

## THE ROLE OF UNEP



The UNEP is the leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda, promotes the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development within the United Nations system and serves as an authoritative advocate for the global environment. Which its effort to protect endangered animals have scored some success.

This year's slogan is **Go Wild for Life** which encourages people to spread the word about wildlife crime and the damage it does, and to challenge all those around you to do what they can to prevent it.

WED is the United Nations' principal vehicle for encouraging worldwide awareness and action for the environment. Over the years it has grown to be a broad, global platform for public outreach that is widely celebrated by stakeholders in over 100 countries. It also serves as the 'people's day' for doing something positive for the environment, galvanizing individual actions into a collective power that generates an exponential positive impact on the planet



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# GO WILD FOR LIFE

**ZERO TOLERANCE FOR THE ILLEGAL WILDLIFE TRADE**





## ENVIRONMENT MONTH

Every year, South Africa observes Environment Month which is organised and coordinated by the Department of Environmental Affairs. During this month, South Africa is able to give a human face to environmental issues and enable people to realise not only their responsibility and power to become agents for change in support of sustainable and equitable development. Activities during the month of June include World Environment Day, World Oceans Day and World Day to Combat Desertification

Research indicates that South Africa's natural resource base is under severe pressure, with many ecosystems already seriously degraded and we are faced with the reality that our country is most likely to be seriously affected

by climate change. The Department aims to utilise the 2016 celebrations of the Environment Month Programme to promote the activities and programmes of different branches within the Department.



Departmental events across the country in June will also showcase job creation initiatives in the environment sector through the Expanded Public Works Programme, as well as showcasing environmental careers to young people, in celebration of Youth Month.

## WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

### **Zero tolerance for the illegal trade in wildlife**

**World Environment Day (WED)** is an annual initiative which is celebrated on 05 June, with the aim of inspiring people to take action to prevent the growing strain on planet Earth's natural systems from reaching breaking point.

This year's theme for WED is **Zero tolerance for the illegal trade in wildlife**. United Nations Environment Programme disclosed that illegal trade in wild animals takes away precious biodiversity and threatens the survival of elephants, rhinos and tigers as well as many other species. It also undermines economies, communities and security.

