

Country Profile: Thailand



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OVERVIEW

Project Title: Combating Illegal Wildlife Trade, Focusing on Ivory, Rhino Horn, Tiger, and Pangolins in Thailand

Project Sites: To be identified

Species Focus: Elephants, rhinos, pangolins and tigers (trafficking and demand reduction)

Total Project Cost: \$4 million

Executing Partner: Department of National Parks, Wildlife, and Plant Conservation, IUCN, WWF

GEF Implementing Agency: UNDP

Contact: Sutharin Koonphol, sutharin.koonphol@undp.org

CONTEXT

The decline of elephants, rhinos, tigers, and many other species as a result of illegal wildlife trade (IWT) present a major threat to the integrity of ecosystems globally. IWT also have significant social, economical, and political adverse impacts to countries directly and indirectly involved in this trade. Thailand's international airports are a key hub used to move wildlife and wildlife products between Africa and Asia. Thailand is a source and transit country for the trafficking of tigers, and recent seizure data shows half of the trafficking is of live animals. Ivory sales from Thailand domesticated elephants are legal. As domesticated elephants only yields small portions of ivory, market surveys show Thailand is a destination for tusks trafficked from Africa. The high level of trafficking of these species and other wildlife through Thailand's borders pose a significant threat to its development.

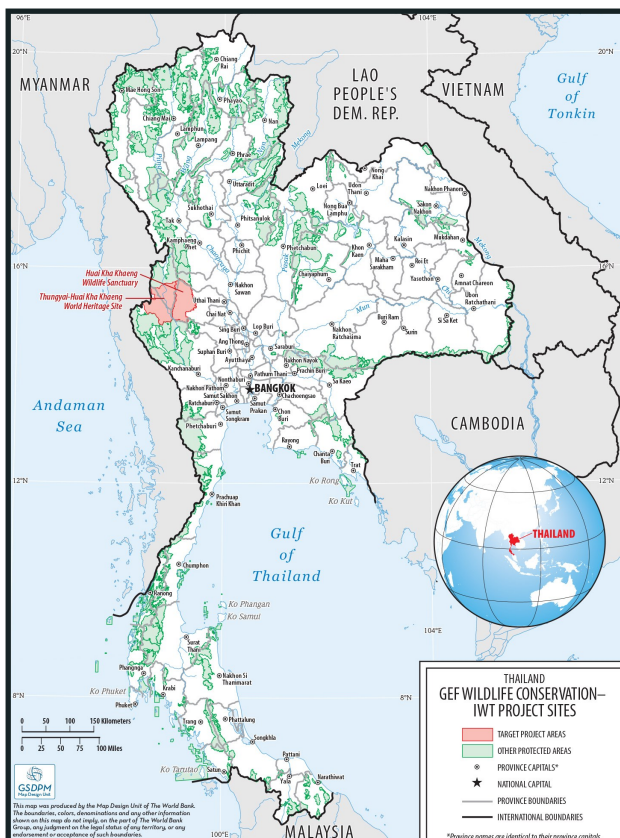
To combat these threats, the Thai government implemented a National Ivory Action Plan (NIAP) and an Action Plan on Ivory 2014-2020. It is a participant in the CITES Rhinoceros Enforcement Task Force. Additionally, it coordinates among the wildlife enforcement agencies through the Thailand Wildlife Enforcement Network (WEN) and participates in the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF), a five year investment to conserve globally important biodiversity.

PROJECT COMPONENTS

The GWP Thailand project aims to strengthen the capacity of and enhance collaboration between Enforcement Agencies and reduce demand in illegal wildlife trade through a targeted awareness campaign in order to reduce trafficking of wildlife (i.e. tiger, pangolin, rhino and elephant) and their products in Thailand.

The project components are:

1. Improve cooperation, coordination, and information exchange
2. Enhance enforcement and prosecution capacity
3. Reduce demand for illegal ivory and other wildlife merchandise



See the World Bank website for more information: [Global Wildlife Program](#)