



ROYAL FOUNDATION

**united  
for  
wildlife**

# Global Summit 2025

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November

**United for Wildlife Environmental Crime Summit**

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> November & Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> November

**International Wildlife Crime Conference**




# Programme

4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> November


## **United for Wildlife Environmental Crime Summit**

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November

 Pter Mauá - Armazém 3, Avenida  
Rodrigues Alves, 73 - Centro,  
Rio de Janeiro- RJ, Brazil

## **International Wildlife Crime Conference**

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> November &  
Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> November

 ExC Rio, R. Jardim Botânico 1011 -  
Jardim Botânico, Rio de Janeiro,  
RJ - 22470-051, Brazil

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# Welcome

When CEOs, governments, technologists, philanthropists, and Indigenous guardians join forces to protect nature, it protects us all.

This encapsulates the power of collaboration - and is precisely the reason why we're convening here in Rio de Janeiro.

United for Wildlife is a programme from The Royal Foundation of The Prince and Princess of Wales that aims to accelerate global efforts to protect, sustain and restore the natural world. Over the past decade we've built a movement spanning six continents and uniting hundreds of partners from business, law enforcement, government, and conservation.

To every delegate, member and partner here today: thank you. Together, we're confronting environmental crime that threatens wildlife, destabilises communities, and undermines the future of our planet.

His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales joins me in expressing deep gratitude for your commitment to this essential work.



**Dr Tom Clements**

Executive Director, Nature, The Royal Foundation

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# Why Brazil, Why Now

Brazil represents more than just a location for this Summit: it is the perfect stage for this critical moment. As guardian of the Amazon and a force in global environmental leadership, Brazil demonstrates both the urgency of the crisis and the potential for solutions.

Meeting here in Rio - days before COP30 and the World Leaders Summit in Belém - gives us an unprecedented opportunity to elevate environmental crime on the world stage.

The Amazon shapes weather systems worldwide and plays a vital role in global climate stability. But, as we face twin crises of climate change and nature loss, criminal activity such as illegal logging, mining, and trafficking is making both emergencies worse, by draining economies, accelerating species extinction, and strengthening organised crime networks. When we tackle environmental crime, we address the climate and nature crises simultaneously.



Brazil is charting a bold new course, demonstrating that conservation and prosperity aren't opposing force; they're partners, creating forest-friendly economies that outcompete criminal extraction.

Over the next three days, you'll hear from an extraordinary range of voices - scientists and policymakers, cultural leaders and Indigenous guardians - all sharing innovations and successes from Brazil and across the world in our collective fight against environmental crime.

We're also honouring 'Nature's First Defenders' - Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities who protect the world's most biodiverse landscapes, achieving dramatically lower deforestation rates on their lands. These frontline defenders are crucial to meeting global conservation goals - yet face violence and inadequate recognition. That must change.

Since gathering in Cape Town last year, United for Wildlife has expanded dramatically. We've established insurance programmes benefiting thousands of rangers; launched the 'Guardians' docuseries which has been viewed over a million times; grown our network to 400+ partners who've supported hundreds of investigations; and trained 150,000 people in detecting environmental crime.

The progress we've made proves what's possible when we unite, and what we'll achieve here in Rio will propel us even further forward in safeguarding nature for future generations.

# Schedule

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November

United for Wildlife Environmental Crime Summit

16:00-16:45	<b>Guest Arrival</b>
16:00-17:30	<b>Arrival Reception</b>
17:30-17:35	<b>Environmental Crime Summit</b> Hosted by Maria Julia “Maju” Coutinho
17:35-17:40	<b>Introduction</b> Ilona Szabó de Carvalho, Co-founder and President, Igarapé Institute
17:40-18:15	<p><b>Announcements</b></p> <p><b>Operation Thunder and Combatting Wildlife Crime</b> Valdecy Urquiza, Secretary General, INTERPOL</p> <p><b>Government and Private Sector Leadership in Combatting Environmental Crime</b> Marina Silva, Minister of the Environment and Climate Change, Brazil Dr. Dion George, Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, South Africa H.E. Raja Juli Antoni, Minister of Forestry of Indonesia Andreas Dahl-Jorgensen, Special Envoy for Climate and Forests, Norway</p> <p><b>Philanthropic Pledge</b> Lindsey Allen, Executive Director, Forests, People, Climate (FPC) and Climate and Land Use Alliance (CLUA)</p>
18:15-18:35	<p><b>Nature’s Protectors</b></p> <p><b>Spotlight 1: Brazil</b> Vanda Witoto, Indigenous Leader and Executive Director, Witoto Institute</p> <p><b>Spotlight 2: Galapagos, Ecuador</b> Oscar Carvajal Mora, Galapagos National Park Ranger, President, Latin American Ranger Federation</p> <p><b>Spotlight 3: Colombia</b> Francisco Vera</p> <p><b>Coordination of Indigenous Organizations of the Brazilian Amazon (COIAB)</b> Toya Manchineri, Executive Coordinator General Assembly, COIAB</p>

# Schedule

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November

United for Wildlife Environmental Crime Summit

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<b>18:35-18:40</b>	<b>Keynote Speech</b>
<b>18:40-18:45</b>	<b>Closing Remarks</b> David Fein, Co-Chair, United for Wildlife
<b>18:45-20:00</b>	<b>Networking Reception</b> Kaê Guajajara, Musician
<b>20:00</b>	<b>Guests Depart</b>

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**Credit:**

Features footage (including footage from Kendrone and Silverback Films) freely available on Open Planet at [OpenPlanet.org](https://OpenPlanet.org)

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# International Wildlife Crime Conference

The International Wildlife Crime Conference will showcase the latest trends, analysis, and best practices in combatting wildlife crime. For the first time, the event will be jointly hosted by The Royal Foundation, INTERPOL, UNODC and the Federal Police of Brazil, and feature perspectives from public, private and civil society sectors.

In 2025, wildlife trafficking remains a major global crime, characterised by sophisticated transnational criminal networks, increased online activity, and significant law enforcement efforts. We continue to see these networks linked to other illicit trades such as drugs and human trafficking, posing a threat to biodiversity, ecosystems, and public health, as well as fuelling corruption.

The agenda will reflect these recent challenges and successes, and look to identify solutions at national, regional and global levels, while also highlighting the value of collaborative efforts, particularly across borders and sectors.

## Event Vault

We're pleased to be using Event Vault for this year's conference. The app gives you access to the full event programme, session details, and speaker information.

You can also choose to connect with other delegates through Event Vault, making it easy to network and continue conversations beyond the sessions. We encourage all attendees to download the app in advance.

Please follow the instructions below to access the event via the app.

## Getting Started

To get started, download the Event Vault app from the Google Play Store or the Apple App Store by clicking one of the buttons below. Once downloaded, either log in or register using your email address. You will then need to verify your email. Once this is completed, please click to add event and enter the code **'UFW025'** – this will grant you access to the conference homepage.



# Social Media

We look forward to welcoming you to the United for Wildlife Summit and will be posting about the Summit across our social channels.

We would appreciate you supporting the event through your networks and channels, in the lead-up to, during, and after the Summit.

We will provide a digital toolkit closer to the time to help you do this. This will include key messages, assets (which will be updated throughout the week) and suggested posts.

We look forward to sharing more information shortly.

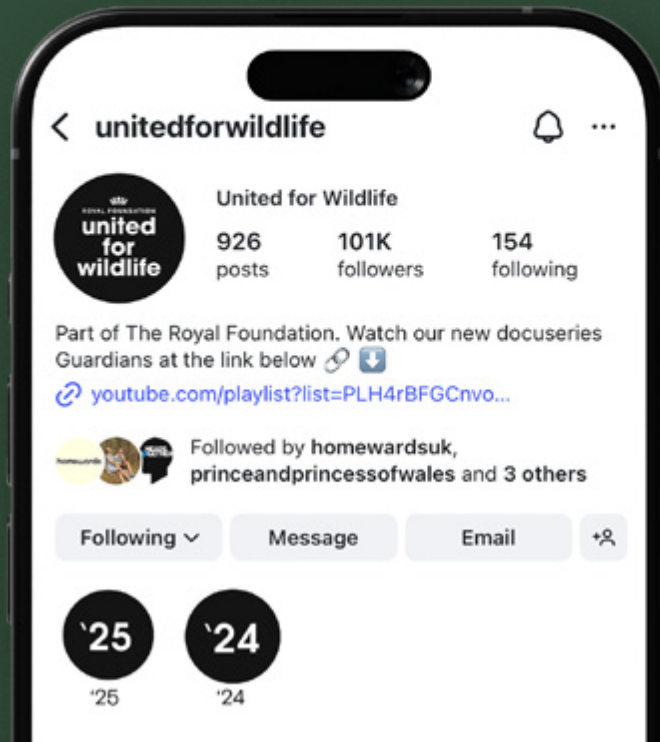
## Our channels are:

X @united4wildlife

Instagram @unitedforwildlife

www.unitedforwildlife.org

LinkedIn @TheRoyalFoundationofThePrinceandPrincessofWales





ROYAL FOUNDATION

# united for wildlife

Founded by Prince William and The Royal Foundation in 2013, United for Wildlife is an unprecedented global alliance of private sector, law enforcement, governments and not-for-profit organisations, working together at pace to accelerate global efforts to protect, sustain and restore wildlife.

Environmental and wildlife crime is the third largest criminal activity in the world, costing billions per year, undermining national and regional security, increasing the risk of disease transmission, disrupting local communities, driving the loss of biodiversity and fuelling corruption, serious organised crime and money laundering.

Prince William is a passionate advocate for wildlife and people, recognising the urgent need to address threats to endangered species, their habitats and the people that depend on them. United for Wildlife addresses these threats by bringing together environmentalists, businesses, global leaders, and NGOs to find and drive innovative conservation solutions.

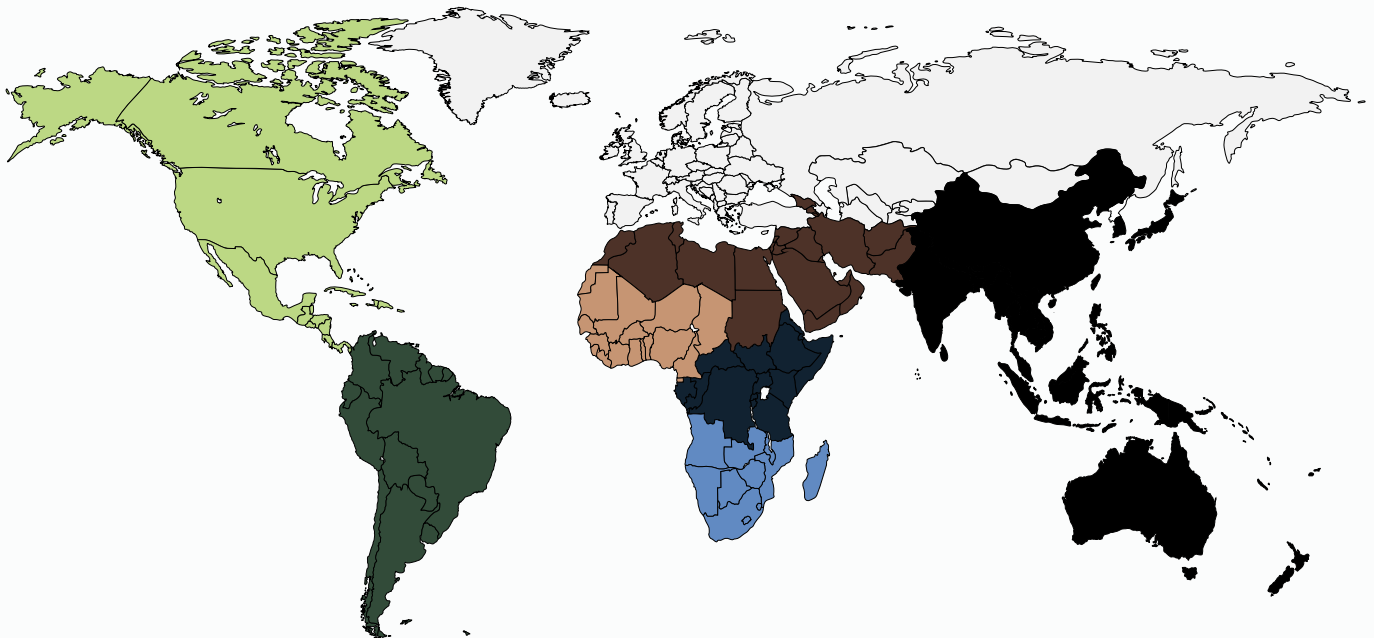
# Taskforces

Since 2016, the United for Wildlife Taskforces have grown to 320 corporate members with more than 140 partners from Southeast Asia to South America, Europe to East Africa. The United for Wildlife network has contributed to over 650 law enforcement cases, more than 600 arrests, over 350 seizures of wildlife products, and has trained more than 150,000 people.

## Regional Chapters

United for Wildlife has worked to establish and support a regionalised operating model to foster a network that enables shared learning and collaborative working. The seven regional chapters have been established in geographical areas where there is a high risk of illegal wildlife crime. Members are able to collaborate across industries and geographies to share information and build innovative solutions in partnership with others tackling wildlife crime. Regional chapters are operational in Asia, East, Southern and West Africa, the Middle East and North Africa, North America and Latin America.

### United for Wildlife Regional Chapters

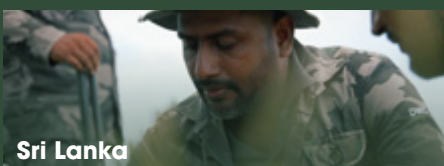
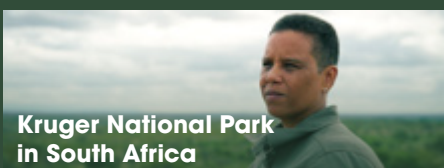
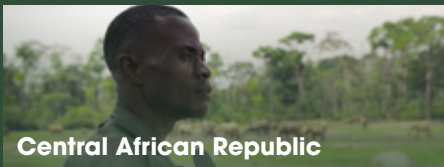


- North America
- Latin America
- MENA
- West Africa
- East Africa
- Southern Africa
- Asia

# Guardians: A United for Wildlife Digital Series

Rangers are on the frontline of the protection and conservation of the natural world. Yet, their role is often fundamentally misunderstood and overlooked. In May 2025, Prince William and The Royal Foundation's United for Wildlife, launched a six-part series, seeking to redefine understanding of rangers and the vital yet unseen work they do to protect our planet.

'Guardians' immerses viewers in the unique worlds of the incredible individuals who make huge sacrifices to safeguard the planet's most threatened environments. From the snowy mountains of the Himalayas to the remote rainforests of Brazil, the series is filmed in some of the most breathtaking yet challenging locations that the Guardians call home, with each episode highlighting the pivotal role of these inspirational individuals.



The series follows the remarkable stories from:

- **Central African Republic** and the breathtaking Dzangha-Sangha Protected Area, following a reformed poacher who now dedicates his life to protecting the wildlife he once hunted.
- **The Himalayas, India**, where high in the Spiti Valley rangers are working to balance tradition and progress to bring co-existence to communities and the 'Ghosts of the Himalayas' – snow leopards.
- **Mexico's Sea of Cortez** – once called 'the world's aquarium' – and the story of a reformed illegal fisherman now working to protect this threatened ecosystem.
- **Kruger National Park in South Africa** where teams work round the clock to protect, rescue and rehabilitate critically endangered rhinos which face daily poaching threats.
- **Sri Lanka** where veterinary experts work tirelessly to rehabilitate elephants, leopards, and other wildlife, while balancing patrolling duties and mitigating human-elephant conflicts.
- **Caru Indigenous Land in Brazil** and the community-led fight to protect their homes whilst combatting illegal wildlife crimes happening on their doorstep.

To watch the episodes, [click here.](#)

# United for Wildlife x Wildlife Photographer of the Year Gallery



This year, United for Wildlife has partnered with Wildlife Photographer of the Year to display a series of images from this prestigious competition showcasing the work of photographers who capture the wonders of nature all around the world.

Owned by the Natural History Museum in London, the Wildlife Photographer of the Year competition is now in its sixth decade and is the most prestigious competition of its kind.

Each year, 100 winning images are selected anonymously by a panel of international experts; with judging taking into account the originality of the photograph, the story it tells, the way in which the photograph was taken and how ethical the practice is. From animal portraiture and photojournalism to urban wildlife and underwater worlds, these images showcase the very best in global storytelling. They combine astonishing images of the world's biodiversity with others illustrating the devastating impact that the degradation of species is having on wildlife populations and our planet earth. Reaching millions around the world annually, we hope the winning images can help inspire people to take action to protect our natural world.



These images are a selection of past years' competitions taken by photographers from around the world but with a particular focus on South America. These photographers have built up a picture of our living world: a planet that is beautiful yet fragile, and in need of protection.

The images, curated in partnership between The Royal Foundation's United for Wildlife programme and Wildlife Photographer of the Year, celebrate biodiversity and feature species at risk from the illegal wildlife trade.



To find out more about Wildlife Photographer of the Year and its next competition, click the link here: [@nhm\\_wpy](http://www.nhm.ac.uk/wpy)



# Thanks

United for Wildlife is only possible thanks to the global partnerships it has set up. We are proud to work closely with leading organisations from the shipping, airline, and financial industries, as well as government agencies, the private sector, law enforcement, conservation NGOs and foundations.

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## With special thanks to

Allen Family Philanthropies

Oak Foundation

DP World

Qatar Airways

Forests People Climate

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The Prince and Princess of Wales and The Royal Foundation lead with the belief that change is always possible, and are committed to building innovative, collaborative and optimistic solutions that deliver positive impact where it matters most.

Together, Their Royal Highnesses and The Royal Foundation have an unparalleled ability to take a long-term view and unite people, ideas and resources; inspiring action to deliver meaningful change for a better future for individuals, communities, society and our planet.

[royalfoundation.com](https://royalfoundation.com)



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OF THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS  
OF WALES