POACHERS OR PROTECTORS? Local Communities at the Frontline of Conservation

What really drives wildlife trade, hunting and trafficking?

20 April 2016 12:30-15:00 Room A1G-2 European Parliament, Brussels

Chaired by

Pavel Poc MEP

Chair of the European Parliament Intergroup on "Climate Change, Biodiversity and Sustainable Development"

Wildlife is in crisis in many parts of the globe, and decision makers need sound expertise and experience to inform their actions. In order to understand the drivers of escalating patterns of poaching, organised illegal wildlife trade, and habitat loss, this event places the indigenous and local communities that live close to wildlife at the forefront of thinking and action, and provides insights on how wildlife conservation can be reconciled with supporting community rights and livelihoods.

The Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management, established under the Convention on Biological Diversity, with its 13 member organizations is the leading international body representing expertise focused on understanding and promoting the sustainable management of terrestrial vertebrate wildlife and biodiversity conservation, while meeting the livelihood, social, cultural and economic needs of human populations.

The aim of this event is to raise awareness amongst European policy makers of the complexity of wildlife management on the ground; bring a wide range of views on various approaches for conservation and sustainable use of wildlife; showcase effective approaches to community engagement in sustainable wildlife management; and foster dialogue between European policy-makers, international conservation, development organizations and practitioners.

| 11:45-12:15 | Registration |
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| 12:30-12:35 | Welcome and introduction by MEP Pavel Poc |
| 12:35-12:45 | European Commission |
| 12:45-12:55 | CITES Secretariat |
| 12:55-13:10 | Daniel Kobei , International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity (IIFB) Role of indigenous peoples in wildlife conservation |
| 13:10-13:20 | John E. Fa, Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) & Jean-Claude Nguinguiri, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Wild meat and food security |
| 13:20-13:30 | Jan Heino, International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (CIC) Hunting is not a crime, poaching is |
| 13:30-13:40 | Rosie Cooney , International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Local Communities: the first line of defense in combating Illegal Wildlife Trade |
| 13:40-13:50 | Alexander Kasterine, International Trade Centre (ITC) How does the trade in wildlife contribute to livelihoods in developing countries? A case study from the python skin trade in the luxury fashion sector |
| 13:50-14:50 | Questions and Answers Dialogue between speakers and audienceQuestions and Answers |
| 14:50-15:00 | Conclusion by MEP Pavel Poc |