



Environmental
Certification
Organisation



RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY

2025 Report

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RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY

Purpose

The purpose of this Risk Management Policy is to establish a framework for identifying, assessing, and managing risks related to the illegal wildlife trade (IWT) within our organisation. The policy aims to protect biodiversity, strengthen the integrity of our organisational networks, and ensure that all stakeholders comply with relevant legal and environmental regulations. This policy outlines the commitment to proactively addressing IWT risks and to continually improving organisational resilience against illicit wildlife trafficking activities.

At ECO, we are committed to identifying, assessing, and mitigating risks associated within our organisation related to the illegal wildlife trade (IWT), including members and stakeholders. Our approach to risk management aligns with international best practices and aims to safeguard supply chains, protect biodiversity, and prevent the exploitation of organisational networks for illicit activities.

Objectives

Our Risk Management Policy is designed to:

- Identify and evaluate risks related to IWT.
- Implement proactive measures to prevent IWT.
- Strengthen compliance with international regulations, industry standards, and best practices, ensuring that our operations do not contribute to IWT in any form.
- Enhance collaboration with stakeholders, including law enforcement, industry partners, and conservation organisations, to foster a collective effort in combating IWT.
- Foster a culture of risk awareness and continuous improvement in risk management processes, ensuring that all involved parties play their part in protecting ecosystems and biodiversity.

RISK MANAGEMENT PRINCIPLES

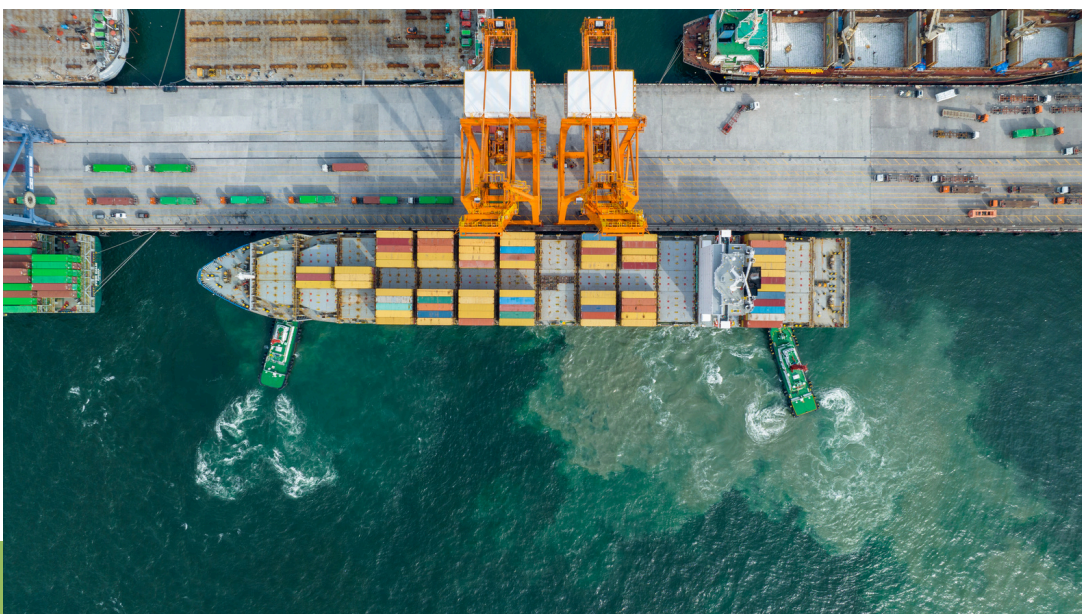
Our approach to risk management is grounded in the following principles, which guide our decision-making and actions:

1. **Prevention is Key:** We prioritise proactive measures to prevent the occurrence of IWT activities, focusing on strengthening our networks and supply chains to identify and eliminate vulnerabilities before they are exploited by traffickers.
2. **Collaboration and Engagement:** We recognise that tackling IWT requires collective action. We will continue to work with stakeholders such as industry partners, law enforcement agencies, and NGOs to share intelligence, align efforts, and build partnerships that enhance our risk management strategies.
3. **Continuous Improvement:** Risk management is an ongoing process. We commit to continuously improving our risk management practices by learning from past experiences, emerging threats, and advances in technology, ensuring that our strategies remain robust and adaptable to changing circumstances.
4. **Transparency and Accountability:** We are committed to transparency in our risk management processes and ensure that our actions are accountable to our stakeholders. Regular reporting and open communication are integral to maintaining trust and demonstrating our commitment to mitigating IWT risks.
5. **Sustainability:** In managing IWT risks, we consider the long-term impacts on biodiversity and conservation. We aim to integrate sustainability into every aspect of our risk management practices, ensuring that the actions we take today contribute to a secure and sustainable future for wildlife and ecosystems.

RISK MANAGEMENT APPROACH

We adopt a structured risk management approach based on:

1. Risk Identification - Conducting regular assessments to detect vulnerabilities and emerging threats related to IWT in our networks. This process ensures that the risks related to IWT are continuously identified and monitored.
2. Risk Assessment & Analysis - Evaluating the likelihood and impact of identified risks, considering factors such as trade routes, enforcement capacity, and commodity-specific threats. This ensures that risks are thoroughly understood and accurately prioritized.
3. Risk Mitigation - Implementing measures such as enhanced due diligence, supply chain monitoring, staff training, and security protocols to reduce risk exposure. The SCAN - Species and Commodities Alert Network - framework forms part of mitigating risk in IWT for organisations that make use of it, providing structured intelligence on trafficking threats and enabling proactive interventions. Furthermore, ECO collaborates with Impact for Wildlife to assess and address the impacts of IWT on organisations, offering strategic guidance on how to update standard operating procedures to ensure that organisations actively contribute to combating IWT.
4. Monitoring & Review - Continuously reviewing and refining risk management strategies based on evolving threats, regulatory changes, and operational insights. The effectiveness of this policy will be reviewed regularly to ensure its alignment to safeguard transportation networks and prevent IWT.
5. Incident Response - Establishing clear protocols for reporting and addressing suspected IWT activities within our networks. This ensures that suspected incidents of trafficking are dealt with quickly and appropriately, minimizing the impact on the environment and biodiversity.



Commitments

To uphold this policy, we commit to:

- Embedding risk management principles into our operations and decision-making processes, ensuring that every part of our organisation works toward preventing IWT.
- Encouraging attendance at training and awareness programs, provided by Impact for Wildlife, for employees, partners, and stakeholders on IWT risks, emphasizing the responsibility each entity has in mitigating these risks.
- Collaborating with regulatory bodies, industry associations, and NGOs to strengthen enforcement and intelligence-sharing efforts, ensuring a coordinated and effective response to IWT.
- Ensuring transparency and accountability in our risk management practices, demonstrating a commitment to ethical operations and the protection of wildlife.

Through this policy, we reaffirm our dedication to disrupting the illegal wildlife trade within our organisational networks and promote ethical, secure, and sustainable supply chains.



For further information please contact the Policy Owner - info@environmentalcertificationorganisation.com