

GWP Law Enforcement Inter-Agency Collaboration Knowledge Exchange

May 31, 2022



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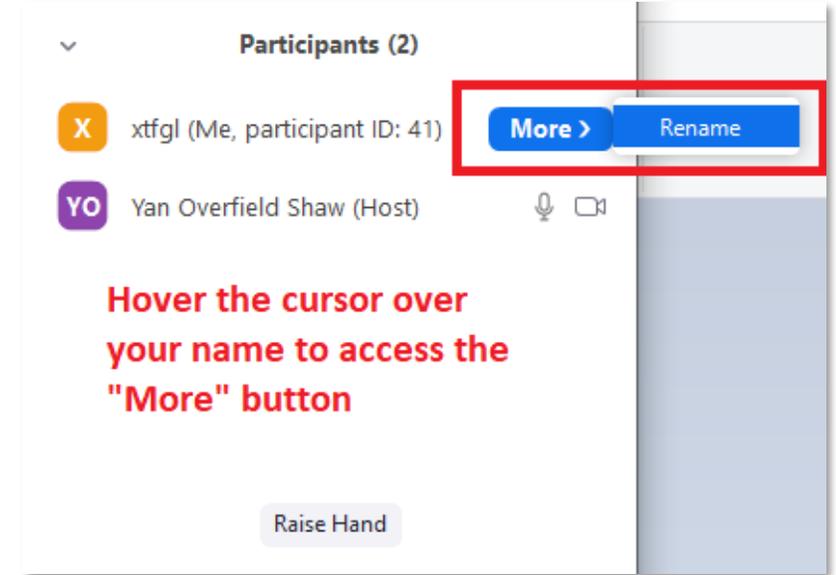
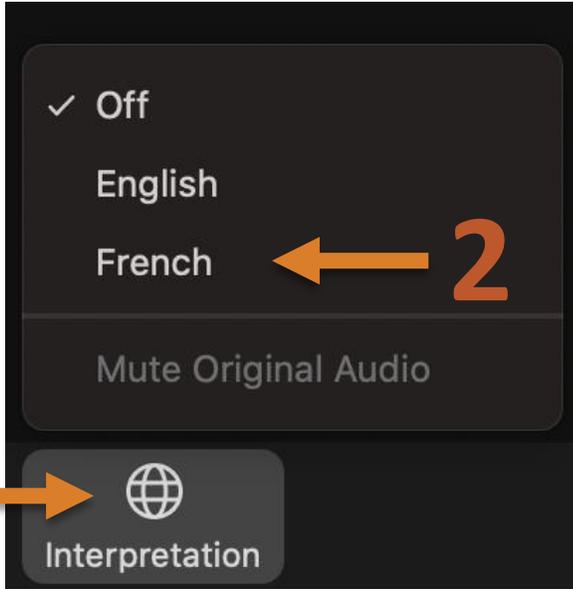
Zoom Housekeeping



Interprétation en français / Interpretación al español

1. Click on the globe symbol.
 2. Select **French, Spanish,** or **English** audio.
1. Cliquez sur le symbole du monde.
 2. Sélectionnez l'audio **français**.
1. Haga click sobre el símbolo del mundo.
 2. Seleccione el audio **español**.

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Rename yourself on Zoom and add your country and affiliation

- Renómbrese en Zoom y **añade tu país y afiliación**
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Zoom Housekeeping



DURING BREAK-OUT SESSIONS:
Please keep **your video on** for best interaction among participants.

PENDANT LES SESSION EN PETIT-GROUPS:

Veillez garder votre vidéo allumée pour une meilleure interaction entre les participants.

DURANTE LAS SESIONES DE BREAKOUT:
Por favor **encienda su cámara** para mejorar la interacción con los participantes.

Workshop Objectives



➤ Facilitate **peer-to-peer exchange** across GWP on lessons and experiences with national and sub-national law enforcement inter-agency coordination



➤ **Share best practice principles**, good practices, and tools to support coordination



➤ **Identify technical needs and capacity support required** by GWP countries to deliver coordinated law enforcement efforts



Time (Manila)	Activity
6:30 PM	Welcome
6:40 PM	Session 1 – Challenges and lessons learnt on inter-agency law enforcement collaboration – insights from GWP projects
---	<i>Break</i>
8:30 PM	Session 2 – Sharing lessons and good practices from outside GWP
9:10 PM	Session 3 – Identifying additional support needed
9:30 PM	Workshop close

Question 1

How would you rate wildlife law enforcement collaboration in your country?

Very effective/somewhat effective / not existing / I don't know

ES - ¿Cómo calificaría la colaboración en materia de aplicación de la ley sobre fauna y flora silvestres en su país?

Muy eficaz/algo eficaz/no existe/no sé

FR - Comment évaluez-vous la collaboration en matière d'application de la loi sur la faune dans votre pays ?

Très efficace/plutôt efficace/non-existant/n'existe pas/ne sait pas

Question 2

Which of these areas do you think is the most important to improve wildlife law enforcement collaboration in your country? Membership / Governance / Communication & information sharing / Resources / Other (write in chat)

ES - ¿Cuál de estas áreas cree que es la más importante para mejorar la colaboración en la aplicación de las leyes sobre la vida silvestre en su país?

Afiliación / Gobernanza / Comunicación e intercambio de información / Recursos / Otros (escriba en el chat)

FR - Parmi ces domaines, lequel est, selon vous, le plus important pour améliorer la collaboration en matière d'application des lois sur la faune sauvage dans votre pays ?

Adhésion / Gouvernance / Communication et partage d'informations / Ressources / Autre (écrire dans le chat)

Meet your Guide for Today's Workshop



Salvatore Amato

Wildlife Law Enforcement Specialist

Session 1: Insights from across GWP



Insights from projects on challenges and lessons learnt on inter-agency collaboration to combat wildlife trafficking at national and sub-national levels.

Key thematic areas

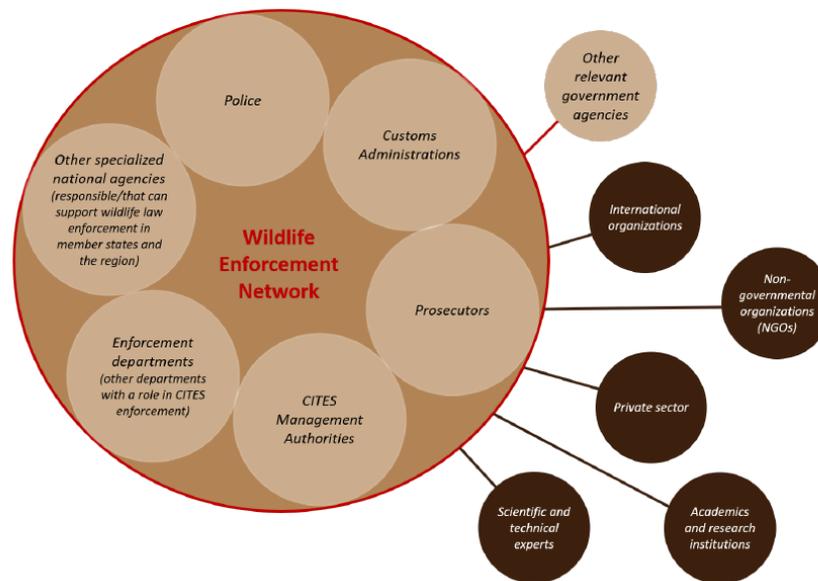
1. **Membership** – the makeup of the coordination mechanism, which agencies and organizations participate
2. **Governance** – how is the mechanism led, does the mechanism have clear aims and objectives
3. **Communication** - how often does the mechanism meet, how well do the agencies communicate, share information
4. **Resources** – does the mechanism have adequate resources to accomplish its objectives
5. **Effectiveness** – Is the mechanism meeting its stated objectives, is it producing tangible results

Effectively addressing wildlife crime and trafficking requires a well-coordinated multi-agency approach.

At their core **inter-agency coordination mechanisms should include:**

- Wildlife Authorities
- National Police
- Customs
- Prosecutors
- Judiciary

Diagram 1: Overview of the WEN concept



From there, **coordination mechanisms can be expanded** to include:

- Other law enforcement agencies such as FIUs and AMLOs
- Immigration and Postal Authorities
- Experts from International and Non-Governmental Organizations
- Private sector including transportation and banking officials
- Academia and Research Institutions

Equally important to ensuring appropriate membership is a determination as to **how the inter-agency coordination mechanism will be governed and led.**

The mechanism should include:

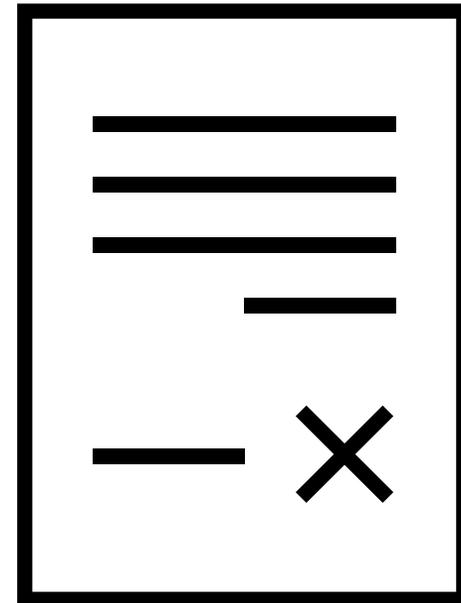
- An **oversight body** such as a steering committee – preferably established and given mandate by the Office of the President or its equivalent
- A **functioning secretariat** - to handle the organizational, administrative, and logistic requirements of the network
- A **Chair** or lead agency



Governance documents, whether memorialized as national strategies or within coordination mechanism implementation documents, need to clearly define the **aims** and **objectives** of the mechanism as well as the **roles, responsibilities, and expectations of each member.**

Governance documents should also include:

- integrity and transparency measures
- accountability and reporting procedures
- methods for allocating resources
- minimizing duplication of efforts and structures.





Challenges in Membership & Governance

Building trust among members with different mandates can be particularly challenging as each may have differing priorities, understanding and concerns related to (e.g., the sharing and use of sensitive data).

Assigning **wildlife authorities as the permanent chair** within inter-agency coordination networks can have a **chilling effect on the participation of other agencies** that may sit within different ministries and have different reporting requirements.

Use of military units in some areas to patrol and respond to wildlife crime issues can be beneficial but can also pose challenges as **military units typically receive inadequate training in social aspects of law enforcement activities** and may have conflicting priorities in the areas they cover.

Finalizing formal governance documents, while highly important, can become a protracted process mired in governmental and hierarchal formalities.

Membership & Governance Challenges (Discussion)



Membership:

Ensuring the coordination mechanism has the right make-up. Ensuring its members are active and contributing.

Governance:

Ensuring the coordination mechanism has protocols in place that clearly define the roles, responsibilities and expectations of each member. The mechanism is lead/chaired appropriately.

⋮ Challenges in Membership and Governance ⋮

What challenges have you/your project faced in membership and governance? // ¿A qué retos se ha enfrentado usted o su proyecto en materia de afiliación y gobernanza? // Quels défis avez-vous/votre projet a rencontré en matière d'adhésion et de gouvernance ?

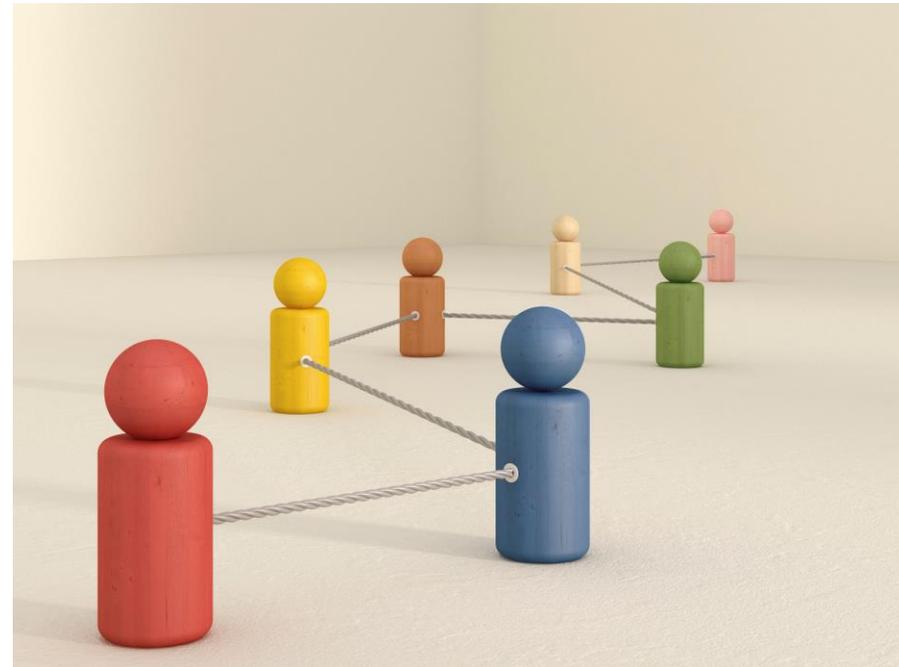
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- Prolonged process to finalized formal governance documents and entangled in governmental and hierarchical formalities. ⋮
👍 0 🗨️ 0
- Low participation of other agencies when wildlife authorities are assigned as the permanent chair within inter-agency coordination networks. ⋮
👍 0 🗨️ 0
- Inadequate training of military units in social aspects of law enforcement activities. ⋮
👍 0 🗨️ 0
- Building trust among stakeholders with different mandates. ⋮
👍 0 🗨️ 0

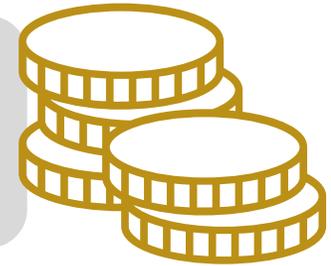


It is critically important that once established coordination mechanisms **meet and communicate regularly.**

While steering committees can meet semi-annually or even annually, the network itself should hold in-person meetings at least on a quarterly basis and have a mechanism in place to meet more frequently if needed.



It is critically important coordination mechanisms have **access to sustained funding** to support its functioning, projects, and events.



The importance of **obtaining high-level national commitment and political support** in this regard cannot be over-stated.

Once established, it is critically important that law enforcement inter-agency coordination mechanisms **produce tangible results.**

Far too often these mechanisms exist on paper alone and fail to operationalize or produce anything of value.

Having clearly established expectations in governance documents can help ensure the mechanism's outcomes are **in-line with agency expectations.**



Challenges in Communication, Resources & Effectiveness



Communication and sharing of potentially law enforcement sensitive information with non-law enforcement partners within the network can limit what can be discussed and addressed during regular meetings.

Building trust with regard to information sharing is a very complex issue. Increased sharing brings increased risk that the information will be leaked or otherwise compromised.

Identifying funding and resources to ensure inter-agency coordination mechanisms are sustainable beyond the life of the project.

Lack of resources committed to keep agencies in the field and delivering on agreed upon activities.

Ensuring the coordination mechanism **delivers on its stated objectives** and doesn't exist on paper alone.

Difficulty assessing and **measuring effectiveness** of multi-agency groups due to different priorities and reporting requirements.

GWP Challenges in Communication, Resources and Effectiveness (Discussion)



Challenges in Communication, Resources and Effectiveness

What challenges have you/your project faced in communication, resources and effectiveness? // Quels défis avez-vous/votre projet a rencontré en matière de communication, de ressources et d'efficacité ? // ¿A qué retos se ha enfrentado usted o su proyecto en materia de comunicación, recursos y eficacia?

+

The inclusion of non-law enforcement partners within the network can limit the communication of sensitive information that can be discussed during regular meetings.

0 0 0

Building trust among law enforcement agencies in regards to information sharing.

0 0 0

Identifying other funding and resources.

0 0 0

Lack of resources committed to keeping the agencies in the field.

0 0 0

Ensuring the coordination mechanism doesn't exist on paper alone.

0 0 0

Difficulty assessing and measuring effectiveness of multi-agency group with different priorities and reporting requirements.

0 0 0



Communication: Ensuring the coordination mechanism meets regularly and has established effective means of communication among its members.

Resources: Ensuring the coordination mechanism has adequate resources to funds its functioning and planned activities. Ensuring the project can be sustained beyond the life of the project.

Effectiveness: Ensuring the project meets its agreed upon objectives.

GWP Lessons & Recommendations





- Projects need to be **flexible enough to adjust key partners overtime if needed** to support inter-agency coordination and catalyse implementation of coordination mechanisms.
- Importance of **including the judiciary and prosecuting authorities** as part of inter-agency coordination efforts, not only to raise their awareness about wildlife trafficking cases, but affords them an opportunity to provide feedback and highlight potential problem areas, such as chain of custody and other evidentiary issues.
- **Establishing a permanent secretariat** (usually the lead national wildlife authority) allows for continuity of structure regarding setting up and meeting logistics. **Rotation of the Committee's Chair** ensures greater buy-in and ownership of all members.
- Importance of **getting high-level commitment** (at ministerial level) and assigning dedicated staff empowered to carry out the agreed upon activities.
- Inter-agency coordination strategies need **to clearly define specific roles and responsibilities and expectations** for all member agencies.

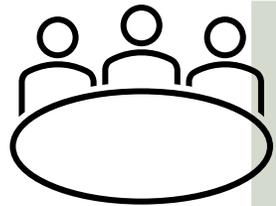


- Once established it is important for inter-agency coordination mechanisms to **communicate its establishment** to other WENs, inter-governmental organizations, and other relevant stakeholders.
- Effectively operating networks tend to have a **recognized “identity”** whose members take pride in being part of the network. Creation of official network or platform names and logos can help establish this identity and raise awareness of the network’s activities and accomplishments.
- **Reporting of accomplishments** and successful joint activities **at the field level can help build trust among senior managers** and garner support for additional activities.
- Formal communication on planned network activities should include a debrief after operations to **discuss challenges and lessons learned** for future planning purposes.
- Project leaders need to **identify common agendas across the different agencies**, recognize potential areas of mistrust, and have the patience to work step-by-step to improve trust and over time improve coordination.
- Technology related to information sharing system should not out pace **agency information collection systems**.



- National commitment in support of interagency coordination mechanisms should include the **required resources and funding within national agency budgets** (while coordination mechanisms can be established and propped up using external funding, historically these projects will fail without sustained funding).
- Project managers need to **ensure high-level government commitment** goes beyond supporting the coordination mechanism; and it includes supporting and prioritizing agreed upon outputs and activities of the network.
- Effective Inter-agency mechanisms are made up of representatives who can make decisions. **Representatives need to be high enough level that they can make commitments and decisions** on behalf of the organizations they represent. Higher-level representatives are also less likely to frequently “turn-over” or rotate to different positions.
- One method of building trust is to start with easy, less politically sensitive issues, and then **progress over time to address increasingly sensitive and controversial issues.**

Deep-dive into sharing **Lessons Learned and Recommendations**



Group 1 (in Plenary)

Introduction from:

GWP Thailand

Combating Illegal Wildlife Trade,
focusing on Ivory, Rhino Horn,
Tiger and Pangolins

Group discussion focusing on
lessons around **Membership and
Governance**

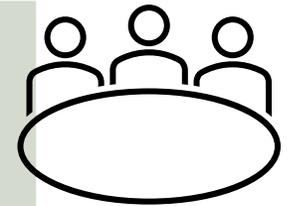
Group 2 (in Breakout room)

Introduction from:

GWP India

Securing Livelihoods, Conservation,
Sustainable Use and Restoration of
High Range Himalayan Ecosystems
(SECURE) Himalayas

Group discussion focusing on
lessons around **Communication,
Resources and Effectiveness**

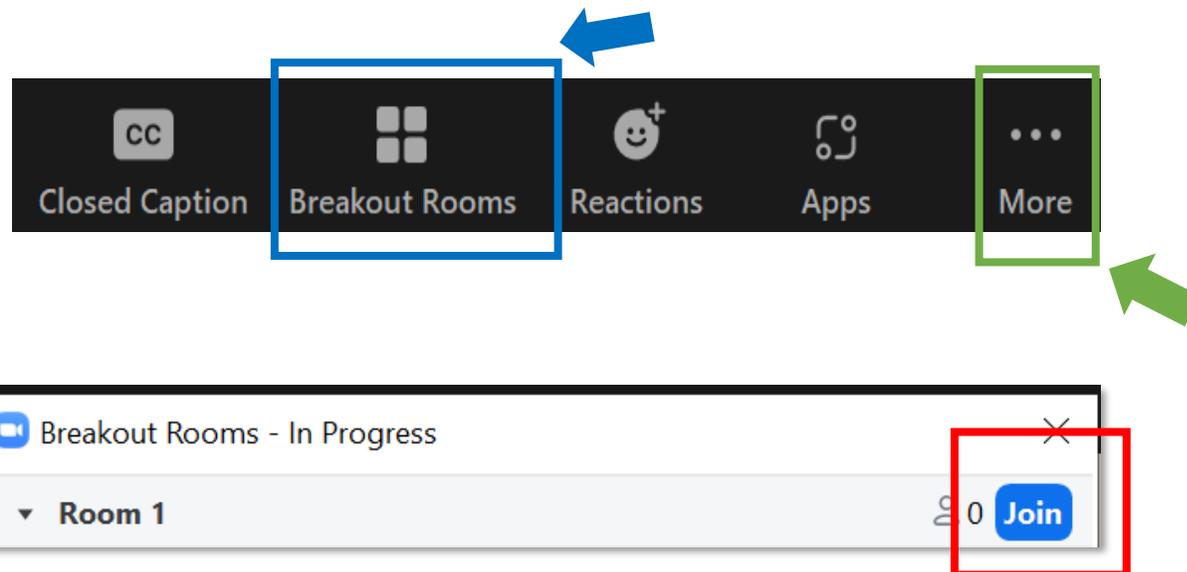
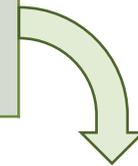


40'

Discussion in Breakout Rooms



Group 1 with GWP Thailand project	Stay in Plenary French and Spanish interpretation is available <i>L'interprétation en français est disponible</i> <i>Interpretación en español está disponible</i>
Group 2 with GWP India project	Join the Breakout Room No interpretation available



How to join a breakout room

1. Click **Breakout Rooms** in your meeting controls.
2. If you don't see the icon, click **More** and select **Breakout Rooms**.
3. Click the **Join** button next to "Breakout Room".



“Combating Illegal Wildlife Trade, focusing on Ivory, Rhino horn, Tiger and pangolin in Thailand”

Start date: 15 October 2018 Planned end date: 14 October 2023



Project Objective



“ To reduce the trafficking of wildlife (focusing on elephant ivory, rhinoceros horn, tiger and pangolins) in Thailand through enhanced enforcement capacity and collaboration and targeted behaviour change campaigns ”



Strategy



- Component 1: Improved Cooperation, Coordination and Information Exchange
- Component 2: Enhanced Enforcement and Prosecution Capacity
- Component 3: Reduced demand for illegal wildlife products and targeted awareness actions to support law enforcement.
- Component 4: Knowledge Management, Monitoring and Evaluation and Gender Mainstreaming.



Challenges



- Each Law enforcement agency has different views on the need to improve both individual and multi-agency capacity in order to have a better effect on the IWT collaboration capacity
- It takes such a time to consolidate the consensus among the law enforcement agencies to reach a common agreement on the key priority IWT information-sharing issue which needs to be addressed at the policy level

Lessons Learned



- Collaborative processes to discuss gaps and priorities (e.g. ICCWC Indicator Framework) need to happen early in implementation to help the project better design the IWT responsive long-term capacity
- Thailand Wildlife Enforcement Network (TH-WEN) has been established to address the gap in the IWT inter-agency so far led by the Department of National Park Wildlife and Plant Conservation (DNP)



Challenges



- The formal approval for the TH-WEN committee from the government has taken longer than expected. It causes delays to the formal collaboration monitoring among the law enforcement agency, particularly at the policy level
- Developing the protocol for IWT supply chain information sharing among the IWT law enforcement agency is a complicated process. It needs to have a comprehensive analysis of **“What could be shared and could not be shared ”**

Lessons Learned

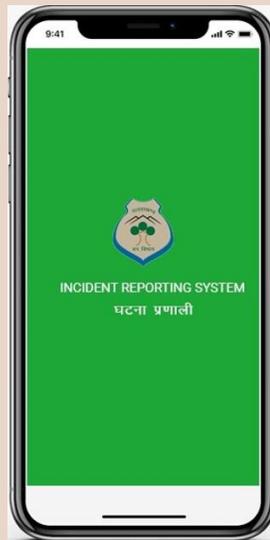


- Using / applying the project board committee as the additional TH-WEN platform to communicate and get approval to implement the joint inter-IWT law enforcement agency activities during waiting for the full formal approval TH-WEN process (Lead by DNP)
- DNP has initiated developing an internal protocol on IWT information sharing among each law enforcement unit first (not yet available before) using the innovative collaboration approach (i2 investigation application software) as the entry point

Challenges



- Project states /landscape located around the international borders with –China, Nepal and Bhutan. The project landscape has routes of many illegally traded species of flora and fauna
- Difficult terrain, limited human resources with Forest and wildlife department
- Limited reliable and consistent information on Wildlife Crime at the project states and landscapes.



Lessons Learned



- Detailed assessment of status of wildlife crime in the project states/landscape beyond helped in establishment of baseline, identification of traded species, trends, hotspots and pathways
- A dedicated wildlife database center has been developed in one of the project state to digitized wildlife crime and Human Wildlife Conflict related cases of last two decade, this helped in analysis & policy advocacy.
- This Wildlife MIS helped in accumulation and digitizing the information from field offices to Forest HQ & vice versa.
- Effective information management and sharing among different law enforcement agencies.
- Engaged community members in monitoring and surveillance

Breakout session:

Securing livelihoods, conservation, sustainable use and restoration
of high range Himalayan ecosystems
(GEF-GOI-SECURE Himalaya Project)

GWP India project

Challenges



Inadequately capacity of frontline staff on combating wildlife crimes, identifying species and specimens, knowledge of laws and legal procedures and limited or no knowledge in intelligence collection and processing



Lessons Learned



- Stakeholder analysis and assessment of capacity gaps of staff/institutions responsible for law enforcement (at all level) helped in developing customized training modules as per the training needs
- Capacity building workshops helped in skill enhancement for monitoring of wildlife crime and related threats in the project landscapes at all levels.
- Sensitization programmes on wildlife crime with Judiciary officials helped to enhance their capacities in handling cases linked with wildlife crime.

Challenges



- Limited coordination mechanism among other enforcement agencies at State and Landscape level and Information sharing among the law enforcement agencies.



Lessons Learned



- Inter-agency coordination meetings, with various law enforcement agencies helped in development of a coordination mechanism among various agencies
- Inter-agency coordination committees constituted which helped in effective communication and cooperation for mitigating wildlife crime and related threats.
- As a result of the IAC meeting, Project state/ UTs requested WCCB for establishment of Wildlife Crime Control units at the project landscapes

Break



Session 2: Lessons from Outside GWP



Meet the Speakers



Carla Natalia Suarez Jurado

Regional Coordinator LAC, environmental program,
UNODC



Edward van Asch

ICCWC Coordinator, Enforcement Unit,
CITES Secretariat



UNODC

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

**Global
Programme on
Crimes that
Affect the
Environment**

**Joint Approach to Environmental Crime:
National Interagency Environmental Crime Platforms**

INTERAGENCY PLATFORM ATTRIBUTES



Effective participation



Concrete decisions



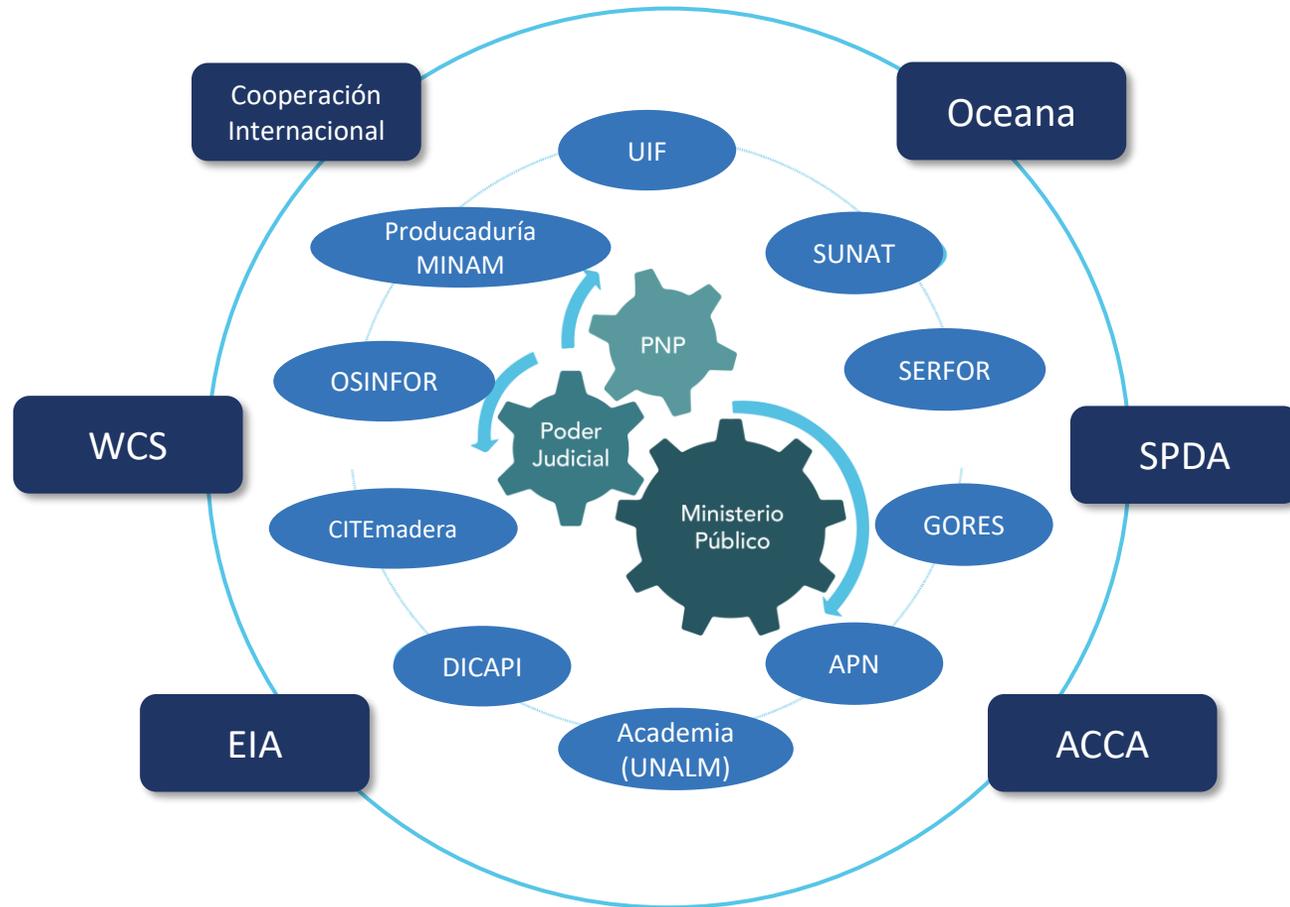
Open discussion space



Exchange of information and experiences

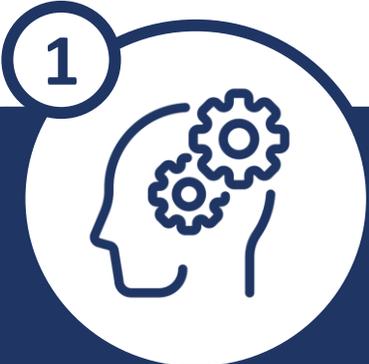


NATIONAL PLATFORM – PERU EXPERIENCE



- Participation of decision makers and technical experts
- Joint development and implementation of **technical assistance workplans/ activities**
- **Ongoing multiagency/multidisciplinary collaborative** work approach - government, CSO, international cooperation and academia

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS



JOINT CAPACITY AND TOOL BUILDING

RRG on Investigations of Forest Crime and Trainings

Forensic Timber Identification Technical Assistance/Related Tools – ID Maderas



ENHANCED INVESTIGATIVE KNOWLEDGE ON IFFs

Establishment of sub-working group specialized on IFFs

Development of Forensic Accounting Guide applied to Forest Crime



STRENGTHENED COORDINATION AND COLLABORATION

Improved information sharing and joint work between justice - forest sector authorities – promotion of forest sector information systems



IMPROVED AWARENESS-COMMUNICATIONS

Development and dissemination of comms materials and project results

Joint work between counterpart comms teams for improved reach and positioning

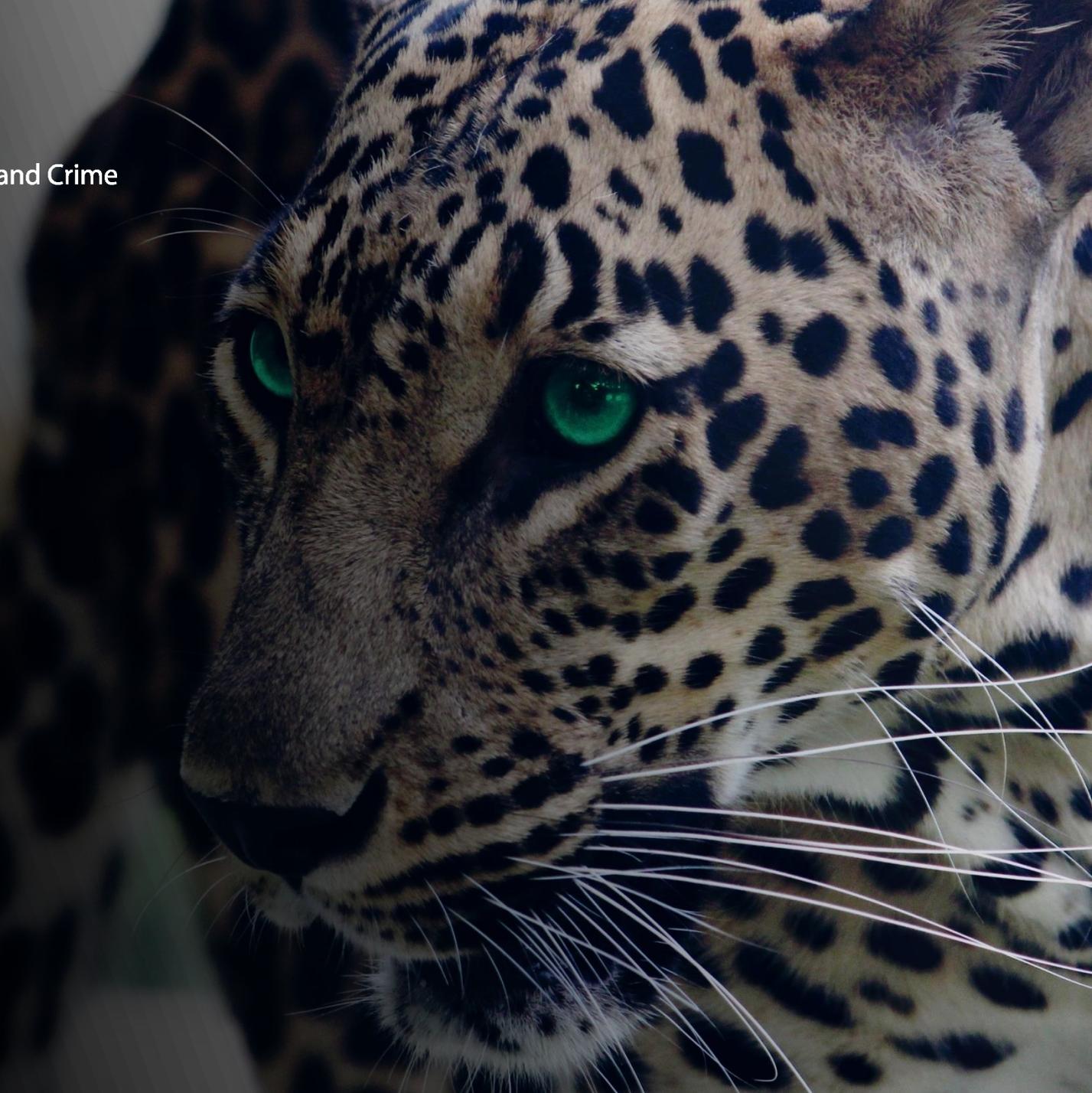


UNODC

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

¡Thank you!

Carla Natalia Suarez Jurado
Programme Officer
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THE INTERNATIONAL CONSORTIUM ON COMBATING WILDLIFE CRIME



GWP Law Enforcement Inter-agency Collaboration Knowledge Exchange

May 31, 2022



ICCWC STRATEGIC PROGRAMME DONORS



Wildlife Enforcement Cooperation

Global: INTERPOL Wildlife Crime Working Group

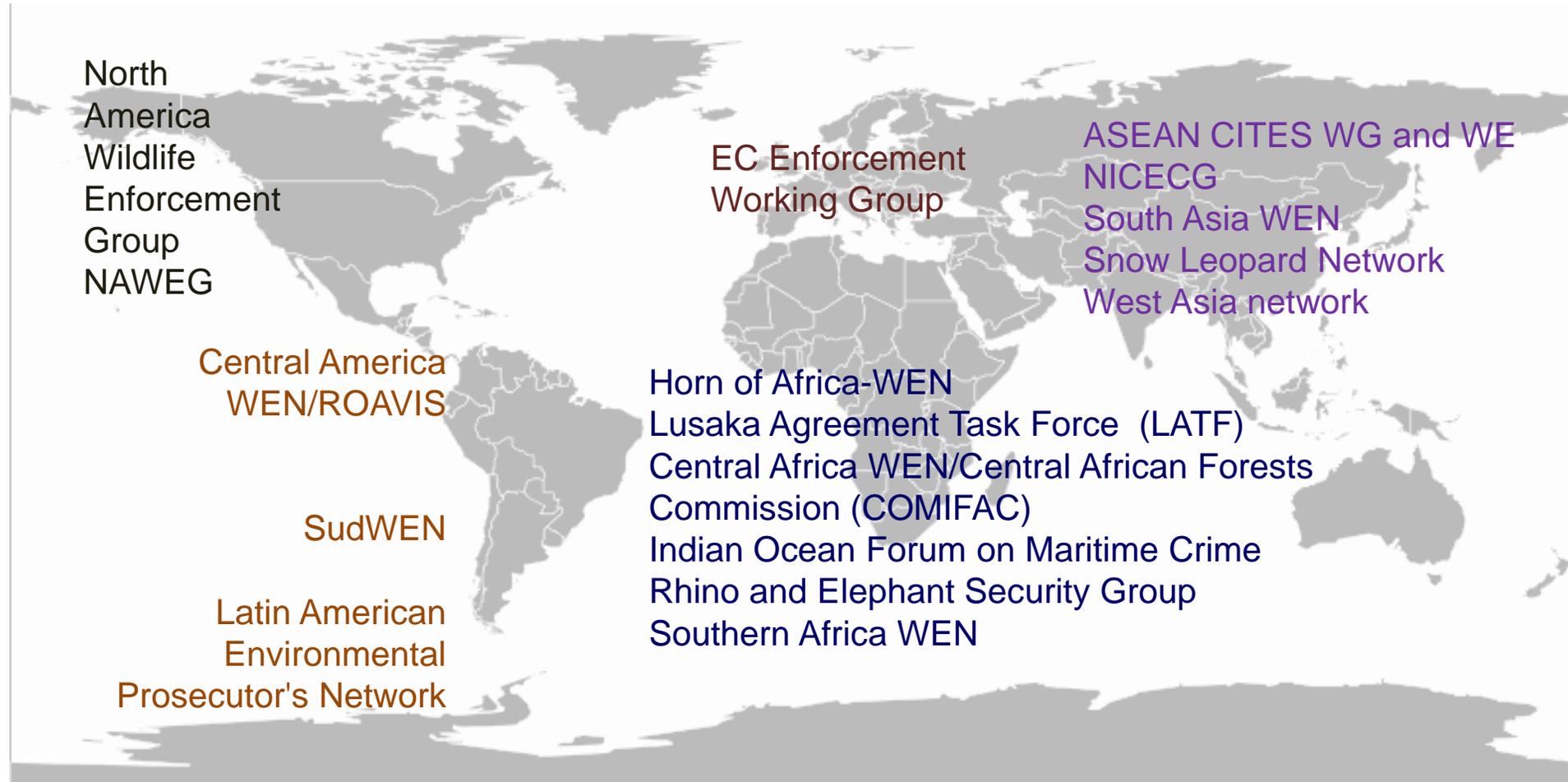
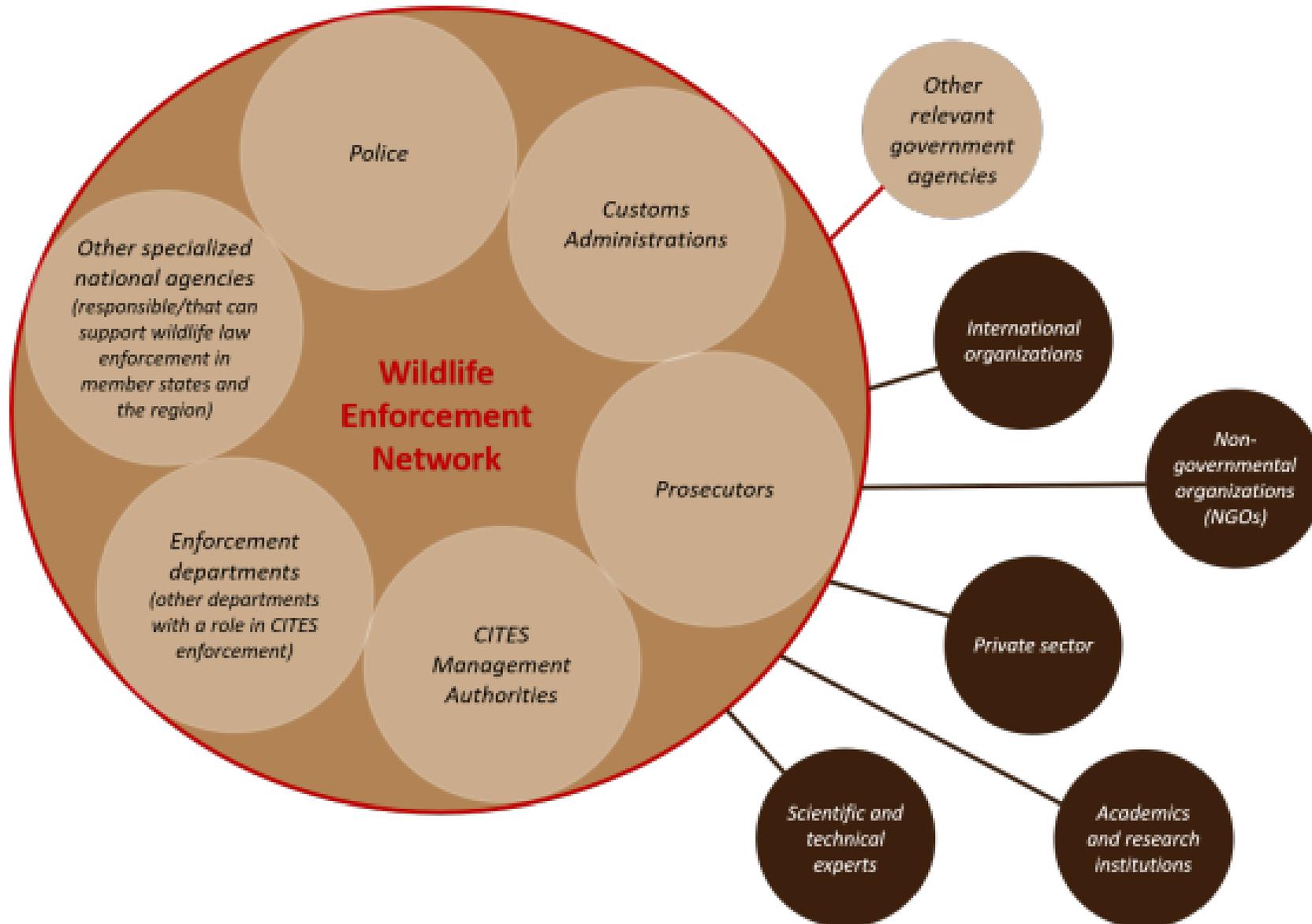
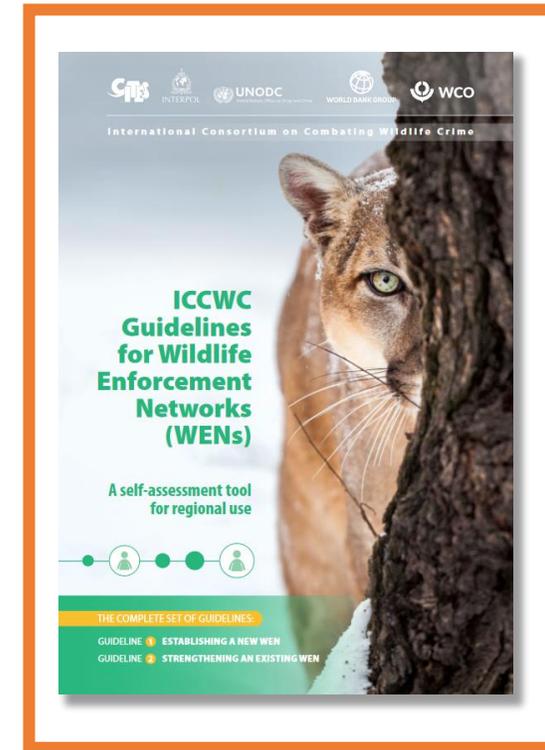
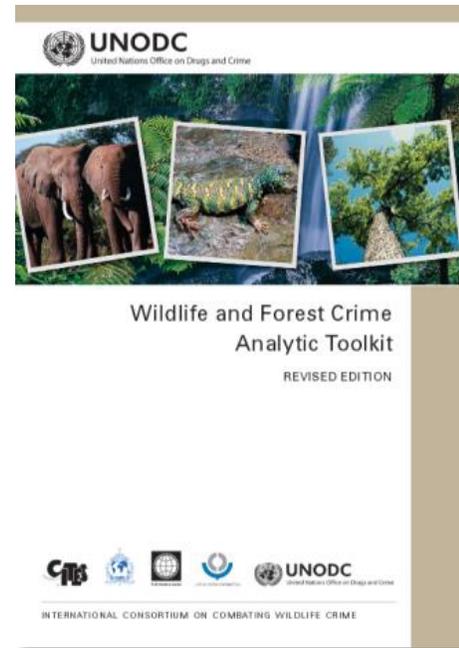
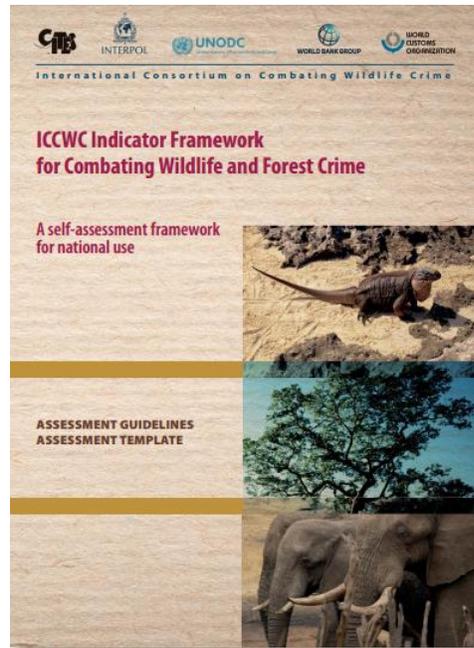


Diagram 1: Overview of the WEN concept



Tools and services to support targeted efforts to enhance responses



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

ICCWC Guidelines for Wildlife Enforcement Networks (WENs)

A self-assessment tool
for regional use



THE COMPLETE SET OF GUIDELINES:

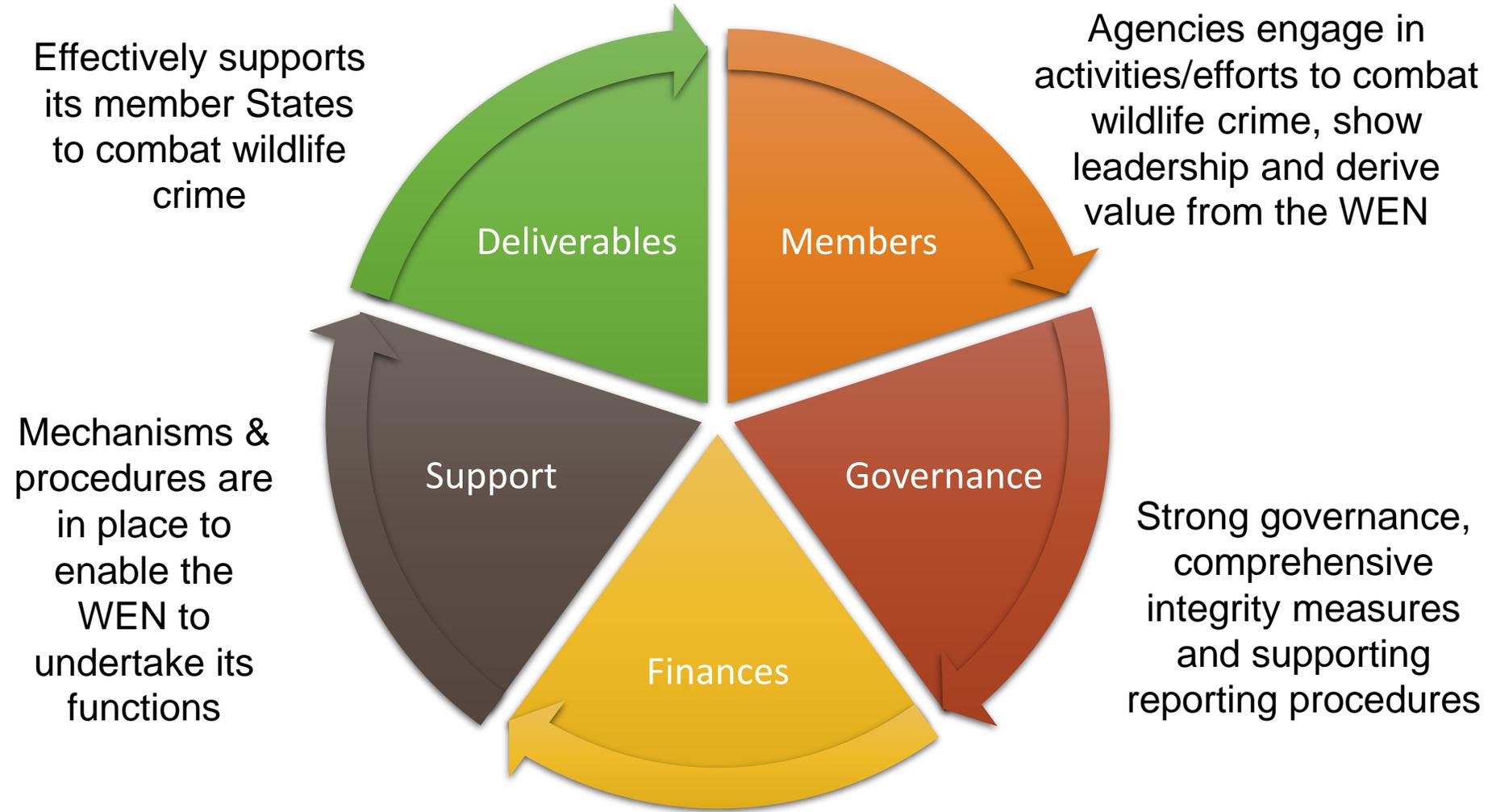
GUIDELINE 1 ESTABLISHING A NEW WEN

GUIDELINE 2 STRENGTHENING AN EXISTING WEN

What are the main goals of a well-established WEN?

- Build cooperation between agencies responsible for wildlife law enforcement
- Facilitate standardized regional approaches
- Support and encourage coordinated efforts and participation of member states in operations combating wildlife crime
- Share experience, skills and information
- Exchange intelligence and risk data
- Support capacity building efforts
- Ensure all actions, products and deliverables of the WEN are aimed at more effectively combating wildlife crime.

What does a well-performing WEN look like?



Access to sustained funding to support functioning, projects and events

Success factors

- Commitment and leadership
- Coordination of the network
- Inclusion of relevant agencies
- Active participation by member States
 - Resources





INTERNATIONAL CONSORTIUM ON COMBATING WILDLIFE CRIME



THANK YOU



ICCWC STRATEGIC PROGRAMME DONORS



Session 3: Support Needed



English

What type of additional tools or support would be most useful to help you/your project improve successful interagency collaboration?

- Technical advice
- Training / mentoring
- Good practice case studies
- Bilateral exchanges/twinning with another country
- Group knowledge exchanges
- In-country experts
- Others, please explain chat box

Español

¿Qué tipo de herramientas o apoyo adicional sería más útil para ayudarle a usted/su proyecto a mejorar la colaboración interinstitucional con éxito?

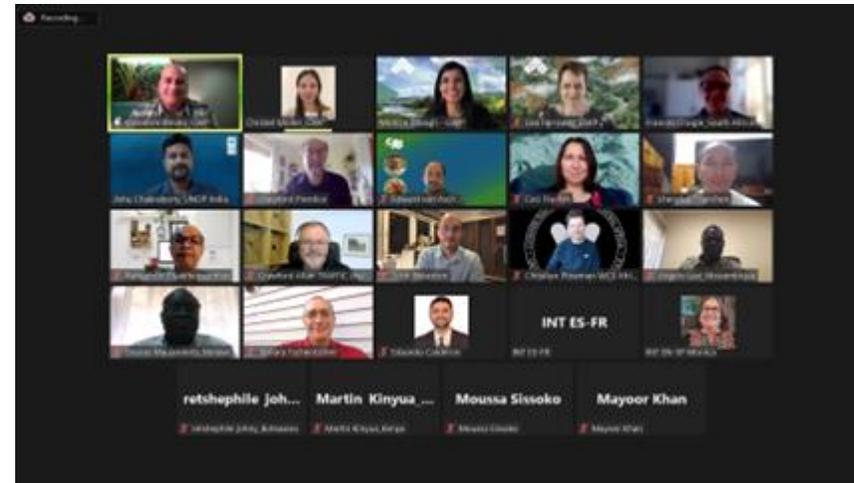
- Asesoramiento técnico
- Formación
- Estudios de casos de buenas prácticas
- Intercambios bilaterales/hermanamiento con otro país
- Intercambios de conocimientos en grupo
- Expertos en el país
- Otros, explique el recuadro del chat

Français

Quels types d'outils ou de soutien supplémentaires seraient les plus utiles pour vous aider/votre projet à améliorer la collaboration inter-agences ?

- Conseils techniques
- Formation
- Études de cas de bonnes pratiques
- Échanges bilatéraux/jumelage avec un autre pays
- Échanges de connaissances en groupe
- Experts nationaux
- Autre, expliquer la boîte à chat

Thank you!



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