

Wildlife Trafficking Risk Domain

Fact Sheet

WHAT ARE WILDLIFE TRAFFICKING?

Wildlife trafficking refers to the illegal trade of animals and their derivatives, often involving endangered or protected species. This trade can include live animals, as well as parts of animals like ivory, skins, and bones. It's a significant global issue that threatens biodiversity, disrupts ecosystems, and can contribute to the spread of diseases. Many countries have laws and international agreements in place to combat wildlife trafficking and protect vulnerable species.



Several industries are at risk of inintentionally contributing to wildlife trafficking



Medicinal and Traditional **Practices**

Industries that use wildlife products for traditional medicine. such as the use of animal parts in traditional Chinese medicine, can drive demand for endangered species.



Exotic Pet Trade

The demand for exotic pets can lead to the illegal capture and trade of rare and endangered species.



Fashion and Luxury Goods

Industries that use animal skins, fur, and other parts in fashion and luxury products can contribute to the demand for trafficked wildlife.



Tourism

The tourism industry, particularly ecotourism, can inadvertently create demand for wildlife souvenirs, leading to illegal trade.



Bushmeat Trade

The consumption of wild animals as food, known as the bushmeat trade, can drive overhunting and contribute to trafficking.



Art and Collectibles

Artefacts made from wildlife parts, such as ivory carvings, can encourage the poaching of animals.



Industries that use wildlife products in pharmaceuticals or for research purposes can inadvertently contribute to trafficking.



Aquarium Trade

species for the aquarium trade can lead to overharvesting and illegal trade.



Logging and Habitat Destruction

Industries involved in logging and habitat destruction can indirectly facilitate trafficking by encroaching on wildlife habitats and making it easier for traffickers to access and capture animals.



Agriculture and Land

Land development and agricultural expansion can lead to habitat loss and increased human-wildlife conflict, potentially driving illegal trade.



The trade of rare and exotic marine





CONDUCTING A WILDLIFE TRAFFICKING RISK ASSESSMENT IN

10 STEPS



Define Scope and Goals: Determine the scope of your assessment, such as the geographical area, species, and specific objectives you want to achieve. STEP 06

STEP

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Rank Risk Levels: Assign risk levels to different species and areas based on a combination of vulnerability and threats. This helps prioritise conservation efforts.



STEP 02

Gather Data: Collect data on wildlife populations, historical trafficking trends, law enforcement efforts, market demand, and relevant socio-economic factors





Develop Mitigation Strategies: Create targeted strategies to address the identified risks. This may involve strengthening law enforcement, enhancing habitat protection, reducing market

STEP 07



Identify High-Risk Areas and Species: Analyse the collected data to identify regions and species most vulnerable to trafficking. Consider factors like species rarity, market demand, and law enforcement capacity.

STEP 08

STEP 03

Implement and Monitor: Put the strategies into action and continuously monitor their effectiveness. Adapt your approach as needed based on new information and changing circumstances.



EP 04

Assess Vulnerability: Evaluate the vulnerability of high-risk species and areas based on factors like population size, reproductive rate, habitat stability, and accessibility to traffickers.





Collaboration: Engage with government agencies, NGOs, local communities, and other stakeholders to maximise the impact of your efforts.

STEP 09



Evaluate Threats: Identify and assess the different threats contributing to wildlife trafficking, including market demand, corruption, enforcement gaps, and habitat degradation.

STEP 10

STEP

Communication: Regularly communicate the results of your assessment, progress on mitigation strategies, and success stories to raise awareness and inspire collective action.



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