



Preventing environmental crime through international environmental policy

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What is environmental crime?

- Illegal trade in wildlife
- Forestry, fishery crimes
- Illegal release of pollutants
- Illegal shipments or dumping of waste and chemicals
- Smuggling of Ozone depleting substances
- Illegal mining and pollution
- White collar crimes including money laundering, tax fraud, profits from illegal action.
- What else?

-> huge harm to the environment and human health

Complex root causes

- Poverty
- Demand
- Lack of awareness
- Permissive environment
- Organized crime, corruption, insecurity, conflict and war

... going beyond criminal law.

Prevent rather than cure



THE ROLE OF PACKAGING
REGULATIONS AND
STANDARDS IN DRIVING
THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY



UN 
environment
programme

Tackle root causes

- Globally, regionally, nationally
- Rule of law and good environmental governance
- Public and consumer awareness
- Financial support and economic incentives
- Promote public participation, access to information, access to justice
- Protection of “environmental defenders” and work with environmental CSOs

Combating Wildlife and Forest Crime in the Danube-Carpathian Region

Illegal logging, illegal fishing of sturgeon and caviar trade, poaching of large carnivores, illegal killing of wild birds

UNEP – WWF

“Systemic approach”



Combating Wildlife and Forest Crime in the Danube-Carpathian Region



International environmental cooperation is key for prevention of environmental crimes

