





## COORDINATING THE SECURITY SECTOR'S RESPONSE TO ILLEGAL LOGGING

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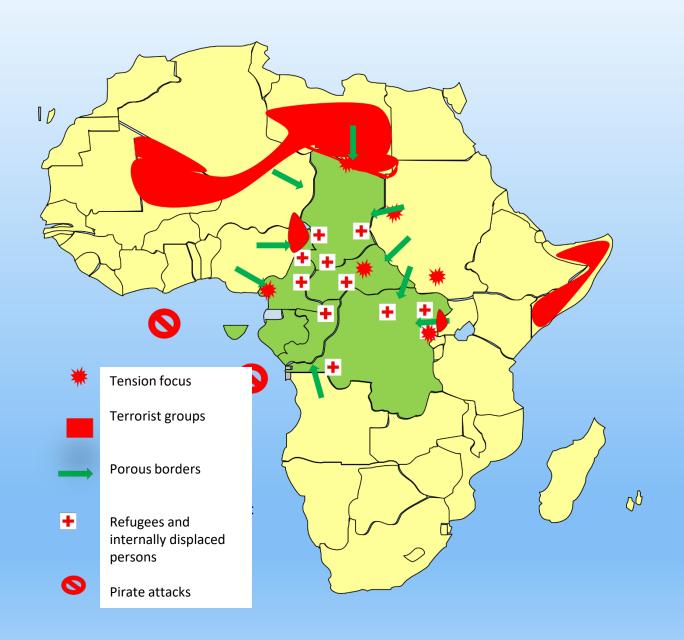




- **1. SECURITY CONTEXT IN CENTRAL AFRICA**
- 2. SOME FACTORS THAT ENCOURAGE ILLEGAL LOGGING;
- 3. THE ROLE OF THE POLICE IN ILLEGAL LOGGING;
- 4. REGIONAL COORDINATION/ENGAGEMENT;
- 5. STRENGTHS/WEAKNESSES/TIPS.

### 1. SECURITY CONTEXT IN AFRICA

- Ongoing crises and armed conflicts;
- Rising terrorism and radicalisation;
- Mass population displacement;
- Poverty and social tensions;
- Porous borders;
- Proliferation of small arms and light weapons;





### 2. FACTORS FAVOURING ILLEGAL LOGGING

•Lucrative activities with low risks for criminal organisations;

Impunity for logging companies involved in illegal activities;

•Corruption;

•Weak control capacity on the part of forestry administrations;

Insufficient human resources in number and quality;

•Weak coordination between players at both national and international level;



#### FACTORS INVOLVING ILLEGAL CUTTING OF WOOD (continued)

•Lack of transparency and governance in the forestry sector;

Lack of data on illegal logging;

Lack of a system for monitoring illegal logging;

•Weak forestry information systems and out-ofdate databases;

•Weak application of the laws in force in each country.



# 3. THE ROLE OF THE POLICE IN ILLEGAL LOGGING



Weak involvement of the security sector in the fight against illegal logging;

Use of the Police/Gendarmerie during preliminary investigations:

 $\circ$  Arresting the criminals;

- Seizures of illegal items;
- $\circ\,$  Referral to the public prosecutor.

### 4. REGIONAL COORDINATION/ENGAGEMENT



Open cooperation with regional partners and institutions:

CCPAC;

INTERPOL Regional Bureau;

• AFRIPOL.

## **5. STRENGTHS/WEAKNESSES/TIPS**



•Improving cooperation with partners and regional institutions responsible for security issues in Africa;

•Use international platforms to exchange and share information;



•Train magistrates and OPJs (forestry officers, police officers and gendarmes);

•Organise large-scale police operations in collaboration with national law enforcement agencies.

