

SADC Rhino and Elephant Security Group/ INTERPOL Environmental Crime Working Group



Region and countries of the network:

South and East Africa (SADC countries including Kenya at present)

Authorities involved

INTERPOL Southern African sub-region; government and Provincial Nature Conservation / Wildlife Authorities in each country.

Formal network supported by the respective governments who send delegates to the meetings, the forum has been in existence for more than 20 years.

Brief description

The SADC RESG/INTERPOL ECWG is an Advisory Group composed of government representatives and invited NGOs, which convene and co-ordinate to enhance regional efforts to improve the security, viability and promote the increase of rhino and elephant populations in South-

Structure / decision-making process

Established under the SADC umbrella at the time of the SADC Regional Rhino Program and later amalgamating with the INTERPOL Environmental Crime Working Group to expand areas of concern to include serious environmental crime matters. The group should report through INTERPOL and SADC structures but this has recently lapsed.

Initially (up to about 10 years ago) the two meetings were held consecutively but it was realized that most of the delegates wore two hats and repeated most of their reports at either meeting. A joint decision was taken to amalgamate the two meetings into one to become more effective and efficient.

Key activities

- To develop guidelines, strategies and database for the effective and efficient protection of African rhino and elephant population.
- To assist the various conservation agencies, communities and private landowners to minimize rhino and elephant poaching and the illegal trade in rhino horn and ivory.
- To provide advice, training and co-ordination.
- To enhance cooperation with and use and value of INTERPOL for dealing

Key partners in the region

In addition to those already mentioned: TRAFFIC East and Southern Africa, IUCN AfRSG.

Network focal points

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