Environmental Crimes and Corruption

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Scope of Problem

• Illegal profits:
  (1) Timber – $51-152B PY
  (2) Wildlife – $7-23B PY
  (3) Mining – $11-24B PY
  (4) Fisheries – $11-24B PY
  = $91-$258B PY
Scope of Problem Cont’d

• 30% global timber trade, 22% global fisheries trade = corrupt
• Forestry Sector = $29 billion annually corruption related profits
• INTERPOL survey = avg 250 corruption cases, per country, per year
Harm

- Destroys critical habitats
- Impacts economic development, stability, and security
- Impairs resource governance
- Loss of revenue/Suppressed market prices/Unfair playing field
- Erode respect for Rule of Law
- Endangers human health
- Climate Change
- Facilitates other crimes (drugs, guns etc)

Case examples

- **U.S. vs KROMAH et al. (SDNY)**
  - 190 kg rhino horns, 10 tons elephant ivory
    (= 35 rhinos, 100 elephants)
  - $7,400,000
  - Poachers in Uganda
  - Sold to and laundered payments in U.S.
  - Also sold cocaine and heroin
Solutions

• Capacity building of law enforcement
• Specialized independent units
• Whole-of-government approach
• Strengthen international cooperation
• Policy and legislative reform
• Raise public awareness
• Financial Action Task Force (FATF) http://www.fatf-gafi.org