LIFE SWiPE Project
Collection of Data on Wildlife Crime Cases
1. Summary of the project.


3. Data collection process.
1. Summary of the project.
1. Summary of the project.

Territorial scope (11): Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Hungary, Ukraine, Poland, Bulgaria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Spain, Italy

Start date: 01/09/2020
End date: 31/08/2023

Partnership: WWF offices (Bulgaria, Adria in Serbia, Serbia, Spain, Italy, Romania, Hungary + TRAFFIC, Poland, Slovakia, Ukraine)

Main objective: SWiPE aims to discourage and ultimately reduce illegally killed European wildlife, supporting the recovery of threatened European biodiversity and the health of ecosystems.

Overall expected result: The number of investigated and reported wildlife crime cases proceeding to trial has increased by at least 25% due to improved expertise as well as better interagency and cross-border cooperation of responsible authorities.

- One common user-friendly and comprehensive template for all project countries
- Google Spreadsheet: general information, dropdown menus + 4 essential tabs
- CASES: This is the main table with WLC cases. One row describes one case. Each country will have their own worksheet of CASES.
- SPECIES: A table containing information on species related to the worksheet CASES. There can be many species related to one case. Each country will have their own worksheet SPECIES.
- ACTS: A table containing a list of all ACTS relevant to WLC in each country. It is a supporting worksheet.
- DISSEMINATION: A supporting worksheet for the field “Dissemination handling code” (Worksheet CASES). The worksheet DISSEMINATION is common for all countries.
3. Data collection process.
A framework guideline for the collection of data on Wildlife Crime

for the project Successful Wildlife Crime Prosecution in Europe
(LIFE19 GIE/BG/000846 SWiPE Project)

Warsov, February 2021

1. Introduction

The activities of the B2 group of tasks have been designed to build participation and engagement amongst the key target groups, whilst eliciting key data and information. The collection of data is intended to give as complete and true picture as possible of wildlife crimes (hereinafter referred to as WLC) in the 11 participating countries. Such a task would in principle be unfeasible, as illegal activities in general always have their dark, unknown side, the type and scale of which cannot be precisely determined. However, by selecting a similar range of data to be collected and by applying similar methods in different countries, as well as by comparing data from different sources, it will be possible, among other things, to achieve the following results:

- Identify the main types of wildlife crime currently occurring in each country and in the region overall;
- Identify the main differences between countries, as well as possible links and desirable directions for cooperation;
- Identify where there are major gaps in the knowledge of WLC between countries and inconsistencies in the data held by different authorities and stakeholders;
- Identify the main problems in effectively detecting, sanctioning, combating and preventing WLC in each country;
- Identify desirable improvements including related to enhancing knowledge, exchange of experiences and cooperation.

The scope and methods of information collection should therefore be adapted to these expected outcomes. This booklet provides general guidance to help standardize the scope and methodology. It should be noted, however, that the differences in the organization of nature conservation and crime-fighting authorities as well as in the specifics of wildlife crime itself in the individual countries are so significant that it will have to be the task of the project partners in the individual countries to fill these general guidelines with concrete content.

2. The scope of data to be collected

The scope of data to be collected within the project can be analyzed in terms of three parameters:

1) territorial,
2) time-related,
3) content-related.
3. Data collection process.
3. Data collection process.

Criminal acts against the environment:

- 2020: 3,769
- 2019: 3,941
- 2018: 3,529
- 2017: 8,181
- 2016: 4,558
- 2015: 3,765

Proceedings were sent to the court:

- 2020: 1,037
- 2019: 864
- 2018: 1,085
- 2017: 872
- 2016: 1,029

Proceedings were closed:

- 2020: 2,389
- 2019: 2,218
- 2018: 2,941
- 2017: 2,767
- 2016: 2,601
3. Data collection process.
registered criminal acts against the environment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 2020</th>
<th>registered</th>
<th>proceedings were sent to the court</th>
<th>proceedings were closed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>criminal acts</td>
<td>4558</td>
<td>1037</td>
<td>2899</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>offences</td>
<td>607</td>
<td>208</td>
<td>289</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>crimes</td>
<td>3951</td>
<td>829</td>
<td>2610</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Contacts:
Roselina Stoeva (WWF Bulgaria), Project Manager of LIFE SWiPE, rpeneva@wwf.bg
Piotr Chmielewski (WWF Poland), Nature Conservation Specialist, pchmielewski@wwf.pl