Fight against organized wildlife crime: Prosecution of illicit financial flows

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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
Thank you

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