Multinational program on Coordinating Security Sector Response to Countering Illegal Logging in Africa. Libreville, Gabon 10-14 July 2023
PLAN

1. TRAFFIC’s Strategy 2030.
2. TWIXEs and their successes.
3. International Agreements and regional frameworks in countering wildlife trafficking: TWIXEs and timber trafficking.
4. TWIXEs and political will of government officials – implementation constraints.
TRAFFIC’s Mission is to ensure trade in wild species is legal and sustainable, for the benefit of the planet and people.

By 2030, illegal and unsustainable trade in wild species will be significantly reduced.

By 2030, legal and sustainable trade in wild species will provide significantly increased social, economic, and environmental benefits to people.
2. **TWIXes AND THEIR SUCCESSES**

**Trade in Wildlife Information eXchange – TWIX** platforms are online tools developed to facilitate information exchange and international cooperation among wildlife law enforcement and management officials across Africa, working to combat illegal wildlife trade (Fauna & Flora)

- West Africa – TWIX in the pipeline
- Build from the Europe (EU-TWIX) model in place since 2005.
TWIXes AND THEIR SUCCESSES

02 components:

MAILING LIST

WEBSITE

website includes, among other sections, tools for identifying wildlife and plant products, the legal texts of the countries on the platform, training materials, links, graphics, a database of seizures of wildlife and plant products, etc.

Internet Forum

Emails

Addresses
## AFRICA-TWIX
- Launched in 2016
- Endorsed by COMIFAC Secretariat
- 08 countries
- 462 Officials affiliated
- 11 international investigations triggered

## SADC-TWIX
- Launched in 2019
- Endorsed by SADC Secretariat
- 13 countries
- 550 Officials affiliated
- 4 transnational IWT investigations triggered (that we are aware of)

## EASTERN AFRICA-TWIX
- Launched in 2020
- Endorsed by East African Community
- 03 countries
- 146 Officials affiliated
- No investigation triggered so far
All LE Officials on TWIX platforms are briefed and receives regular trainings on the different international agreements and regional frameworks in countering IWT (e.g. Africa, Caribbean And Pacific High-Level Conference On The Implementation Of The CBD CoP15 and CITES CoP19 Outcomes, Addis Ababa May-June 2023).

- Timber trafficking: high value and links to corruption and organised crime.
- TWIX makes provision to combat timber trafficking by including timber-specific trainings in capacity-building efforts, collection of timber-specific ID resources and inclusion of timber issues in meetings. TWIX deals with all CITES-listed species, including timber.
TWIX systems operate at regional level (rather than Pan-African or global level) because there are existing agreements and mechanisms for collaboration within the Regional Economic Communities (RECs). These existing agreements and established relationships have facilitated the creation of the TWIX systems.

**CHALLENGES**

- Lack of trust among law enforcement agencies at ground level despite political will at top levels;
- Multiple working languages for some regions;
- Outdated national policies, or a lack of uniformity in legislation across a region.
THANKS!

traffic.org
denis.mahonghol@traffic.org