



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-9iULG83Lsc>

~~END~~
WILDLIFE
~~CRIME~~

Scaled up, unified action to end wildlife crime is critical to save biodiversity and prevent future pandemics

HONG KONG, 3 March, UN World Wildlife Day 2021. The world faces a biodiversity crisis. “Scaled up, unified global action to end wildlife crime has never been more critical, if we are to stop the degradation of ecosystems, halt the extinction crisis, and prevent future wildlife-related pandemics”, said John Scanlon AO, Chair of the Global Initiative to End Wildlife Crime.

Today marks a year since the pre-launch event of [The Global Initiative to End Wildlife Crime](#) at the House of Lords, London. The Initiative, formally launched on 5 June, continues to push for transformative changes to international legal frameworks to end wildlife crime.

The Initiative has today released a 2 minute [video](#) highlighting the damage to ecosystems and impact on communities resulting from wildlife crime, which has an estimated annual cost of USD1-2trillion (The World Bank 2019). Illicit wildlife trafficking is a key driver of biodiversity loss, with one million species at risk of extinction over the coming decades (IPBES 2019). The video's resolute message is that “the time for governments to act is now”. The video is available in Arabic, English, French, German, Simplified Chinese, Spanish and Vietnamese.

Following the video release, on 7 March the Initiative will host a virtual event at the United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in Tokyo, titled [Filling the Gaps in International Wildlife Law - the Need for a Global Agreement on Illicit Wildlife Trafficking](#). Speakers include Ministers and experts in the fields of public policy, criminology and environmental protection, and they will shed light on the rationale for a new global agreement on combating and preventing illicit wildlife trafficking, and the process by which it can be realised.

View the video in: [Arabic](#), [English](#), [French](#), [German](#), [Simplified Chinese](#), [Spanish](#) and [Vietnamese](#).

EWC, is an initiative of organizations working on wildlife crime and trade related issues and is hosted by the Hong Kong based ADM Capital Foundation, chaired by John Scanlon and with a Steering Group comprising the Born Free Foundation, the Global Environmental Institute the ICCF Group and the Food and Land Use Coalition. More information on the Initiative, including its Steering Group, the organizations that have signed up as Champions of the Initiative, and its Special Advisers and Supporters, can be found on the EWC website [here](#).

Resources:

IPBES, [Global Assessment](#)

The World Bank, [Illegal Logging, Fishing, and Wildlife Trade : The Costs and How to Combat it](#)

Global Initiative to End Wildlife Crime, [Draft Protocol against the Illicit Trafficking in Specimens of Wild Fauna and Flora](#)

House of Lord's Event 2020, [Speech by Chair of the Global Initiative to End Wildlife Crime](#)

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