



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Directorate General for International Cooperation and Development

Sustainable Growth and Development

Environment, ecosystems, biodiversity and wildlife

Conservation, development and security

Brussels, Borchette Centre, 9-10 February 2016

Objectives:

This seminar, will convene key stakeholders in charge of the implementation of the external dimension of EU biodiversity policies.

The objectives are to discuss policy and implementation of key conservation and development issues including the EU's continental strategic approaches to wildlife conservation, the external dimension of the EU Action Plan against Wildlife Trafficking¹, engaging with communities to enhance biodiversity conservation and sustainable development and the wildlife conservation-security nexus.

The seminar aims to network and strengthen the collaboration between EC headquarters, Member States, EU Delegations and key experts on wildlife issues.

Target group:

- Programme officers, focal points and Heads of Section in charge of environment matters in EU Delegations.
- DEVCO geographic directorates, ENV, EEAS, JRC.
- Leaders of selected EU-funded programs on wildlife issues (50 persons)
- Member States

Estimated number of participants: 150-200

Organisation of the Sessions

Each session will kick-off with two/three short presentations given by experts on the session subject. Panel members will then be invited to share their expertise in the form of brief comments and complementary information, after which the debate will be open to the floor. The discussions should illustrate the potential role of EU delegations and HQ in political dialogue and in program implementation in the various topics of the sessions.

¹ The *internal* dimension of the Action Plan will have been covered in an event organised by DG ENV on 8th February covering cooperation with relevant business sectors and aiming to incentivise Member States to implement the plan and seeking the engagement of the private sector for specific actions.

Thursday 9 February

Introduction: Chantal Marijnissen, Head of Unit, DEVCO C2

Session 1: 09:15-10:30

The External Dimension of the EU Action Plan against Wildlife Trafficking

This session aims to set the scene for the next two days. It will provide an overview of the scale and nature of the wildlife trafficking crisis and the EU responses to it.

Presentations:

- Wildlife trafficking: the extent of the problem and the political response (John Scanlon, Secretary General of CITES).
- EU Action Plan against Wildlife Trafficking: (G. De Rotalier - DG ENV & P. Mayaux – DG DEVCO).

Panel with Q&As from the audience: I. Oliver-Cruz (EUD Laos); F. Mahler (EUD Zambia); A. Reuter Cortes (WCS Latin America); C. O’Criadain (WWF Wildlife Policy)

Coffee break

Session 2: 11:00-12:30

Law enforcement at local and international level: ending the killing, stopping the trafficking.

This session will focus on the operational aspects of law enforcement activities aimed at curbing the illegal wildlife trade, both at the local level where the wildlife is illegally harvested, and the regional and international levels. There are many aspects of law enforcement and it will not be possible to cover them all exhaustively during this session. However some of the key aspects that should be highlighted will include law enforcement monitoring systems, how to engage local communities in the front line of anti-trafficking and anti-poaching, wildlife crime intelligence gathering, how to tackle the governance issues that often undermine conservation activities.

Presentations:

- The SMART Law Enforcement Monitoring tool, by Emma Stokes (WCS).
- Local Communities: The first line of defence in combatting illegal wildlife trade; by Holly Dublin (IUCN)
- TenBoma and Asia wildlife trade: Faye Cuevas (IFAW)

Panel: A. Houyoux (EUD Madagascar); T. Hoang (EUD Vietnam); J.Galvez (SERFOR, Peru); Babakar Matar Breme (APN, Chad); J. Eppel (ICWC)

Session 3: 14:00-15:30

Wildlife conservation-security nexus

Wildlife trafficking is now a multi-billion dollar criminal business involving international crime syndicates working with armed gangs and corrupt officials in the ‘source countries’. In several countries the involvement of armed gangs/rebels, is seriously affecting the national security, and undermining governance structures. Local communities living close to ‘source’ areas are particularly vulnerable to the insecurity brought by armed gangs working with criminal organizations. Protected Areas, where the best remaining populations of wildlife live, have to confront this threat on a daily

basis and often pay a high price in terms of human lives. However PAs can also act as micro-hubs of governance, particularly in areas where other governance structures have collapsed.

Presentations:

- Conservation and security in the CAR/South-Sudan/DRC/Chad trans-border region, by P. Elkan, WCS South Sudan).
- How protected areas can contribute to peace-building mechanisms: the example of Colombia, by Julia Miranda (Director of Columbia National Natural Parks)

Panel : V. Csonka (EUD Colombia); D. De Bernardi (EUD DR Congo); D. Carpenter (EEAS tbc); C. Haenlein (RUSI); R. Labuscagne (APN Chad);

Session 4: 16.00-17.45

The nexus Conservation - development

This session will focus on the key issues of how to implement conservation projects in ways that enable local communities to buy-in to conservation activities and benefit from them, and how biodiversity conservation contributes to food security, public health, and the maintenance of ecosystem services. The perspective of EU Delegations as to how to address the conservation-development nexus in their dialogue with national governments, and how to ensure that greater resources are mobilised for conservation, will be particularly appreciated for this session.

Presentations:

- Southern Africa approach to conservation and development, illustrated by the KAZA trans-border initiative and the Namibian Communal Conservancies movement (R. Taylor, WWF Namibia).
- Wildlife, Forests, Food Security and Public Health: (R. Nasi, CIFOR).

(NB. This session is the second part of an introduction given to EU delegations on the 8 February).

Panel: F. Saracco (EUD Afghanistan); M. Bucki (EUD Indonesia); S. Fontaine (EUD Mali); D. Wilkie (WCS); T. Hart (Lukuru Foundation, DRC); T. Ammour (IUCN)

Friday 10 February

Session 5: 9:00-12:30

Continental strategic approaches for wildlife conservation – break out groups.

The aim of this session is to enable stakeholders from the different regions (EUD s, national institutions, conservation actors) to be updated on the state of play of the Continental strategic approaches to wildlife conservation for the different regions (the ‘Larger than....’ series) and to discuss how they can be used in the political dialogue with beneficiary countries to guide and plan development cooperation in their regions. Other important aspects to cover include sustainable funding mechanisms, and how to enhance coordination with EU Member states and major funding agencies for the implementation of these strategic approaches.

Speakers: T. Clements (WCS, Coordinator of the ‘Larger than Tigers’ team); Stanley Arguedas Mora (coordinator of the ‘Larger than the Amazon’ team – presentation in Spanish with simultaneous translation); C. Aveling (coordinator of the ‘Larger than Elephants..’ team). P. Failler (coordinator Larger than Whales – African coastal and marine strategic approach).

Session 6: 14:00- 15:00**Wrap-up of the continental sessions**

Team leaders for the break out groups will report back in plenary summarising key issues in the strategic approaches that were discussed, and indicating where there is consensus and/or where modifications/additions have been suggested. The aim is that these discussions will enable the documents to be finalized prior to them being forwarded to the editors for lay-out and printing.

Team leaders will also report back on the wider discussions relating to the EU's political dialogue with national governments on biodiversity conservation within the framework of the strategic approaches, engaging with other funding agencies, and sustainable funding mechanisms.

Session 7: 15:00-16:30**High-level panel: Conservation and Political dialogue – the way forward?**

The EU has made important commitments with respect to climate change and the environment in its international development and cooperation policy, including commitments to spend at least 20% of its budget for 2014-2020. In particular the EU has committed to doubling its biodiversity-related funding to developing countries. The aims of this session are to discuss how to orientate the EU's political and strategic dialogue with its international partners and beneficiaries so that these scaled-up funding commitments can contribute as effectively as possible to achieving the objectives covered in the various international conventions (SDGs, Aichi Targets, Paris Climate change agreements).

The session will be animated by a panel of high level actors in the EU and its institutional partners.

Moderator : P. Mayaux / C. Marjnissen, DEVCO

Panel : *to be confirmed*: (EEAS); Xavier Sticker (Amb. France pour l'environnement); Kaddu Sebunya (President of African Wildlife Foundation); M. Bostroem (KFW), E. Pironio (DEVCO), UK (DEFRA), O. Ntougou (RAPAC)

Session 8: 16:30-17:00

Closure by Marjeta Jager, Deputy Director General, DEVCO