



# MAPPING THE WORLD

## PUBLIC POLICY DIALOGUE

### FACTS & RESOURCES FOR THE FORUM ON

## WILDLIFE & WILD PLACES

### WILDLIFE TRAFFICKING

The ongoing Mapping the World Public Policy Forum Series will create a dialogue and space where facts can be discussed and solutions developed. Below are a few resources surrounding the international illegal wildlife trade to facilitate today's dialogue.

- The international illegal wildlife trade (excluding timber and fisheries) is estimated to be worth at least 19 billion USD per year, making it the fourth largest illegal global trade (after drugs, counterfeiting, and human trafficking).
- Wildlife trafficking is both a conservation concern and an acute security threat. The increasing involvement of organized crime in wildlife trafficking:
  - Promotes corruption
  - Threatens the peace and security of fragile regions
  - Strengthens illicit trade routes
  - Destabilizes economies and communities that depend on wildlife for their livelihoods
  - Contributes to the spread of disease
- Current rates of extinction are about 1,000 times the normal background extinction rate.
- In a survey of 570 rangers polled in 12 African countries:
  - 59% answered NO to the question: "Do you feel you are provided with proper equipment and amenities to ensure safety?"
  - 75% answered YES to the question: "Have you been threatened by community members or other people because of this work?"
  - 42% said NO to the question: "Do you feel you are adequately trained to do your job?"

Additional resources will be available following the forum at [natgeoforums.org](http://natgeoforums.org).

## UPCOMING MAPPING THE WORLD PUBLIC POLICY FORUMS:

THE HUMAN JOURNEY: Antiquities Preservation | OUR CHANGING PLANET: Ocean Conservation

Learn more at [natgeoforums.org](http://natgeoforums.org)