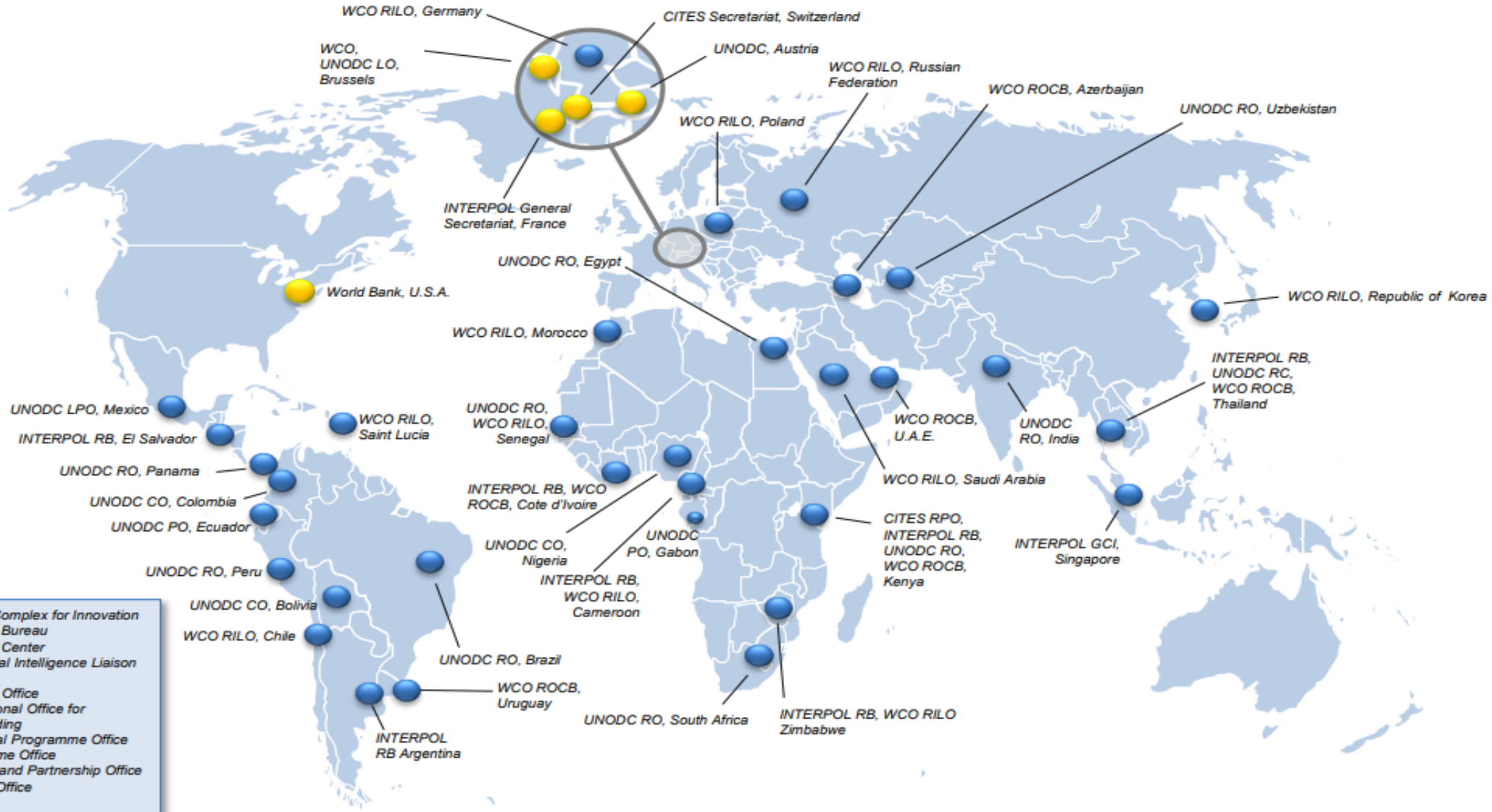
ICCWC
TOGETHER AGAINST
WILDLIFE CRIME

ICCWC Global Network



GCI: Global Complex for Innovation
RB: Regional Bureau
RC: Regional Center
RILO: Regional Intelligence Liaison Office
RO: Regional Office
ROCB: Regional Office for Capacity Building
RPO: Regional Programme Office
PO: Programme Office
LPO" Liaison and Partnership Office
CO: Country Office

ICCWC Partner Organization Headquarters

The ICCWC Senior Experts Group coordinates all ICCWC activities with their respective regional offices

Regional Hubs

All regional offices of ICCWC partner organizations

Understanding the context

World Wildlife Crime Report

Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit

Wildlife and Forest Crime Indicator Framework

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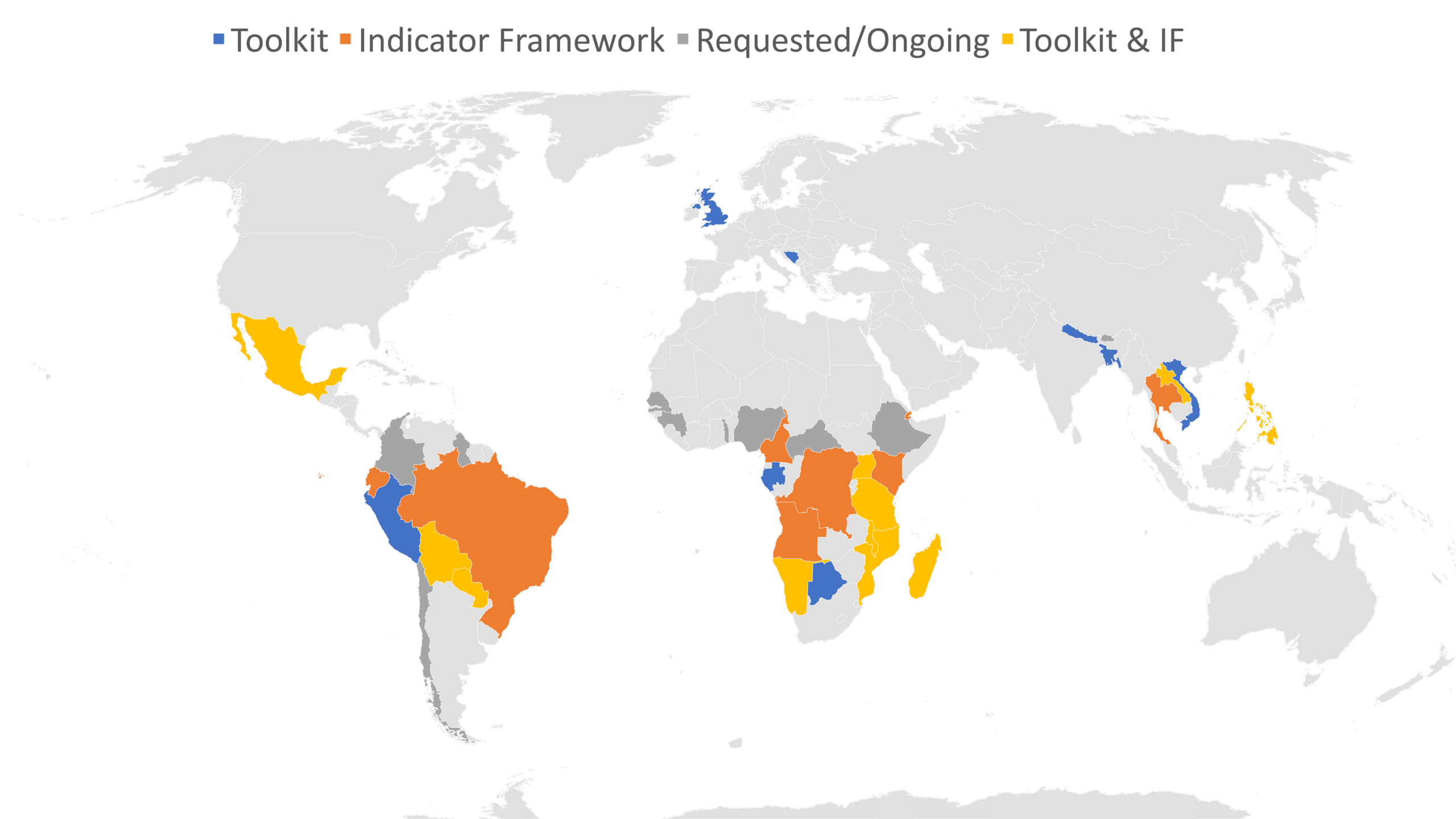
Toolkit
Indicator Framework
Requested/Ongoing
Toolkit & IF

Toolkit example: Lao PDR

Wildlife forensics

Then…

Bringing experts together to discuss the potential

Now…

Casework

Active networks

Institutionalized capacity

Impact

- **Vietnam lab**: 79 cases in 2022
- **Uganda lab**: 20 cases in 2022, already supporting prosecutions
- **Portable lab**: analysing seizures, stockpiles

Preventing corruption

Then…

No one looking at this issue

Now…

3 corruption prevention tools

25 authorities in 17 countries

Tangible results

Impact

Kenya Wildlife Service scores on Anti-Corruption Performance Indicator

- 2020: 49%
- 2021: 88%
- 2022: 100%

Addressing money laundering

Then…

Little attention to ML linked to env crimes

Now…

1 Env risk assessment tool

Technical assistance to 15 countries

Trainings for prosecutors

Impact

- 15 countries across Africa and Asia implemented the Env Module
- Madagascar and Mozambique included env crime issues in their national AML strategies
- Zimbabwe FIU now receiving STRs linked to env crimes

Strengthening prosecutions

Then…

Few successful prosecutions

Now…

Mentorship and training

Practical tools and guidelines

Strengthened prosecutions

Impact

- **Increase in prosecutions**
- **Uganda prosecutions and wildlife court**

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in secure, filed in court, given priority, followed up very closely

Enhanced law enforcement cooperation

Then…

Investigation of isolated criminal cases

Now…

Regional operations

Inter-regional meetings

Strengthened cooperation between police, customs and other LEAs

Impact

- **Wildlife Inter-Regional Enforcement (WIRE) platforms**
- **Law Enforcement Advisory Teams**
- **Operation Mekong Dragon**

Operational successes

Vietnam-Thailand-China

Rosewood

Thailand-China

Red sandalwood

Malaysia

Ivory, Pangolin scales
Tiger parts, Rhino horn

Philippines

Pangolin

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Enhanced law enforcement cooperation

Then…

Investigation of isolated criminal cases

Now…

6 Global Operations (Customs & Police)

2 Regional operations and 1 cyber-patroling (Latin America)

30 trans-national investigations (125 countries)

Impact

- High-value targets identified and trans-national criminal networks disrupted
- Strengthened cooperation between police, customs and other LEAs

Operating Model: Intelligence-led Policing

- Mentoring on live transnational criminal cases and other capacity building activities, to prepare our Member Countries for a tactical response;
- Focus on high value targets, to identify their business model and dismantle their criminal networks;
- Strong focus on outcomes – seizures, arrests and confiscation of assets;
- Building stronger networks with member countries and relevant organizations to create awareness, while gathering relevant information to bridge intelligence gaps and provide investigative and operational support; and
- Use of the seconded police officers and other specialized tools and resources across all crime areas.

Operation THUNDER 2022

Tackling wildlife crime

125 countries

934 suspects identified

2,200 seizures of wildlife and forestry products, including:

- **780 kg** and **516 pieces** elephant ivory, and **27** elephant body parts
- **25** rhino horns
- **119** big cats and other felines
- **9** pangolins, **389 kg** pangolin scales and derivatives
- **750** birds, more than **450** bird parts
- **1,190** turtles and tortoises, **1,304 units** and **8 kg** body parts
- **34** primates, **136** primate body parts
- **4,337** and **2,813kg** marine products, including corals, eels and sea cucumbers
- **1,795** reptiles and almost **500 kg** reptile parts and derivative products
- **47,28 m³** rosewood and **17,163 pieces** / almost **47,000 m³** and **6,764 pieces** other timber
- **3.5 tonnes** plants and **5 tonnes** plant derivatives
- **710** cacti

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Thunder 2022: on-going investigations

OCT 2022

Seizure of 34.25 kg of rhino horn at Singapore Airport (Lao PDR as final destination)

NOV-DEC 2022

- Scoping mission to Lao PDR
- OST to South Africa

Analytical Report

JAN-FEB 2023

Further investigation and Court Conviction in Singapore

RIACM in March 2023 (Singapore) and further investigation of larger criminal network

Thunder 2022: on-going investigations

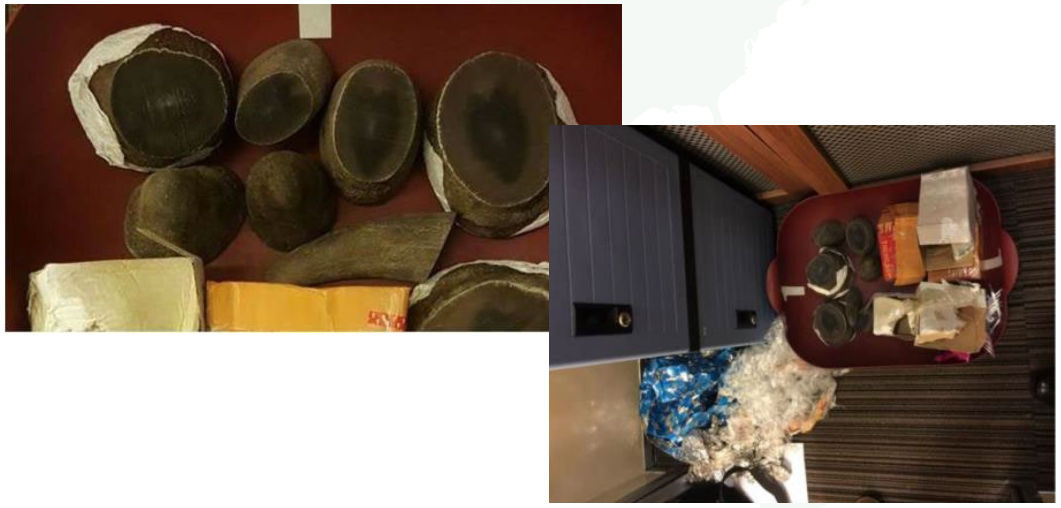
Angola → Singapore → Vietnam

20 March 2023
Seizure of 7 tonnes of ivory
Vietnamese authorities reported the largest seizure of wildlife products in years

Operation Thunder – Analytical Support

2017-2021

- Compilation of reporting and data
- Identifying and supporting significant cases



2022

- Compilation of reporting and data
- Identifying and supporting significant cases
- Weekly bulletins for member countries
- Strategic analysis of 2022 results and three-year data trends
- Development of a Concealment Guide
- Development of country and commodity profile
- Monitoring of online activity (pilot project)

Enhancing analytical capabilities

Then…

Countries' requests mostly on "how to extract the data"

Now…

"How to use the data" – evolution of the countries' requests

Impact

- High-value targets identified and trans-national criminal networks disrupted
- Over 200 INTERPOL Red and 55 Purple Notices issued (including those linking wildlife crime with fraud/financial crime)

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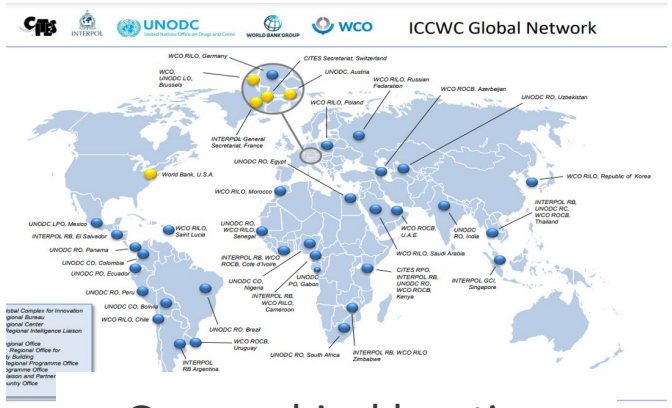
Priorities for future action



Geographical location

Activities

Species

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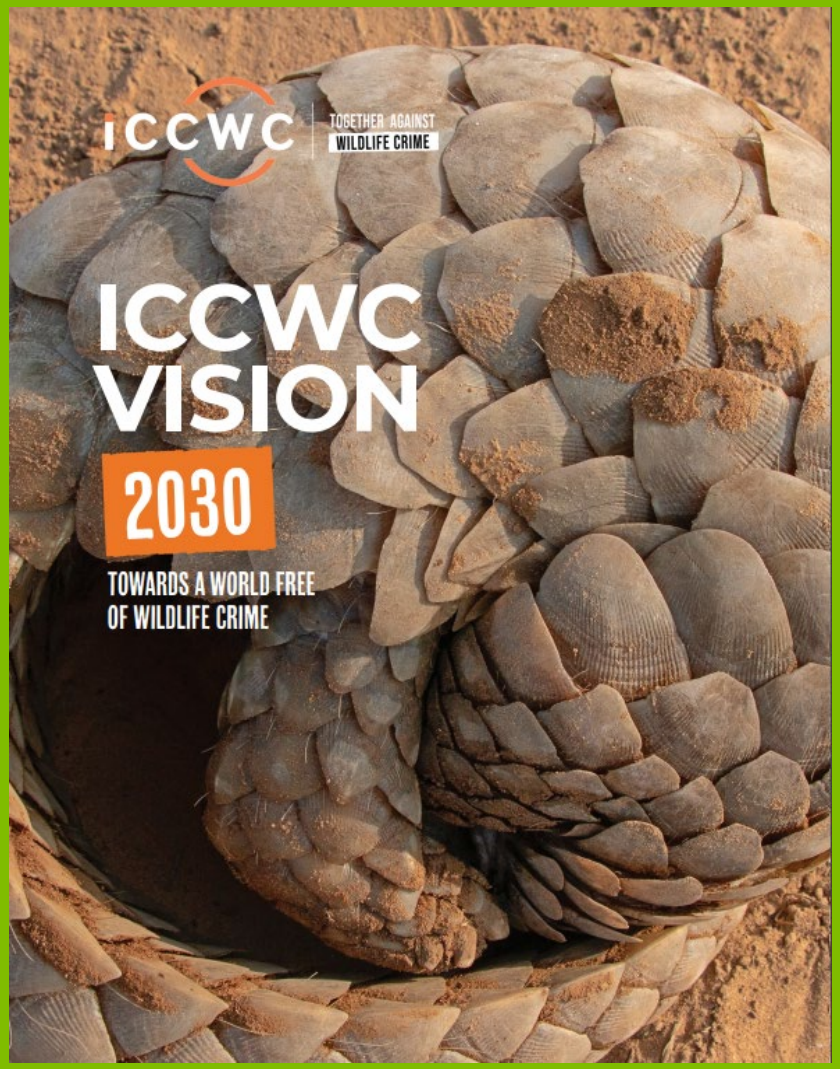

Thank you

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