Experiences from the Field

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Wildlife crime

- Supply/source
- Transit
- Demand/consumer market

FOCUS
- Supply
- Poaching in and around PAs
Traditional approach

- Range post/guard posts certain jurisdiction
- 4-5 range posts makes one division or a PA management unit
- Traditional patrol and reporting system
- No serious involvement of other agencies like law enforcement and judiciary – arrest and prosecute
Key driver of poaching

- High profit low risk
- Probability of detection
- Probability of arrest
- Probability of prosecution
- Probability of conviction
One Golden Turtle (1.5kg): $4500-$7500

One set of Elephant tusks (5-15kg/tusk): $5000-$210,000

One Adult tiger skeleton: $15,000-$20,000

One African rhino horn (2.8-3.7kg): $56,000 - $225,000
Challenges

• No institutional mechanism for inter-agency cooperation to address wildlife crime
• Conservation - a low priority subject
• Weak institution
  – professional capacity
  – Equipment and gear
  – Intelligence
  – Wildlife crime investigation
  – Forensics
  – prosecution
  – Budget
Challenges

• Weak legislative framework
• Weak enforcement mechanism
• Poor political support/community
• Weak coordination and collaboration among law enforcement agencies and judiciary
• Poor partnership with local community
• Poor strategic vision/recovery plan
• Poor use of latest tools and technology – forensics, communication, surveillance, monitoring, etc.
• Organized and transnational crime
• Changed dynamics of combating wildlife crime
Current status

• SMART or similar patrol and monitoring system in many PAs
• Patrol - Boots on the ground important but are we strategic enough?
• Ambush & sweeping operation
• Intelligence
• UAV, e-surveillance – real time for tactical and strategic
• Sniffer dog
• Community engagement/CBAPU/Conflicts
Current status

- Coordination with law enforcement agencies but still lack of institutional mechanism
- Review process
- Special force
- Political support
- Trans-boundary cooperation
- International cooperation – ICCWC, COBRA
The reality

- Poaching - still a serious threat