



# How Airports Can Take Action to Stop Wildlife Trafficking

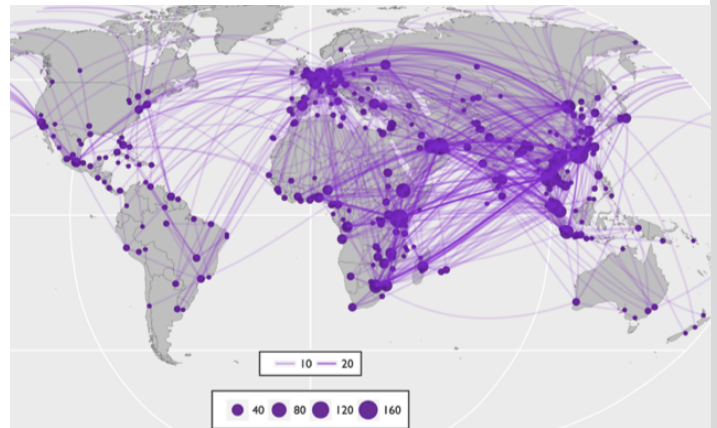
## Illegal Wildlife Trade is a Global Issue

Wildlife trafficking is one of the world’s largest illegal trades. This illicit trade exposes passengers and staff to health and safety hazards and harms corporate reputations throughout industry supply chains. It is pushing many species – both animal and plants – to the brink of extinction.

Wildlife traffickers exploit the increasing connectivity of international aviation – targeting global hubs and airports with flight routes between source and demand countries. Smaller airports are also at risk, as traffickers fly illicit wildlife products from areas near their natural habitats to reach larger, international hub airports. To avoid detection, traffickers tend to change their routes constantly, making airports in any region and at any size vulnerable to wildlife trafficking.

In the past decade, wildlife trafficking instances were recorded in airports in at least 136 countries in almost every region of the world. Illegal wildlife trade is a global issue and airports are uniquely positioned to help address it.

The aviation community must be united to respond to this problem. Airports Council International (ACI) is committed to developing a framework to fight wildlife trafficking. This document outlines key questions to help your airport identify your next steps to help stop wildlife trafficking.



All air trafficking routes recorded in the C4ADS Air Seizure Database (2009–2017) Utermohlen, M., Baine, P. C4ADS, ROUTES. In Plane Sight. 2018.

Illegal wildlife trade is valued between

# \$7-23 BILLION

making it the 4th largest illegal trade

Regardless of where your airport is located, there is a high probability that it could be misused by wildlife traffickers as an origin, transit, or destination point.

Check how your airport might be affected by wildlife trafficking:

[www.routespartnership.org](http://www.routespartnership.org)



The questionnaire below is a tool to guide your airport on where you can take action to stop wildlife trafficking. First, complete the questionnaire then review the steps below. To help your airport join the coordinated global fight to stop wildlife trafficking, contact ACI Environment ([environment@aci.aero](mailto:environment@aci.aero)) to participate in the ACI Wildlife Trafficking Task Force.

<b>Awareness: Do you know how wildlife trafficking is affecting your airport?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Is there general awareness about wildlife trafficking among your staff?		
Have you checked the data on wildlife trafficking relevant to your region/airport?		
<b>Policy: Do you have any policy related to wildlife trafficking?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Do you have policy on illegal wildlife in your staff code of conduct?		
Do you have a staff whistle blower policy?		
When you work with a 3 <sup>rd</sup> -party vendor, do you have a policy around illegal wildlife?		
Is illegal wildlife included in your Corporate Social Responsibility or sustainability program?		
<b>Mechanism: Do you have a mechanism to work with the enforcement agencies and other airport stakeholders to stop wildlife trafficking?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Do you have a reporting mechanism that could be used to report wildlife trafficking?		
Does your airport collaborate with customs and border agencies on illegal wildlife trade?		
Does your airport collaborate with other airport stakeholders on illegal wildlife trade? (airlines, ground handling, cargo, tenants, etc.)		
<b>Training: Does your airport address wildlife trafficking in training?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Has your airport ever conducted training around wildlife trafficking?		
<b>Communication: Does your airport communicate about wildlife trafficking?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Do you have any communications to staff around illegal wildlife trade or has there ever been an awareness campaign in your airport?		
Have you made your anti-wildlife trafficking commitments public?		
Have you ever had a passenger-facing campaign around illegal wildlife trade?		

**NEXT STEPS**

# 1

## STEP

### DEFINE YOUR ACTIONS

- Work with senior management to set out commitments
- Identify a department to be responsible for addressing illegal wildlife trade
- Create an action plan
- Develop a policy to address illegal wildlife trade

# 2

## STEP

### WORK WITH STAKEHOLDERS

- Engage customs and other enforcement agencies
- Coordinate with airlines, ground handling, cargo, tenants, and others to take action in addressing wildlife trafficking
- Identify and engage other stakeholders

# 3

## STEP

### INFLUENCE THE INDUSTRY

- Share your best practices with others in the industry
- Share anti-wildlife trafficking information in company materials
- Act as an advocate and encourage other companies to take action

**For resources or more information: [www.routespartnership.org/contact](http://www.routespartnership.org/contact)**



This document is made possible by the generous support of the American people through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The contents are the responsibility of ACI and WWF and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID, the United States Government, or individual ROUTES partners.