

ADDENDUM: SNAPSHOT OF A SUCCESSFUL SIX MONTHS

This annual update covers the second year of the Wildlife Crime Initiative from **July 2015-June 2016**. However, the final six months of 2016 witnessed a series of such major successes and significant new reports that we felt should be included to highlight the progress being made.

SEPTEMBER



MASSIVE DOWNTURN IN BANGKOK IVORY MARKET

Surveys by TRAFFIC found a 96 per cent fall in the amount of ivory openly for sale in Bangkok markets from December 2014 to June 2016 – a transformation that follows a successful three year campaign spearheaded by WWF and TRAFFIC.



WORLD REAFFIRMS COMMITMENT TO END WILDLIFE CRIME

UN member states unanimously adopted a second General Assembly resolution against wildlife trafficking, which was co-sponsored by 70 countries, including the five permanent members of the Security Council.

NOVEMBER



TIGER TRAFFICKING REPORT STRENGTHENS CALL TO CLOSE TIGER FARMS

A TRAFFIC analysis found that a minimum of 1,755 tigers were seized from 2000-2015, highlighting Asia's failure to ramp up enforcement, close tiger farms, strengthen laws and reduce demand. In a welcome move, Laos promised to close all of its tiger farms.



PRESSURE BUILDS ON VIET NAM TO TACKLE WILDLIFE CRIME

Ahead of an international conference in Hanoi on illegal wildlife trade, the Wildlife Justice Commission held its first public hearings into organised wildlife crime in Viet Nam, while 225,000 people signed a WWF petition calling for Hanoi to act. At the end of the conference, the Vietnamese government pledged to improve law enforcement and cross-border cooperation. Critically, many of the other 40 countries pledged tangible, time-bound actions against wildlife crime.

AUGUST

TECH TITANS TEAM UP AGAINST WILDLIFE CYBERCRIMINALS

Twenty of the world's leading e-commerce and social media firms have adopted a global wildlife policy framework in collaboration with WWF, TRAFFIC and IFAW – making it harder for wildlife criminals to move their operations from one site to another.

OCTOBER



BIGGEST EVER WILDLIFE TRADE CONFERENCE IS MAJOR SUCCESS FOR CONSERVATION

During the CITES CoP17 in South Africa, more than 180 governments voted to maintain the international ban on trade in ivory and rhino horn, adopted global bans on trade in pangolins and African Grey parrots, and tightened rules on tiger farms. For the first time, the conference adopted resolutions on corruption and reducing consumer demand for threatened wildlife.



SOUNDING AN ALARM ABOUT SNOW LEOPARD POACHING

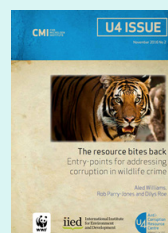
With possibly as few as 4,000 snow leopards surviving in the wild, a TRAFFIC report found that hundreds are being killed illegally each year. The report provides a blueprint for action to protect snow leopards from poaching and trafficking.

DECEMBER



CHINA ANNOUNCES RAPID END TO WORLD'S LARGEST IVORY MARKET

In a historic move, China pledged to close down its domestic ivory trade in 2017, signalling an end to the largest legal ivory market and a major boost to international efforts to tackle elephant poaching.



TACKLING THE ELEPHANT IN THE ROOM

The WCI has played a major role in pushing corruption up the global conservation agenda. For the first time, illicit financial flows and corruption in wildlife crime were part of the official agenda during the International Anti-Corruption Conference in Panama. The unprecedented workshop was co-ordinated by WWF under the auspices of the 3C Network for Countering Conservation-related Corruption and funded by GIZ, USAID Wildlife TRAPS and Transparency International.

