Protect wildlife for future generations - Ndeitunga

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NAMIBIANS should unite against organised and serious environmental crimes such as poaching which involve foreign nationals cooperating with locals for the illicit operations to be successful, police Inspector General Sebastian Ndeitunga said at the Force's Christmas carols' event for the Kavango East region on Friday.

"Our country has been facing serious crimes like poaching, and this is caused by foreigners and Namibians who have organised themselves to poach our protected resources such as rhinos and elephants."

These animals are part of the country's tourism, he said, adding that in some other countries, these animals are only seen in magazines and books as they have been wiped out there.

He said if Namibia is not careful, the country's rhinos and elephants will also be wiped out.

"We should stand together as Namibians and say no more poaching of rhinos and elephants and other protected species that make the country attractive for foreign tourists."

He thus called on the nation and the world to condemn poaching for the future generations to also have the opportunity to enjoy the animals' presence.

"The generations to come will also only know elephants and rhinos from photos and videos. This cannot be allowed."

Ndeitunga also urged police officers countrywide to search every car during the festive season.

The event on Friday was aimed at appreciating the men and women in uniform who are disciplined and performed well during the year.

Close to 50 police officers also received bravery medals for their vigour and determination.

Last week, three elephants were shot and killed in the Buffalo area of Divundu and Omega in the Mukwe constituency.

One elephant had its tusk removed.

– Nampa