

**Wildlife Justice**  
Commission

# Annual Report 2018

# We are fighting for those who cannot fight for themselves

**As I began** preparing to report on last year's work, I was deeply disturbed to read that, in the years to come, the actions of mankind could threaten more than a million species with extinction.

**The shocking state** of affairs<sup>1</sup>, based on comprehensive data collated and analysed by hundreds of experts, outlined the deadly human impact on our natural world. It was a deeply troubling echo of last year's scientific conclusion that we are in the midst of the sixth mass extinction<sup>2</sup>. Human activity has been to mammals, birds, reptiles and fish what a colossal asteroid was to the dinosaurs. While environmental degradation, over-consumption and climate change are drivers of destruction, the billion-dollar wildlife trafficking business is increasingly compounding the crisis and all too often the criminal networks target the most vulnerable animals, already on the edge of extinction.

**The urgency** of the problem is undeniable, and we have evidenced it during our own investigations and with the data we have gathered across Asia and Africa. Vulnerable species of one nation are being

trafficked across borders and continents, with vast profits going to just a few, but at massive cost to those countries, local communities and the natural world. Animals that are integral to our essential networks of biodiversity are ensnared in the criminal networks of wildlife traffickers; traded as pets, or in parts.

## It is our mission to help stop these devastating crimes

**In 2018**, we focused our investigations, intelligence, partnership efforts and communications on tracking the traffickers and delivering compelling data and evidence to help law enforcement agencies and policy-makers to devise more effective efforts to tackle transnational organised wildlife crime. Undercover investigations such as Operations Caesar, Pluto and Pandora identified emerging trends in the routes being used to smuggle pangolin scales and baby orangutans, ivory and rhino horns. Operation Dragon documented in detail the illegal trade in live turtles and tortoises, and how the systematic corrupting of officials enables the traffickers. It gave

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.ipbes.net/how-did-ipbes-estimate-1-million-species-risk-extinction-globalassessment-report>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.pnas.org/content/114/30/E6089>



new and important insight into the way the criminal networks are organised, mapping the supply chains and sharing of resources and people amongst networks. An in-depth documentary, *Rhino Dollars*, broadcasted by ARTE TV, showcased work done by the WJC over two years to disrupt and help dismantle the criminal networks benefiting from the rhino horn trade in Southeast Asia.

**At the same time**, we developed new relationships and expanded our reach into the United States, all designed to ensure enforcement agencies, governments and international policy-makers identify and treat wildlife trafficking for what it is - industrial-scale, transnational crime.

**Science is telling us** the clock is ticking. We feel that urgency, but we see the political cogs moving too slowly for our wildlife. Last year we forged new partnerships, found new donors, filed in-depth intelligence reports and formulated a stronger public profile in order to ensure that authorities act more decisively, with greater speed, and in keeping with the scale and seriousness of those crimes.

**I am proud** to report that our work is making a difference and we are enormously grateful to our donors, partners and supporters for making it possible. I am, as always, also indebted to the entire team at the WJC for another year of tireless work.

**While this report** looks back on our efforts last year, we must not lose sight of the urgent need for action now. One of the most powerful means we have to ensure that governments take responsibility to counter transnational organised wildlife crime is sharing the information we have amassed on wildlife trafficking. With this report, that power is also now in your hands. I encourage you to exercise your power, pass on this report to your friends and colleagues, share the knowledge and the need for action, and encourage them to join us in the fight for those who cannot fight for themselves.

**Olivia Swaak-Goldman**  
Executive Director





## Executive Summary

**Trafficking networks** routinely circumvent international laws and conventions. Whilst intelligence analysis by law enforcement agencies is widely used to combat other cross-border organised crimes, it is rarely applied to transnational wildlife trafficking, despite its huge financial, social and ecological cost. In too many jurisdictions, organised wildlife trafficking is considered a conservation concern, not a crime; a problem for park rangers rather than a police investigation.

**Our investigations** are bridging that gap. Last year, our intelligence and analysis provided new insights into how wildlife criminals organise their supply chains, build corruption into the fabric of their operations and work across different networks. Understanding how the networks are developed and maintained, as well as the interconnectivity of people, places and even the networks themselves enabled the WJC to identify and target prolific networks whose removal will create a meaningful impact.

**By the end of 2018**, the WJC had the largest analytical team focused solely on wildlife trafficking in any non-for-profit organisation (NPO), worldwide. We operate in data-driven manner and over the course of the year we mapped out the current smuggling routes of live turtles and tortoises, primates, rhino horn, elephant ivory and pangolin scales in addition to many other animals and their parts. Almost everything that was trafficked was an endangered or critically endangered species.

### 2018 outputs from the WJC Intelligence Unit

+200

intelligence reports  
disseminated to  
law enforcement  
agencies

7

suspected major  
traffickers profiled

+200

organisations  
of interest profiled

1700

entities  
assessed

+1400

seizures  
analysed



**It was encouraging** that in some countries last year, prosecutions resulted in significant penalties, including extended jail terms, but in too many cases the lack of serious sanctions remains the norm.

**One of the concerning trends** in 2018 was the increase in trafficking of pangolin scales. Pangolins are already the world's most trafficked mammal, but WJC data calculated a worryingly high 275% increase in the number of animals seized in just four years.

**Investigations** such as Operations Pluto and Pandora also found commonalities between the networks shipping pangolin scales and those smuggling ivory and rhino horn. Intelligence reports also identified Western Africa as an emerging African exit point in the supply chain for a range of species.

**Working collaboratively** with law enforcement agencies is crucial to enable arrests and successful prosecutions and in 2018, the WJC investigators worked closely with officers in Kenya, Mozambique, Malaysia, Indonesia, Bangladesh, India, Viet Nam and others, helping to secure 22 arrests across the supply chains. This cooperation also resulted in the seizure of live animals including a number of baby orangutans, large quantities of freshwater turtles and tortoises, as well as high-value quantities of wildlife products, including ivory and pangolin scales.



*The documentary **Rhino Dollars** presented a compelling overview on the global trafficking of rhino horn.*

**Our investigation** and intelligence efforts go hand in hand with the WJC's communications work and partner outreach. The documentary *Rhino Dollars* produced by TV Press Productions and ARTE TV not only gave insight into the WJC's work in this area, but also provided information for policy-makers and partners.

**Powerful evidence** and compelling intelligence data, gathered during WJC investigations, has also been presented at numerous high-level political and security conferences, including the UK Government hosted Illegal Wildlife Trade Conference; the Expert Group Meeting on Corruption Involving Vast Quantities of Assets convened by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the Government of Peru and the Association of South-east Asian Nations (ASEAN)'s Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC) in Bangkok. Signif-

icantly, last year the WJC became the first NPO to have ever attended the General Police Equipment Conference (GPEC), Europe's largest specialised trade fair for police and security authorities, giving wildlife crime a notable platform at this high-level conference for the first time.

**In addition** to the huge amount of work in the field and through political fora, the public profile of the WJC was further raised with in-depth media coverage on a number of key issues, including the publication of the comprehensive report *Operation Dragon: revealing new evidence on the scale of corruption and trafficking in the turtle and tortoise trade*<sup>3</sup>. A new brand identity, website and social media profile also reinforced the WJC's identity, while making our work accessible and easier to follow and support.



*An audiovisual timeline of Operation Dragon is available at [www.wildlifejustice.org](http://www.wildlifejustice.org)*

<sup>3</sup> <https://wildlifejustice.org/turtles-operation-dragon/>





A close-up photograph of a pangolin, a scaly anteater, curled up on the ground. The pangolin's body is covered in overlapping, dark brown scales that catch the light, creating a shimmering effect. Its head is tucked down, and its long, sharp claws are visible at the bottom. The background is a blurred, natural environment with warm, golden-brown tones, suggesting a savanna or forest floor. The text "A year in review" is overlaid in white, sans-serif font in the upper right quadrant.

A year  
in review

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The WJC is at the frontline of combating wildlife trafficking; monitoring and analysing thousands of pieces of intelligence; gathering the evidence; developing crucial relationships with political stakeholders, members of the judiciary, diplomats and law enforcement agencies; urging governments to act, and all the while keeping our supporters and media informed. We could not do it without the generous support of our partners and supporters. We owe them all a huge debt of gratitude and look forward to continuing our collaborations in the years to come.

## Introduction

**This report covers our operations in 2018.** It reflects the enormity of the task we have set ourselves, and what we have done to achieve it. It outlines the work undertaken by our small, but growing team of specialists, who are as diverse as they are dedicated and who work across multiple languages and continents.

**However, the report is not the entire sum of all of the parts.** The nature of our work at the WJC demands that, for their own safety and the effectiveness of the mission, some of our investigations and investigators remain in the shadows; important partnerships are occasionally kept private, and a small number of our financial supporters prefer to help without acknowledgement.

**While the WJC** may not be able to always give public credit where it is due, this report does provide an accurate snapshot of our main achievements over the last year.

**The success** of our investigative work is in large part due to our methodology, based on the meticulous gathering of data and intelligence analysis, done both in the field and online; the surveillance conducted by our investigators, and the undercover work of our colleagues to gather compelling and actionable evidence of the criminal activities of the networks trafficking in wildlife.

**Our investigation** and intelligence work combines to support our crucial partnership building and political programme. Through this, we gain powerful allies and provide the context and evidence needed to get governments to acknowledge wildlife trafficking as transnational crime and take appropriate, immediate action to dismantle the networks and prosecute the perpetrators.







Traders rummaging through bags with pangolin scales to show to WJC investigators during Operation Pluto.



Elephant tusks offered by traders to WJC investigators. © WJC

## Getting Results

**Our mission is to disrupt and help dismantle transnational organised wildlife crime networks by conducting intelligence-led investigations, assisting law enforcement to secure seizures, arrests and prosecutions, and holding government accountable when they fail to address wildlife trafficking.**

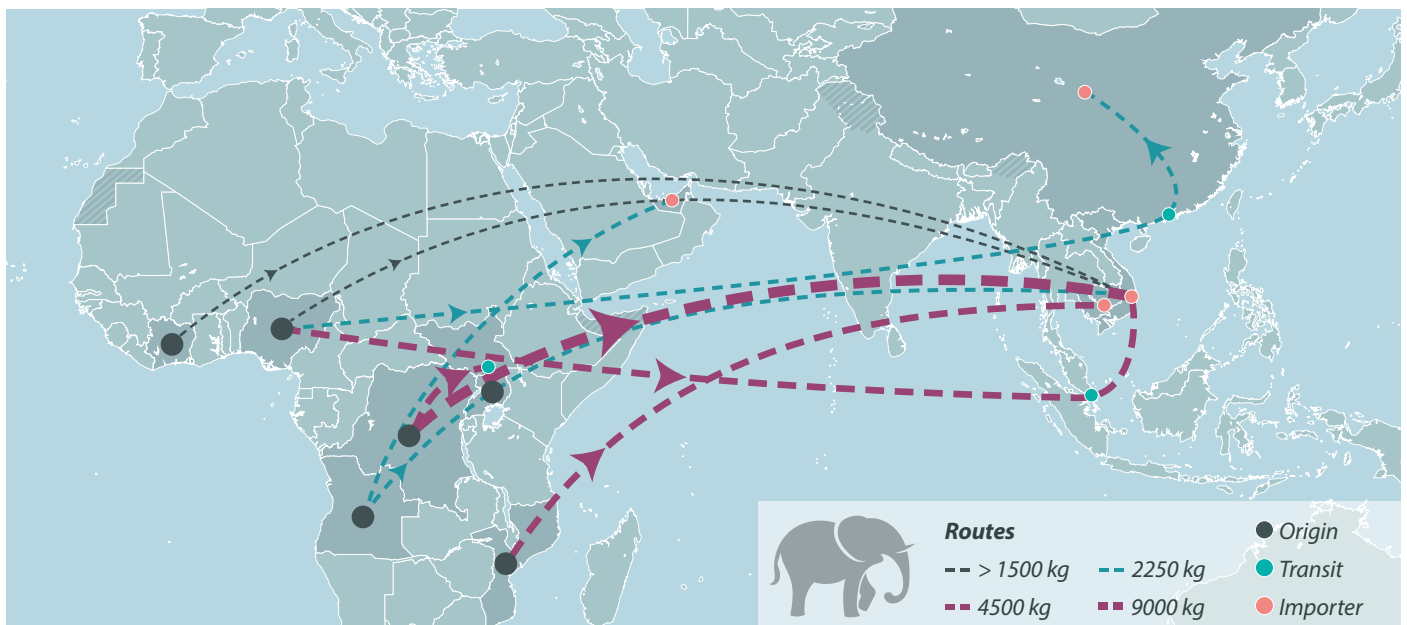
The WJC investigations and intelligence analysis in 2018 enabled the largest ever seizures until that date of pangolins scales and elephant ivory by the Environmental Police in Viet Nam; the arrest and prosecution of a key wildlife crime kingpin in India; prosecutions and prison

sentences of up to 12 years; tens of thousands of dollars in fines; and the disruption of a number of organised wildlife crime networks.

**Our main goals in 2018** were to gather and share significant amounts of actionable intelligence on the criminal networks; provide tools and training for law enforcement agencies across Asia and Africa; and continue high-level political engagement to encourage governments to demonstrate the political will to effectively target wildlife crime.

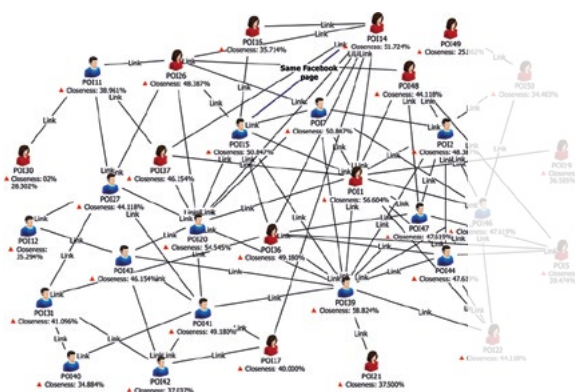
**Trafficking of endangered** species within and across borders and continents are not isolated incidents. The WJC investigations in 2018 have increasingly shown the interconnectivity of wildlife crime - with traffickers using the same networks for different species and the same infrastructure and people to smuggle and sell them across the supply chain.

## Ivory trafficking



Identified routes of ivory trafficking (2017-2018).





Our Intelligence Unit maps the networks along the supply chain, identifying connections between the criminal network.  
© WJC



Critically endangered Red crowned roofed turtle offered by traders to WJC investigators.

## Bridging the Intelligence Gap

**“It is not enough to have the information, we need to understand what it means. That’s where the analysis and intelligence come in - and that is where the information becomes a powerful instrument that makes it harder for wildlife traffickers to get away with crime.” WJC intelligence analyst.**

**Organised wildlife crime** networks rely on the fact that law enforcement agencies and governments do not apply the same level of scrutiny, investigative techniques and intelligence analysis as they do for other transnational criminal activity. The WJC’s Intelligence Unit is designed to bridge that operational gap, by offering timely, reliable and actionable intelligence to law enforcement agencies with the goal of enhancing analytical capacity to allow for the identification of emerg-

ing species and changes in modus operandi, crime displacement, criminal dynamics, trends on prices and facilitating factors. This intelligence can be used by the WJC to alert law enforcement authorities and policy makers about such changes and enable an appropriate response.

**In 2018**, it was evident that the intelligence-driven investigations continue to be one of the most powerful and efficient tools in combating transnational trafficking.

## Illegal trade of turtles in South and South East Asia



‘Settings’: Ports in/accessible for the illegal trade of turtles in South and South East Asia (2016-2018).



# 2018 Timeline of investigations results

## Operation Scorpion

India / **Turtles**



Arrest of a kingpin and two high-level traffickers in India. 406 live threatened Indian star tortoises were seized. Matter still before the courts.



January

## Operation Scorpion

India / **Turtles**

Arrest of two high-level traffickers in India. 474 live threatened Indian Star tortoises were seized. Matter still before the courts.

February

## Operation Pandora

Mozambique / **Ivory**

Arrest of one high-level trafficker in Mozambique. 12 elephant tusks (equal to 6 elephants) were seized. Matter still before the courts.

March

## Operation Pandora

Mozambique / **Ivory**

Arrest of five high-level trafficker in Mozambique. 2 elephant tusks were seized. Matter still before the courts.

## Operation Medusa

Viet Nam / **Ivory**

Arrest of four high-level traffickers in Viet Nam. Nearly one tonne of ivory seized, estimated to equal 97 elephants. Largest ever seizure of ivory by the Environmental Police in Viet Nam to date. Matter still before the courts.



In 2018, the work of the wildlife law enforcement authorities of India, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mozambique and Viet Nam, had, with our help, a major impact on the trafficking of threatened and critically endangered species. We delivered intelligence and evidence, some from cases that had been ongoing for two years, which resulted on the arrest of 22 high-level traffickers and the seizure of hundreds of live animals and their parts. These results also helped to identify other key players along the supply chain.

### Operation Caesar

Malaysia / **Orangutans**

Arrest of one high-level trafficker in Malaysia. Three live baby orangutans were seized. Matter still before the courts.



July

### Operation Typhoon

Lao PDR / **Ivory**

Arrest of one high-level trafficker in Lao PDR. Matter still before the courts.



September

### Operation Caesar

Malaysia / **Orangutans**

One live baby orangutan was seized. Matter still before the courts.

### Operation Pluto

Viet Nam / **Pangolin**

Arrest of one high-level trafficker in Viet Nam. 780 kg of pangolin scales, estimated to equate to more than 2,000 live pangolins, were seized. Largest ever seizure of pangolin scales by the Environmental Police in Viet Nam to date. Matter still before the courts.

October

### Operation Scorpion

India / **Turtles**

Arrest of four high-level traffickers in India. 582 live threatened Indian Star tortoises and two vulnerable African Spurred tortoises were seized. Matter still before the courts.





# Disrupting Wildlife Crime Networks

**Pangolins are the most** trafficked mammals in the world. According to the IUCN<sup>4</sup>, one million have been taken from the wild in the past decade - one pangolin every five minutes. In the last five years it is estimated that 140 tonnes of pangolin scales have been removed from the wild through the illegal trade and the rate at which they are being seized is growing significantly. In 2014 the weight of a shipment of pangolin scales averaged around 200 kg. In 2018 that figure rose to 750 kg - a 275% increase in just four years.

In April 2018, the WJC launched Operation Pluto to investigate the trafficking of pangolin scales from Africa into Asia. By mapping the supply

**In 2014 the weight of a shipment of pangolin scales averaged around 200 kg. In 2018 that figure rose to 750 kg: a 275% increase in just four years**

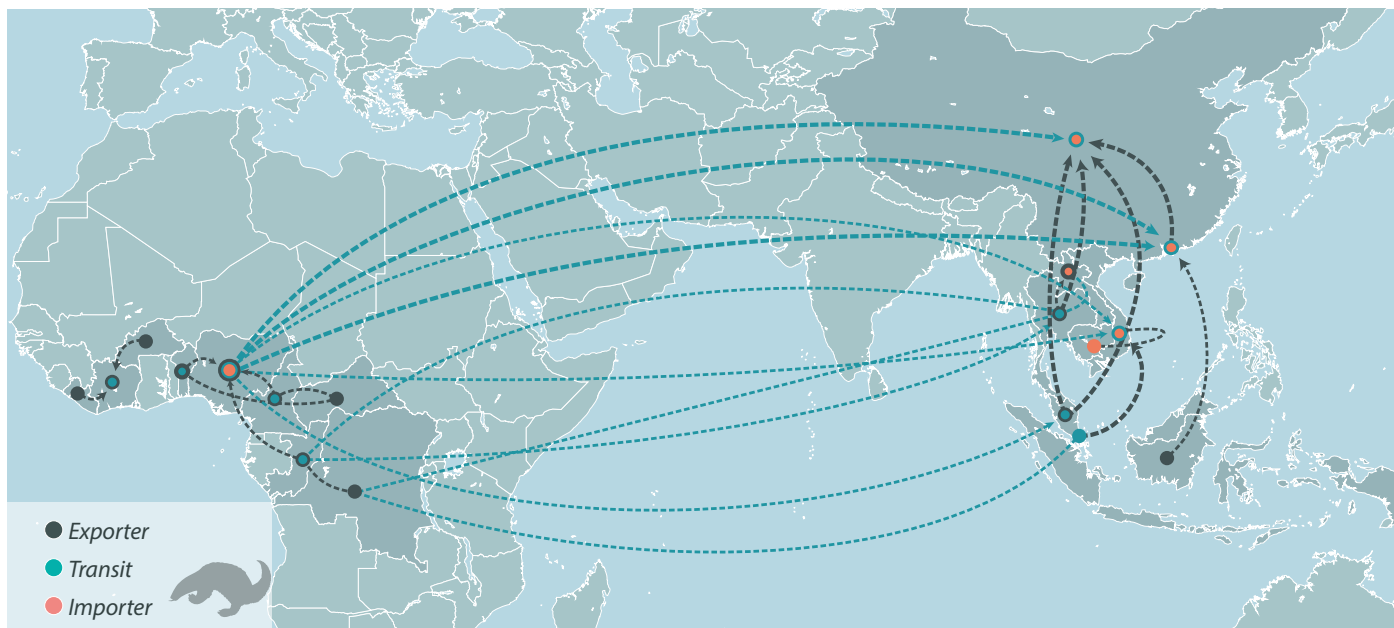
chain, investigators were able to deliver accurate intelligence, which led to one arrest and the seizure of 780 kg of pangolin scales - the largest ever of its kind by the Environmental Police in Viet Nam to that date, estimated to equate to more than 2,000 pangolins.

**The WJC investigation** examined the growing relevance of Western Africa as an emerging hub, especially for trafficking pangolin scales,

and also identified several connections between the networks supplying rhino horn, ivory and pangolin scales in Mozambique, Nigeria, Malaysia and Viet Nam.

**Operation Pandora**, which began in 2017 and continued throughout 2018 and into 2019, also investigated the African-Asian nexus in organised wildlife trafficking, looking specifically at the supply chain facilitating the trafficking of rhino and ivory products from Mozambique to Southeast Asia. We worked in Mozambique with the National Administration of Conservation Areas (ANAC), resulting in the arrest of ten ivory traffickers and the disruption of three networks. Fourteen tusks of raw ivory were seized, and

## Identified smuggling routes of pangolin scales



*Identified smuggling routes for the largest volumes of pangolin scales (2016-2018).*

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.pangolinsg.org/>

one trafficker was jailed for 12 years and fined three million Metical (USD 51,000). The heavy penalty is very encouraging, given the role of Mozambique in wildlife trafficking. It is critical that other governments follow their example and demonstrate that organised wildlife crime will be treated seriously.

**The population of orangutans** in Southeast Asia has declined sharply in the last few decades largely due to habitat destruction and the illegal pet trade; all species are now critically endangered. Operation Caesar provided the WJC with an understanding of the supply chain of orangutans from Indonesia to the Middle East via Malaysia and Thailand. In just over a year, this major

### **WJC's Operation Caesar documented the constant demand for orangutans, with male and female pairs being sold within 24 hours of becoming available**

investigation successfully identified several networks of orangutan suppliers operating in Indonesia supplying both the Malaysian and Thai networks.

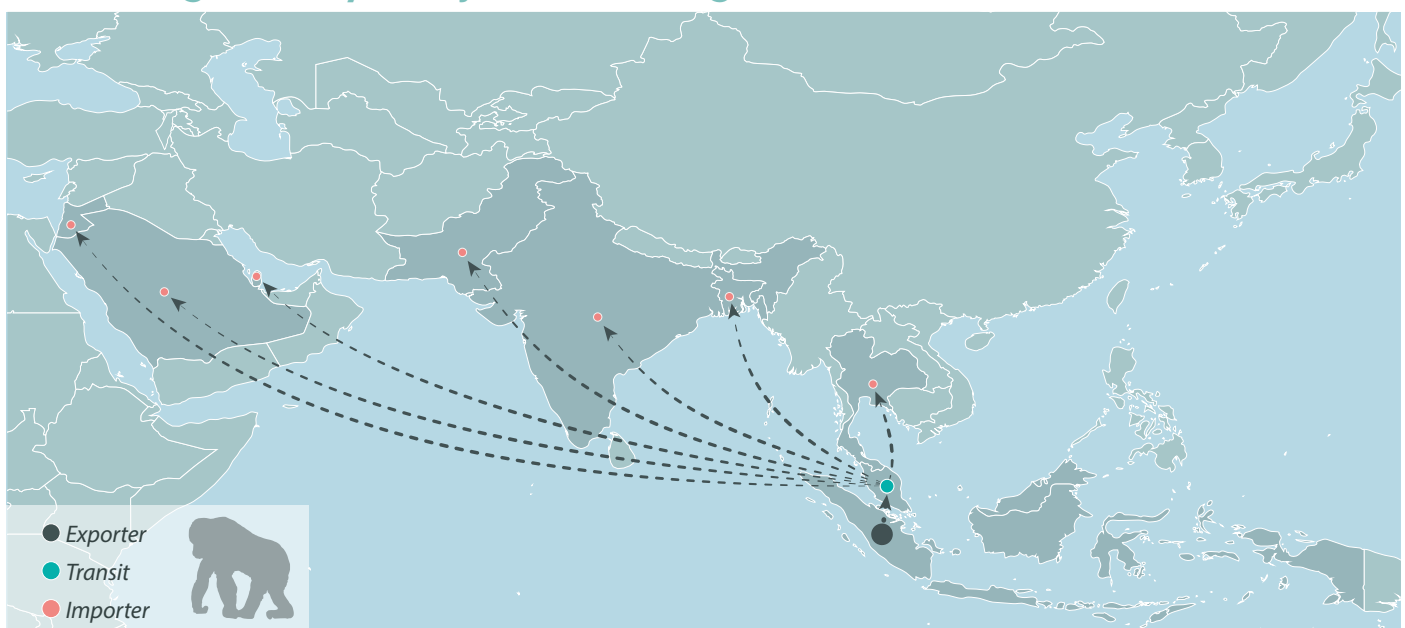
**Operation Caesar** provided valuable intelligence on the live trade of infant animals as pets; facilitated the arrest of a high-level trafficker and the seizure of three infant orangutans in July. The Department of Wildlife and National Parks Peninsu-

lar Malaysia (PERHILITAN) seized a fourth infant two months later. Operation Caesar documented the constant demand for orangutans, with male and female pairs being sold within 24 hours of becoming available, through a highly organised and accessible network.

**The work and collaboration** with enforcement officials on Operation Caesar has continued into 2019.

**One of the most** notable investigations in 2018 was Operation Dragon, which, over a two-year period, helped disrupt eight turtle and tortoise trafficking networks and secured the arrest of 30 traffickers in India and Malaysia. Later in 2018, Operation Scorpion built on the Op-

## **Trafficking of baby and juvenile orangutans**



*Identified routes of trafficking of baby and juvenile orangutans (2017-2018).*

## The population of orangutans in Southeast Asia has declined sharply in the last few decades largely due to habitat destruction and the illegal pet trade

eration Dragon intelligence, enabling the Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB) in India to arrest a kingpin of the international turtle illegal trade and eight other members of the network. The identified networks are estimated to have earned more than USD 25 million annually from the freshwater turtles and tortoises trade. Intelligence indicates they have now become fragmented and disorganised and there has been a marked reduction in the seizure of black spotted turtles since. The investigation produced significant new insights into how networks operate, collaborate and use corruption as an enabler. The intelligence gathered during Operation Dragon has been presented at a number of international conferences and to a range of law enforcement, policy and government bodies.



▲ Pangolin scales offered by traders to WJC Investigators during Operation Pluto. © WJC

**Further evidence** of the effectiveness of collaborating with law enforcement agencies came with Operation Medusa. Working with Viet Nam's Environmental Police, the investigation secured the Environmental Police's largest ever ivory seizure to that date. The 971 kg haul equated to 97 elephants. Four traffickers were also arrested and are facing up to 15 years in jail when they go to trial later this year.

**Our investigations in 2018** are a stark reminder of the interconnectivity of organised wildlife crime. The same traffickers responsible for the trafficking of freshwater turtles and tortoises exposed in Operations Dragon and Scorpion are also part of the wider network supplying

orangutans from Indonesia, which the WJC evidenced through Operation Caesar. Several networks are also known to use the same corrupt officials at compromised ports.

**The supply chains** created by the illegal wildlife trade networks are superhighways for trafficking any number and type of animal - both live and in parts. Each investigation by the WJC adds new intelligence, and substantiates the need for governments and law enforcement agencies to tackle organised wildlife crime.



▲ Juvenile orangutan offered by traders to WJC investigators during Operation Caesar and seized by PERHILITAN. © WJC

◀ Critically endangered ploughshare tortoises (*Astrochelys yniphora*) offered by traders to WJC investigators during Operation Dragon. © WJC



## Building Additional Capacity

The WJC does not only undertake its own investigations; it shares intelligence, tools and techniques with other organisations. A dedicated Training and Mentoring Unit was established within the WJC Investigations Team in 2018, to facilitate operational capacity for law enforcement agencies. In March 2018, the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the WJC to provide training and equipment to their intelligence and investigations officers.



▲ KWS and the WJC signed a MoU in March 2018.  
© WJC

◀ WJC has provided training for 400 operational intelligence and investigations KWS staff. © WJC

## Forging Effective Alliances

The WJC works in countries that are most affected by transnational wildlife crime and continues to build strong relationships with law enforcement agencies in many of them, including - Viet Nam, India, Lao PDR, Indonesia, Kenya, Mozambique, Bangladesh and Malaysia.

In addition to law enforcement, the WJC continues to develop strategic partnerships with a number of European governments and embassies including the Netherlands, Germany, France and United Kingdom, as

**The WJC vision is a world without wildlife crime because governments effectively enforce the law**

well as non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and intergovernmental organisations (IGOs) such as UNODC, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), Europol, INTERPOL and national agencies in a number of Asian, African and other countries.

In Lao PDR, in 2018 the WJC followed up on a Case File from the previous year, after no action had been taken by the Department of Forest Inspection (DOFI) on evidence of the open sale of ivory in Luang

Prabang, the Golden Triangle and Vientiane. The WJC submitted an updated Case File to the Laotian Environmental Police, via the UNODC. It led to the Environmental Police's first ever ivory seizure and a number of arrests. Since the collaboration the Environmental Police has, for the first time, been proactively tracking crime displacement, identifying two other premises offering ivory to Chinese tourists and undertaking surveillance operations. The WJC is supporting their ongoing investigation.

During 2018, the WJC also connected with NGOs in China. It is hoped that they can use their expertise and network to give additional profile to the WJC's Viet Nam and Lao PDR Case Files, which have particular relevance for China.



## Promoting a Vision

**Disrupting and dismantling** criminal networks at the heart of wildlife trafficking requires not only proactive law enforcement and prosecution, it also requires political prioritisation. Transnational cooperation is

standard practice with other forms of cross-border organised crime, but rarely happens in cases of wildlife trafficking. The level of criminality and the urgency of the problem need to be reflected in political action as well

as clear policies and procedures. During 2018, the WJC engaged with decision-makers at a number of key fora to advise on and reiterate the need for greater oversight and action against criminal networks.



*The WJC was the only NPO invited to GPEC in 2018. © WJC*

## Engagement with law enforcement

**Frankfurt, February 2018. Event at the General Police Equipment Exhibition & Conference (GPEC)**

GPEC was an important platform for us to showcase how we address wildlife trafficking through a law enforcement lens rather than a conservation one, using intelligence analysis to drive our investigations in the same way as law enforcement authorities. We have already been invited to participate in the 2020 edition.

## Sharing evidence with policy-makers



- Shared intelligence from **Operation Dragon** at the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime and highlighted our cooperation with the Viet Nam Environment Police.



- Provided evidence to the Australian Parliamentary Joint Committee on Law Enforcement, advocating for a ban on trade in ivory and rhino horn, which the Committee fully supported.



- Presented evidence to a high-level meeting of European Union officials on the drafting of the European Union Action Plan on Illegal Wildlife Trafficking.

## Increasing awareness about wildlife crime with the judiciary

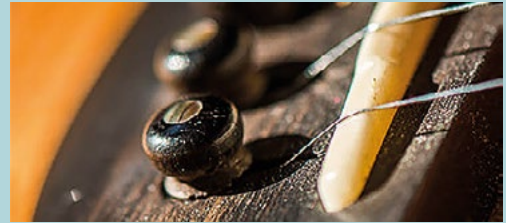
- **Presentation at** the Annual Meeting of the International Association of Prosecutors in South Africa and the Africa Prosecutors Association in Mauritius, strengthening the level of understanding amongst prosecutors in a crucial region for wildlife crime.
- **Took part** in a training program for African judges facilitated by the Strathmore University and the International Association of Prosecutors in Mombasa, Kenya.

## Corruption and Wildlife Crime

In 2018, we concluded a multi-year, multi-country investigation (Operation Dragon) that evidenced the role of corruption in the trafficking of live reptiles across South and Southeast Asia. We presented our findings at several international fora, bringing forward the discussion on effective ways to tackle corruption.

- **Illegal Wildlife Trade Conference**, hosted by the UK Government. London, October.
- **Expert Group Meeting** on Corruption Involving Vast Quantities of Assets, convened by the UNODC and the Government of Peru. Lima, December.

We aim at increasing the strategic input that we can provide to policy-makers thanks to our analysed data and first-hand experience from the trade. We continue to contribute to the discussion in relevant regional and international fora.



### Plant.ID

One of the most innovative collaborations undertaken by the WJC in 2018 was the European Union funded project Plant.ID ([www.plantid.uio.no](http://www.plantid.uio.no)). Using cutting edge technology on forensic testing, the joint project Plant.ID aims at identifying ebony species used in acoustic string instruments to distinguish illegally traded from legally traded wood.



WJC panel discussion to a standing room only audience at the IWT Conference in London. © WJC

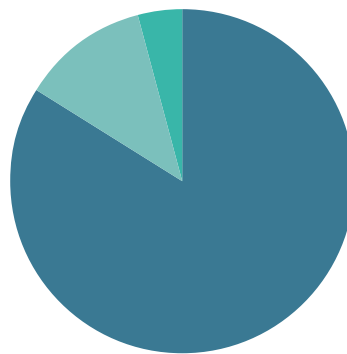




## Reporting on our finances

**Taking on the billion-dollar** wildlife crime industry is no small task. Our work is global in its scope, labour-intensive by its very nature, and often time consuming. Despite all these challenges, the WJC was on a sound financial footing in 2018, including funding the expansion of the Investigations Unit.

### How we've spent the money

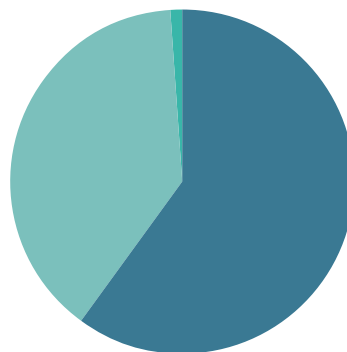


Mission 84%

Management & Administration 12%

Fundraising 4%

### Where our money comes from



Income from foundations 60%

Income from lotteries 39%

Income from individual donors 1%



## A. Balance sheet as of December 2018

Ref.	31-12-2018	31-12-2017
	€	€
<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Non-current assets</b>		
1. -Automation and furniture .....	28,839	51,260
<b>Current assets</b>		
2. -Receivables .....	577,977	24,326
3. -Cash and cash equivalents .....	2,221,489	2,399,396
<b>Total current assets .....</b>	<b>2,799,466</b>	<b>2,423,722</b>
<b>Total assets .....</b>	<b>2,828,305</b>	<b>2,474,98</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
<b>Reserves and funds</b>		
<b>Reserves</b>		
4. -Continuity reserve .....	540,649	372,440
5. -Designated reserve .....	350,000	0
<b>Total reserves .....</b>	<b>890,649</b>	<b>372,440</b>
<b>Funds</b>		
6. -Designated funds .....	112,575	0
<b>Total funds .....</b>	<b>112,575</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total reserves and funds .....</b>	<b>1,003,224</b>	<b>372,440</b>
7. Reporting obligations .....	1,679,033	1,981,096
8. Short term accruals .....	146,048	121,446
<b>Total liabilities .....</b>	<b>2,828,305</b>	<b>2,474,982</b>

## B. Income statement 2018

Ref.		Actual 2018	Budget 2018	Actual 2017
	<b>Income</b>	€	€	€
9.	-Income from individual donors .....	45,242	400	67,539
10.	-Income from lotteries .....	1,360,211	1,151,667	1,199,115
11.	-Income from other non-profit organisations .....	2,123,724	1,021,050	824,538
12.	-Other income .....	454	1,500	150
	<b>Total income .....</b>	<b>3,529,631</b>	<b>2,174,617</b>	<b>2,091,342</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>				
<b>Charitable activities</b>				
13.	-Investigations .....	1,908,181	749,540	1,022,736
14.	-Case File/Investigation Reports .....	98	179,901	173,524
15.	-Joint Operations .....	1,362	94,004	56,736
16.	-Strategic Partnerships .....	287,033	341,912	206,854
17.	-Public Hearing .....	1,427	166,007	105,754
18.	-Planning, Monitoring & Evaluation .....	41,751	40,336	28,553
19.	-Communications .....	176,269	120,340	72,590
	<b>Total charitable activities .....</b>	<b>2,416,121</b>	<b>1,692,040</b>	<b>1,666,747</b>
<b>Fundraising</b>				
20.	-Costs of fundraising .....	118,874	213,179	161,717
<b>Management &amp; administration</b>				
21.	-Management & administration costs ..	357,227	259,129	260,255
	<b>Total expenditure .....</b>	<b>2,892,222</b>	<b>2,164,348</b>	<b>2,088,719</b>
	<b>Balance before financial income and expenditure .....</b>	<b>637,409</b>	<b>10,269</b>	<b>2,623</b>
	<b>Financial income and expenditure .....</b>	<b>-6,625</b>	<b>-4,000</b>	<b>-2,623</b>
	<b>Balance income and expenditure .....</b>	<b>630,784</b>	<b>6,269</b>	<b>0</b>



	Actual 2018	Budget 2018	Actual 2017
	€	€	€
<b>Allocation balance of income and expenditure</b>			
-Designated reserve .....	350,000	0	0
-Continuity reserve .....	168,209	6,269	0
-Designated funds .....	112,575	0	0
<b>Balance income and expenditure .....</b>	<b>630,784</b>	<b>6,269</b>	<b>0</b>

	Actual 2018	Budget 2018	Actual 2017
	%	%	%
<b>Key figures</b>			
<b>Costs of fundraising divided by total income .....</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>8%</b>
<b>Share in expenditure</b>			
-Charitable activities .....	84%	78%	80%
-Fundraising costs .....	4%	10%	8%
-Management & administration costs .	12%	12%	12%
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>







# Celebrating Our Supporters

**Our funding comes from lotteries, foundation grants and donations from individuals. Their support is crucial to achieving our mission.**

**We received** renewed commitments from our valued partners at the Nationale Postcode Loterij, the Brook Foundation, the Oak Foundation and the Swedish Postcode Foundation. We are extremely grateful for their financial support and ongoing confidence in our work.

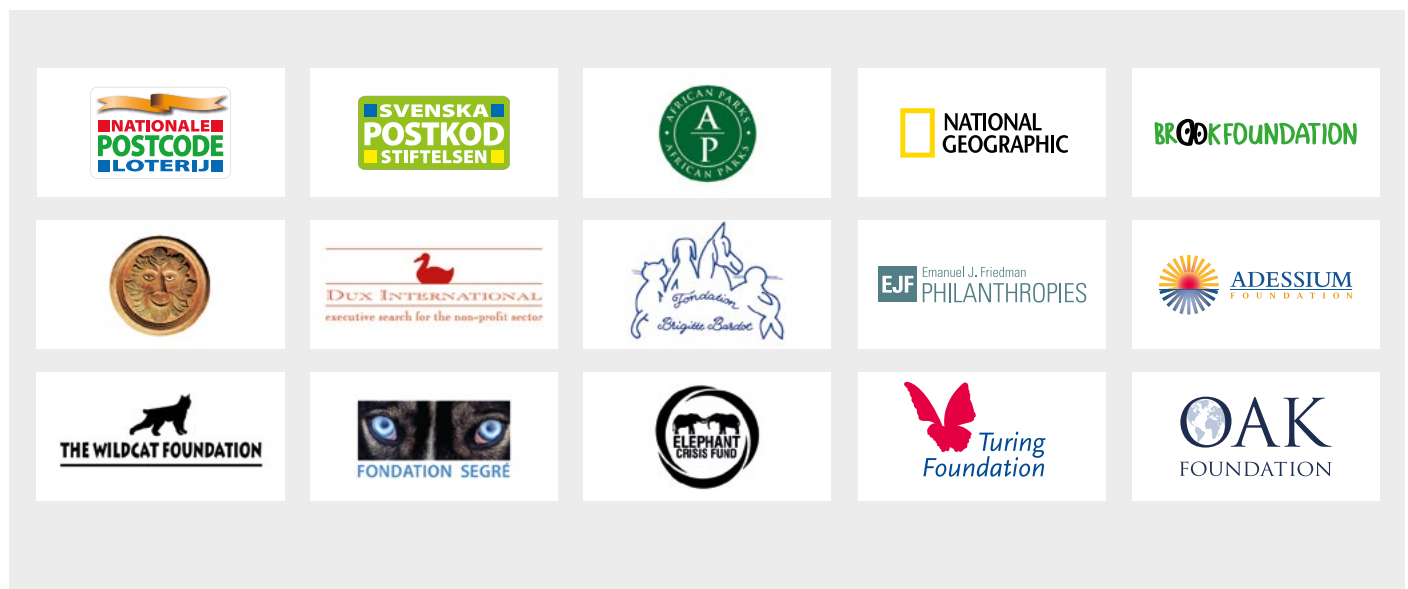
**We are particularly indebted** to the Nationale Postcode Loterij for their bestowing permanent beneficiary status on the WJC. This five-year commitment provides the organisation with some financial stability and allows much needed flexibility to our operations. It is a recognition of the confidence the Nationale Postcode Loterij has in the WJC's team and the urgent need for our work to continue.

**In 2018** the Adessium Foundation continued its support and we also welcomed new partnerships with

African Parks; Elephant Crisis Fund; Emanuel J. Friedman Philanthropies; Fondation Brigitte Bardot, Fondation Segré; National Geographic Society; Stichting Dux; The Whitehead Foundation and Turing Foundation, as well as several donors that wish to remain anonymous.

**We thank** all of our donors, as well as those that provided in-kind support and our individual supporters who have contributed to our mission with their donations made through our website and online platforms.

## Thank you to our 2018 generous partners



**Expanding our reach into the US** is critical for the WJC and our US 501(3)(c) entity, Friends of Wildlife Justice Commission (FoWJC) is crucial in this regard. Given the key role that the US plays in the fight against organised wildlife crime, we decided to increase our engagement with the US government and law enforcement entities. We are also sharing expertise to ensure that more cases can be opened with a US nexus.









## Showing Who We Are

The WJC is a **tight-knit**, diverse team, with an international outlook and a single focus. Law enforcement, legal, partnership building and communication experts, all with decades of professional experience, combine to expose and disrupt transnational wildlife crime networks. We are very proud of the wealth of expertise that our team brings, their highly diverse cultural backgrounds and their commitment to advance the cause of wildlife justice.



**49**  
field and  
office staff

**24**

are women



**21**  
different  
nationalities

**5/7**

five of the seven senior  
management positions  
are held by women



### Our team takes risks to bring to light the reality of wildlife crime

The WJC carries out regular risk analysis and in 2018, in addition to ongoing processes, new systems and policies were put in place to improve staff and information security. A Code of Conduct and a Whistleblowers' Policy were also implemented.

The WJC is extremely fortunate that its challenging work is supported by highly respected and skilled members of its governance and ancillary bodies. International and national judges, lawyers, journalists, investigators, academics, authors and entrepreneurs, many of them with hands-on experience in addressing wildlife trafficking or organised crime make up the Supervisory Board, tasked with providing both strategic guidance and super-

vision to the Executive Board (the governing body of the WJC), the Independent Review Panel, charged with reviewing the WJC's Case Files, and the WJC Council, which provides support with their expertise.

In 2018, the functions of the WJC's original Advisory Council and the group of Ambassadors were merged to form the WJC Council, drawing some members from both previous bodies.



### In Memoriam

#### Wim Kok

29-09-1938 / 20-10-2018

Former Prime Minister of the Netherlands

We were honoured and privileged to have Mr Kok join our Council in February 2017. The WJC benefited enormously from the dedication, advice and wisdom that he brought to our mission to achieve justice for wildlife. **We will always be grateful for his global vision and his commitment to dialogue and collaboration**, goals that he pursued during his long-standing career in the Netherlands and Europe, and which contributed to the development of the WJC.





**Wildlife Justice**  
Commission

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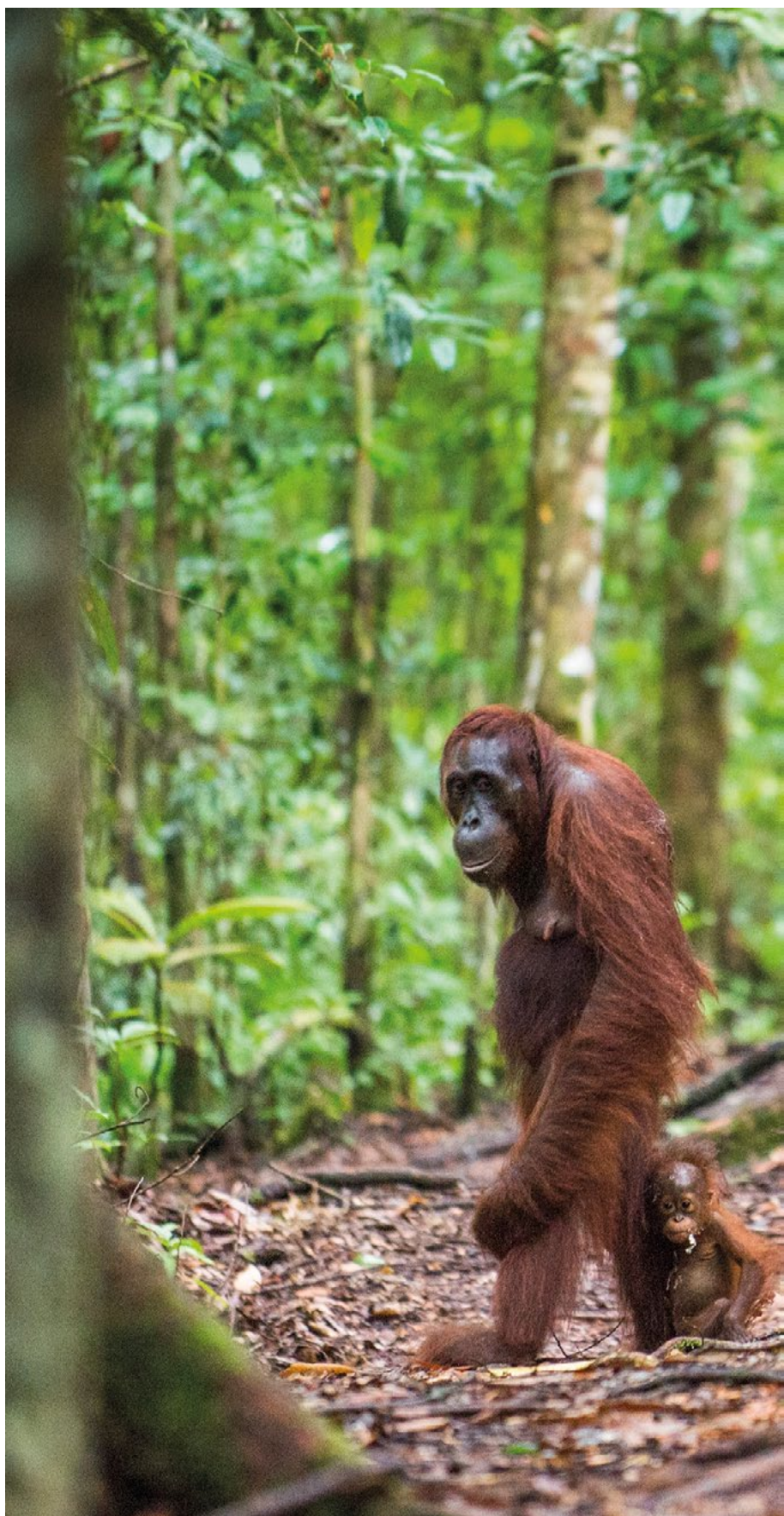
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# Becoming A Wildlife Justice Advocate

**Our investigators** spend months and even years establishing irrefutable facts on wildlife trafficking and with facts must come action. You can help us expose the devastating consequences of wildlife trafficking by sharing our stories and ensuring the facts cannot be ignored. There are many ways you can keep up to date on our work and successes.

## Sign up for our e-newsletter in our website

**Stay in touch with updates from our work!** We promise not to spam you and we will never share your data.

## Make a donation

**Every contribution makes a real difference for wildlife.** To make a donation to the WJC or to our US entity Friends of Wildlife Justice Commission, please visit our website at [www.wildlifejustice.org/donate](http://www.wildlifejustice.org/donate)

## Bookmark our website

Have us in you bookmark bar, for quick access to the latest news on our work, as well as background information on wildlife trafficking. [www.wildlifejustice.org](http://www.wildlifejustice.org)

## Like and follow us

Connect with us on Facebook, LinkedIn, Vimeo and Twitter.

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## We want to hear from you!

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