

ICCWC

BUILDING A CASE AGAINST WILDLIFE CRIME IN MOZAMBIQUE

Mozambique is tackling wildlife crime head on, to reduce illegal wildlife trafficking including for ivory and rhino horn, and to support conservation in the country. Its efforts are starting to pay off.



“Our partnership has led to improved evidence gathering, reduced case times, and stiffer sentences.”

- Park Ranger

In 2015, Mozambique requested support with the implementation of the ICCWC Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit to assess and identify gaps in its preventive and criminal justice response to wildlife crime.

One of the key recommendations arising from the Toolkit assessment was the need to strengthen cases brought to the courtroom and to ensure sentences are a deterrence to offenders.

Led by UNODC, ICCWC supported the development of a Rapid Reference Manual for the investigation of wildlife crime. The tailor-made tool provides Mozambique's rangers, police, and prosecutors with a step-by-step guide on how to build strong cases against wildlife crime from the onset.

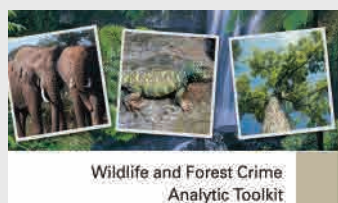
Training sessions organized in partnership with the Attorney General's Office, ANAC, WWF and USAID Speed+ expanded the use of the Rapid Reference Manual across the country, providing the skills needed to prepare better cases, from the evidence at a crime scene and the arrest, to case files for the court room. Training of Trainers sessions also empowered Mozambican nationals to conduct their own local training sessions ensuring the initiative's sustainability.

IMPACT

- ✓ Wildlife crime case duration reduced to 6 months (previously 1 to 2 years)
- ✓ Quality of evidence improved, leading to fewer acquittals
- ✓ Over 80% of wildlife crime cases on track
- ✓ Use of the latest legislation, ensuring higher 12 – 16 year sentences, compared to previous 2-years converted to fines
- ✓ 85% of court cases received convictions, an increase of 35% in 3 years

Source: Attorney General's Office 2020

ICCWC'S ANALYTIC TOOLKIT



Committed to protect endangered species and to deter the illegal wildlife trade, Mozambique requested ICCWC support with the implementation of the Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit and has since improved legislation, named environmental crime prosecutors, reduced courtroom wait times, and increased sentencing for wildlife crimes.

DID YOU KNOW?

34+ COUNTRIES HAVE
WORKED WITH

To assess and improve
their preventive and criminal
justice response to **WILDLIFE CRIME**



ICCWC'S RAPID REFERENCE MANUAL

To date, a series of similar tools have
been developed for countries in
Africa, Asia and Latin America.

ICCWC'S WORK IN MOZAMBIQUE CONTRIBUTES TO:



SDG 15

To combat poaching and
trafficking of protected species.



SDG 16

To promote strong institutions,
the rule of law and enforcement.

MOZAMBIQUE LOST **48%**
OF ITS ELEPHANTS
BETWEEN
2011-2014



Improved legislation now ensures
that elephants are fully protected, and
maximum prison terms for wildlife
crimes are increased to **16 YEARS**

WHAT'S NEXT?

ICCWC will continue to roll out the Rapid Reference Manual (RRM) in other parts of Mozambique to arm rangers, investigators and prosecutors with the necessary skills and knowledge to build stronger court cases and to ensure that the law is enforced in all regions of the country. As a next step, a bench book for judges, building on the RRM, is also being developed.

United under the banner of the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICCWC), these five inter-governmental organizations form a unique pool of complementary expertise, providing a holistic approach to combating wildlife crime along the entire criminal justice chain.



ICCWC's work in Mozambique
is generously supported by:



Questions? info@cites.org