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United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

Fight against organized wildlife crime: Prosecution of illicit financial flows

Brussels, 2014





Overview

- Wildlife crime
 - No existing definition
 - Other crimes: document fraud, money-laundering, tax evasion and corruption, arms and human trafficking, and threatens peace and security.

- Money laundering
 - Involves wide variety of individuals and networks
 - Supports expanding of criminal operations
 - Finances organized crime and conflicts



Challenges

- Wildlife crime prosecution and conviction rate is low.
- Wildlife crime prosecution rate in money laundering is even lower and the challenges greater.
- Data constrained environment





What is needed

- The UN ECOSOC last year called upon Member States to treat wildlife and forest crime as “serious crime”
 - *“serious crime shall mean conduct constituting an offence punishable by a maximum deprivation of liberty of at least four years or a more serious penalty”*
- Prosecutorial and judiciary capacity building
- Wildlife crime to be treated as a priority, start following the money
- Strengthening regional cooperation and intelligence sharing
- Develop and systematize data collection, analysis and reporting
 - UNODC initiative



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Thank you

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