

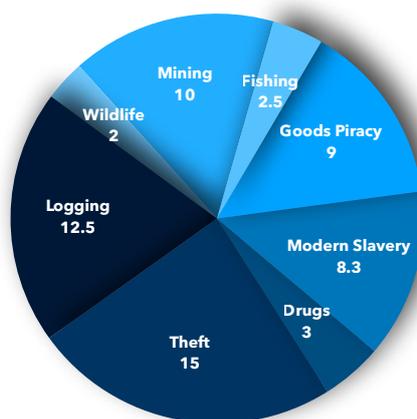
Criminal Markets in Sub Saharan Africa

The major criminal markets in SSA generally exploit the resources found in the region, including people, goods and the environment. and are estimated to generate at least **US\$60 billion**, or approximately 3.7% of SSA GDP, as follows:

- Theft of goods of at least **US\$15 billion**, made up of oil theft, **US\$10 billion** (with Nigeria losing at least **US\$2.5 billion**), cargo theft at **US\$3 billion**, electricity theft at **US\$1.4 billion**.
- Environmental or “green” crimes at **US\$28 billion**, including estimates from illegal logging (**US\$12.5 billion**), illegal mining (**US\$10 billion**), illegal fishing (**US\$2.5 billion**), illegal wildlife (**US\$2 billion**) and illegal waste dumping (**US\$200 million**).
- Modern slavery at **US\$8.3 billion**. An estimated **7 million** men, women, & children are living in modern slavery in SSA, generating an estimated **US\$8.3 billion**, with approx **US\$5.7 billion** from sexual exploitation and approximately **US\$2.4 billion** from forced labour, with Burundi and the CAR, are the countries with the highest prevalence of modern slavery, however, Nigeria and the DRC with the highest absolute numbers and accounted for 34% of all victims in the region.

- Piracy of goods is estimated at **US\$9 billion**. The counterfeit drugs market is the largest piracy market in the region, estimated to be valued at **US\$6.3 billion**.
- Drugs trafficking is valued at **US\$3 billion**. Africa is a destination for drugs en route to other regions, (cocaine from South America to West Africa, and heroin from South and East Asia to East & Southern Africa), and also increasingly, a destination for drug use in the region itself.

Total Criminal Proceeds in Sub Saharan Africa in US\$ Billions FCN 2020



These criminal markets generate more than 95% of all criminal funds in the region. As for the rest, smuggling, including cigarettes, but also gold and precious stones. marine piracy, kidnap & ransom, arms trafficking & counterfeit currency generate an estimated **US\$500 million**.

Whilst **fraud & corruption** are not included in these figures, they are a significant generators of funds. Fraud types include asset misappropriation, fraud by the customer, procurement fraud, business misconduct and cybercrime, although there are no credible estimates that exist across the region. **Bribery & Corruption** is not per se a criminal market but facilitates and protects criminal activity and is estimated at **US\$79 - US\$92 billion**, or 4.9% - 5.7% of SSA GDP, with higher levels expected in countries with higher levels of corruption. For more details see [HERE](#).