ROUTES
ANNUAL REPORT

September 30, 2019 AID-EGEE-A-15-00001

USAID Reducing Opportunities for Unlawful Transport of Endangered Species (ROUTES) Partnership

Activity Start and End Date: October 1, 2015- September 30, 2021

Name of Prime Implementing Partner: TRAFFIC

Contract/Agreement Number: AID-EGEE-A-15-00001

Name of Subcontractors/Subawardees: Airports Council International (ACI), Center for Advanced Defense Studies (C4ADS), International Air Transport Association (IATA), WWF

Core Counterpart Organizations: US Agency for International Development, ACI, C4ADS, IATA, TRAFFIC, US Department of Homeland Security, US Department of State, US Fish and Wildlife Service, WWF

Geographic Coverage: Global

Reporting Period Phase 3: October 1, 2018- September 30, 2019

Annual Report
October 1, 2018 - September 30, 2019

ABOUT

The USAID Reducing Opportunities for Unlawful Transport of Endangered Species (ROUTES) Partnership is an innovative and transformational partnership that brings together transport and logistics companies, government agencies, development groups, law enforcement, conservation organizations, academia and donors to disrupt wildlife trafficking activities, and forms a key element of the concerted international response to addressing wildlife poaching and associated criminal activities worldwide.

GOAL

The goal of this partnership is to disrupt wildlife trafficking by reducing the use of legal transportation supply chains.

OBJECTIVES

Improve the data and analytics on wildlife trafficking within passenger and cargo supply chains for evidence-based, focused action

Engage corporate leadership to collaborate to combat wildlife trafficking

Improve the ability of transportation personnel to assist law enforcement to combat wildlife trafficking
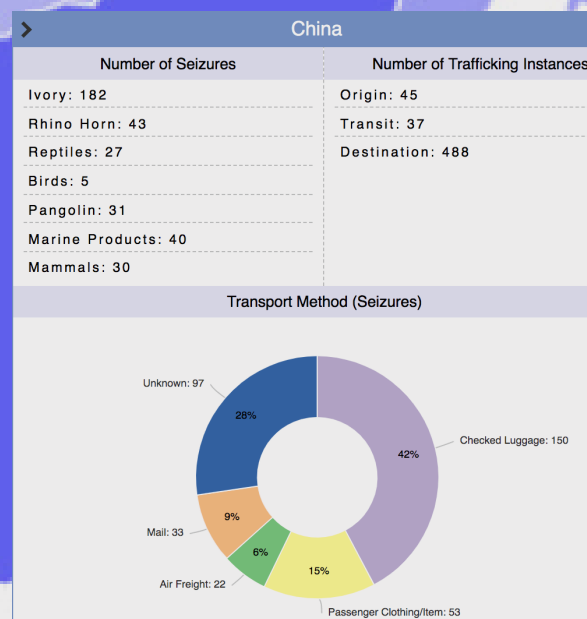
Integrate wildlife trafficking into relevant industry standards and protocols
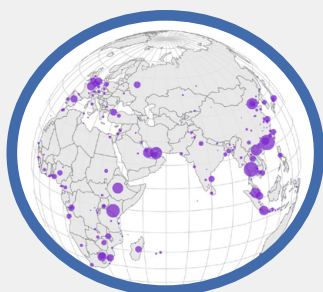
Increase communications and data-sharing between the transport sector and law enforcement

OBJECTIVE 1
Improving Data and Analytics

China

Number of Seizures	Number of Trafficking Instances
Ivory: 182	Origin: 45
Rhino Horn: 43	Transit: 37
Reptiles: 27	Destination: 488
Birds: 5	
Pangolin: 31	
Marine Products: 40	
Mammals: 30	

Transport Method (Seizures)

Unknown: 97 — 28%
Checked Luggage: 150 — 42%
Passenger Clothing/Item: 53 — 15%
Air Freight: 22 — 6%
Mail: 33 — 9%

Wildlife trafficking data and recommendations are being applied by key industry stakeholders

ROUTES Highlight

ROUTES created the first seizure-specific interactive dashboard to enable industry to access data, maps, and graphics on wildlife trafficking through air transport

Industry Highlight

The August 2018 *In Plane Sight* report was made a priority document by WCO to help inform project strategies within the 24 countries of its wildlife crime prevention operation
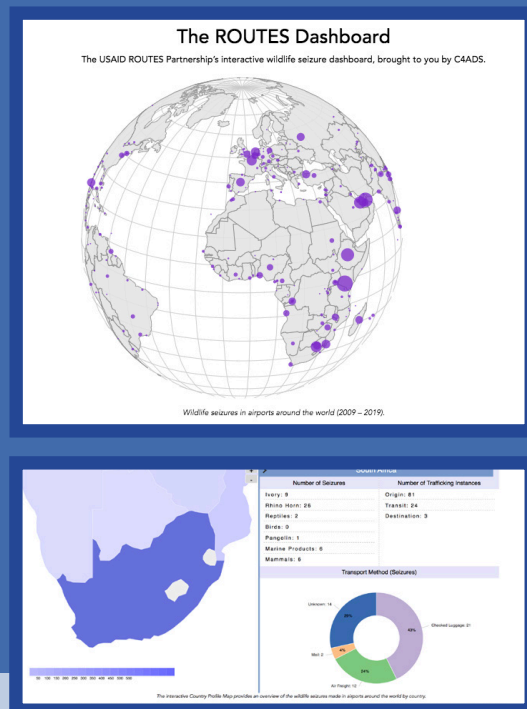
Sustainability Highlight

Key questions from the ROUTES wildlife trafficking gap assessment tool were incorporated into the ACI Airport Excellence in Security review program

Spotlight: ROUTES Dashboard

The ROUTES Dashboard was launched in May 2019 and provides the air transport industry and any other interested party with the first air transport seizure-specific interactive platform on wildlife trafficking. The platform allows users to view statistics, maps, and graphics specific to different regions, species groups, and trafficking methods based on C4ADS' growing database of publicly reported seizures of wildlife trafficked by air. The Dashboard can be used to highlight seizures made along specific country-to-country transport routes, assisting airlines to determine their potential vulnerability to wildlife traffickers. Country profiles within the Dashboard provide the number of seizures, trafficking instances, and transport methods specific to each country, highlighting potential risks to airport hubs. Complementary to ROUTES' in-depth annual wildlife trafficking reports, the Dashboard intends to inform strategic actions by industry in an attractive and engaging way, allowing companies to easily focus on data specific to their interests.

The ROUTES Dashboard
The USAID ROUTES Partnership's interactive wildlife seizure dashboard, brought to you by C4ADS.

Wildlife seizures in airports around the world (2009 – 2019).

The Interactive Country Profile Map provides an overview of the wildlife seizures made in airports around the world by country.

The ROUTES Dashboard Includes:

Data Dashboard
Visual platform to filter air transport seizure data by region, wildlife product type, trafficking method, and years

Route Risk Tool
Tool for users to check for wildlife trafficking instances along specific flight routes or to and from specific cities

Country Profile Map
Interactive map with country-specific information summarizing seizures, trafficking instances, and transport methods

Gap Asessments:

Recommendations developed through seven wildlife trafficking gap assessments conducted to date were compiled into a Recommendation and Resources document for aviation stakeholders to guide actions that will prevent wildlife trafficking. The World Customs Organization publicized the gap assessment tool and common recommendations on its website, providing all national customs agencies with customs-specific guidance for strategic action at airports. ACI incorporated a number of the assessment questions into its Airport Excellence (APEX) in Security peer-review program, which will help to integrate wildlife trafficking prevention into the accepted norms of aviation best practice.

ROUTES Wildlife Trafficking Gap Assessments

Doha, Qatar
Entebbe, Uganda
Hanoi, Viet Nam
Johannesburg, South Africa
Nairobi, Kenya
Maputo, Mozambique
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

OBJECTIVE 2
Engaging Corporate Leadership

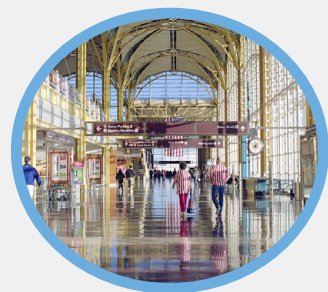*Awareness and action is growing across all sub-sectors of the air transport industry*

ROUTES Highlight

ROUTES supported 11 companies and associations to take action, and ACI increased membership to its Wildlife Task Force from five members to 19 members

Industry Highlight

Kenya Airports Authority and Kenya Airways formed a model partnership, collaborating to raise awareness and strengthen policies, operations, facilities, investigations, and legal systems to combat wildlife trafficking
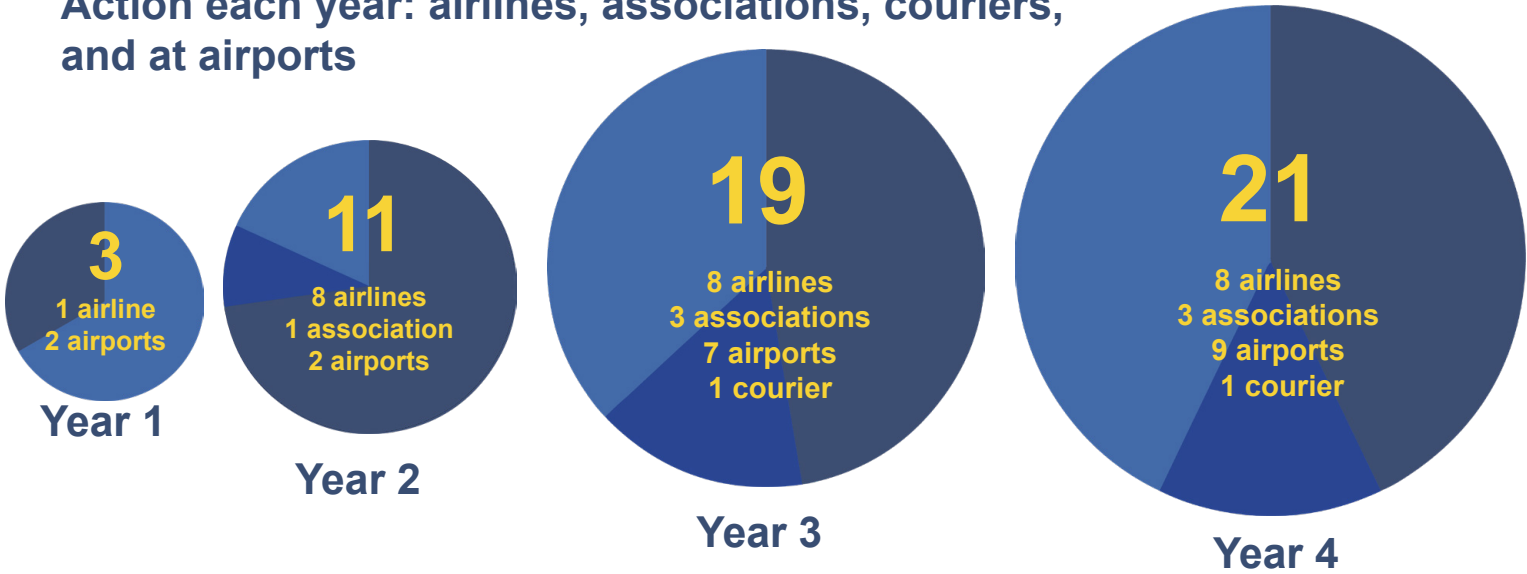

Sustainability Highlight

Wildlife trafficking prevention was included in ACI Europe's first ever Sustainability Strategy for Airports, reaching over 500 airports in 45 European countries

Industry Engagement and Influence

ROUTES continued to extend its outreach to the aviation industry, through raising awareness at eight industry conferences and events across the world and across sectors, including the ACI World Annual General Assembly. ROUTES has also worked with regional associations to help spread wildlife trafficking awareness beyond individual airlines engaged with ROUTES, has supported ACI to provide resources to its Wildlife Task Force, and regularly communicates wildlife trafficking issues within ACI regional committees and to all ACI members.

Action each year: airlines, associations, couriers, and at airports

3
1 airline
2 airports
Year 1

11
8 airlines
1 association
2 airports
Year 2

19
8 airlines
3 associations
7 airports
1 courier
Year 3

21
8 airlines
3 associations
9 airports
1 courier
Year 4

From Awareness to Action
With ROUTES' guidance and support, a total of 12 companies and associations took at least one action against wildlife trafficking:

5 Five companies used ROUTES' communication and awareness materials, produced awareness videos and in-flight articles on wildlife trafficking, and provided presentations to staff.

5 Five airlines and ground handling companies integrated, or are working on integrating, wildlife trafficking into their training programs, enabling thousands of staff to increase their understanding and respond to wildlife trafficking.

3 Three airline and courier companies incorporated wildlife trafficking into their policies.

2 Two regional airline associations shared information on wildlife trafficking with their members and conducted a survey to determine their members' needs for further support.

1 One airline undertook a review of its policies and operations to identify existing gaps in preventing wildlife trafficking.

Airport Engagement Success
Wildlife trafficking is now being addressed at an increasing number of airports on critical wildlife trafficking routes. Actions were taken at a minimum of nine airports through ROUTES' influence:

4 At least four airports continued to participate in or lead multi-stakeholder approaches to tackling wildlife trafficking, convening airport-wide discussions and taking joint actions with other airport companies.

3 Staff were trained at three airports through a combination of training workshops and e-modules supported by ROUTES.

1 One enforcement agency commenced collaboration with ROUTES to support development of automated detection technology at a major hub airport.

1 One airport, supported through a separate USAID-funded project, used an abridged version of the ROUTES gap assessment tool to inform strategic actions against wildlife trafficking.

OBJECTIVE 3
Enhancing Staff Ability to Detect and Respond to Wildlife Trafficking

**USAID RO
Partners**

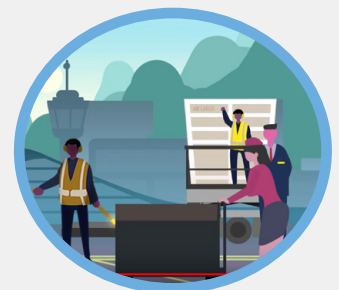*Wildlife trafficking prevention training is being institutionalized into company curricula*

ROUTES Highlight

32 sets of general awareness and role-specific training materials are now available in up to four languages

Industry Highlight

Malaysia Airlines requested and underwent a wildlife trafficking Train the Trainer course to enable future in-house training of thousands of staff per year
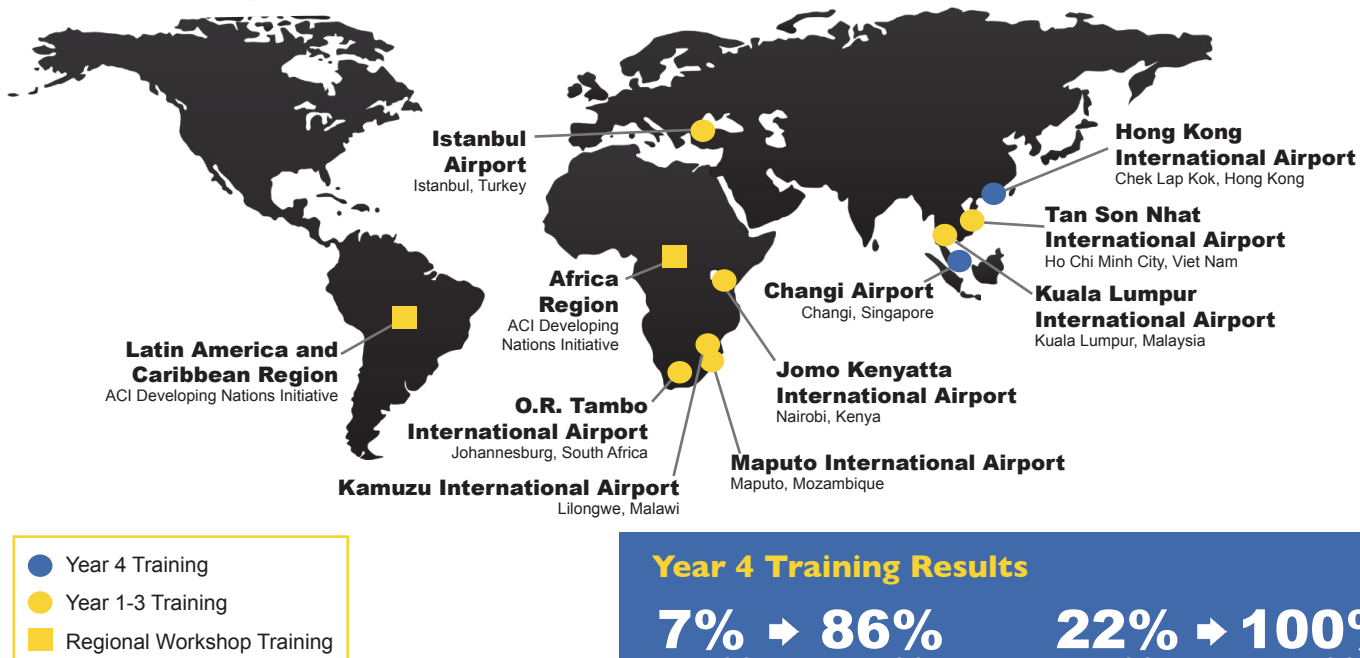
Sustainability Highlight

At least eight companies have now integrated, or are integrating, ROUTES materials into their training programs for sustained capacity building

In-Person Trainings

ROUTES has now conducted two regional workshops and trained key air transport staff in nine locations. Stakeholders of many of those locations remain actively engaged with ROUTES as they develop and implement more complex actions such as integrating wildlife trafficking into company curricula and strengthening in-house training capacity.

Istanbul Airport
Istanbul, Turkey

Hong Kong International Airport
Chek Lap Kok, Hong Kong

Africa Region
ACI Developing Nations Initiative

Tan Son Nhat International Airport
Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam

Changi Airport
Changi, Singapore

Kuala Lumpur International Airport
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Latin America and Caribbean Region
ACI Developing Nations Initiative

Jomo Kenyatta International Airport
Nairobi, Kenya

O.R. Tambo International Airport
Johannesburg, South Africa

Maputo International Airport
Maputo, Mozambique

Kamuzu International Airport
Lilongwe, Malawi

- ● Year 4 Training
- ● Year 1-3 Training
- ■ Regional Workshop Training

Year 4 Training Results

7% ➔ **86%**
pre-training   post-training

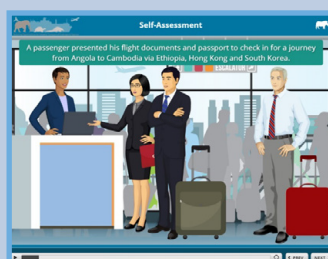Percent of respondents in Hong Kong that replied they know how to identify a wildlife trafficker.

22% ➔ **100%**
pre-training   post-training

Percent of respondents in Changi that replied they know whom to contact if they encounter wildlife trafficking.

Spotlight: Training Materials

Industry stakeholders are increasingly approaching ROUTES for support. ROUTES has responded to requests from two airlines, a ground handling company, and an animal transport association, providing advice on the adoption of e-modules, conducting a Train the Trainer course, facilitating a training workshop, and providing guidance on how ROUTES materials can be integrated.

ROUTES' existing half-day and one-hour general awareness presentations were tailored to six geographic regions, and translated into Spanish, French and Chinese Mandarin. Six role-specific presentations were adapted into e-learning and toolbox talk formats and also translated into the three additional languages. Building on the success of the general awareness modules, two general awareness videos for airport-based staff, of 15 minutes and five minutes, are in development. To support communication and uptake of the array of training resources a three-minute video has been developed highlighting the resources available and how to implement and integrate the materials.

E-learning Modules

Toolbox Talks

Powerpoint Presentations

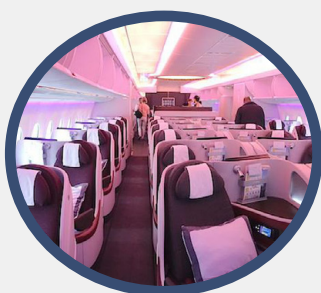**Training Videos**

OBJECTIVE 4

Integrating Wildlife Trafficking Prevention Into Industry Standards

Wildlife trafficking prevention is being institutionalized as part of industry best practice

ROUTES Highlight

ROUTES developed a new illegal wildlife trade module in the IATA Environmental Assessment Program to certify airlines for their actions against wildlife trafficking

Industry Highlight

Qatar Airways become the first ever airline to be certified for its actions against wildlife trafficking and implementation of the BPD Commitments

Sustainability Highlight

The ICAO High Level Conference on Aviation Security recommended to explore ways to strengthen the relationship between aviation security, safety and facilitation

Spotlight: IATA Environmental Assessment Program

In June 2019, Qatar Airways became the first airline to successfully complete an independent audit of the new illegal wildlife trade (IWT) module within the IATA Environmental Assessment Program, IEnvA. This assessment, developed by ROUTES, highlights actions that are required by airlines to implement the United for Wildlife Transport Taskforce Buckingham Palace Declaration (BPD) Commitments and IATA's 72nd AGM resolution on IWT, such as integrating wildlife trafficking prevention training into company curricula and establishing reporting protocols. The assessment enables certification and recognition of airlines' responses to wildlife trafficking.

Industry Institutionalization

Wildlife trafficking prevention was included in two additional industry guidance documents, ensuring the topic is now covered within the following areas of aviation: airport sustainability, airline passenger services, cabin safety, baggage handling, and live animals and perishable goods operations. Building on these, a comprehensive Guidance Manual has been drafted by IATA to address wildlife trafficking in all relevant airline departments including cargo, flight, ground and passenger operations, and other areas in corporate services such as human resources and communications. This will help to inform company strategies and support implementation of the BPD Commitments.

IATA and ACI continued to raise awareness with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) of the risks to aviation from wildlife trafficking alongside other trafficking crimes. The need for a multi-agency approach was highlighted in the ICAO High Level Conference on Aviation Security in November 2018, resulting in the conference's conclusion that *"border security, prevention of criminal acts and general counter-terrorism efforts would benefit from increased multi-agency partnerships to jointly address the range of border and aviation security threats at airports and on board aircraft."* This was followed by the recommendation that *"ICAO explore ways in which the relationship between aviation security, safety and facilitation can be strengthened, including the relationship between the Aviation Security Panel and the Facilitation Panel."* This conclusion and recommendation encourages strengthened efforts against all trafficking crimes at airports, within which wildlife trafficking is included.

Illegal wildlife trade is now covered in official industry guidance materials within the following areas of aviation:

Airport Sustainability

Passenger Services & Cabin Safety Personnel

Baggage Handlers & Cargo Operations

Live Animal & Perishable Goods Operations

Flight, Ground, & Passenger Operations

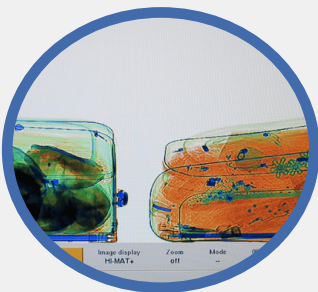Corporate Services (Including Human Resources & Communications)

In November 2018, ROUTES partners agreed a new objective critical to achieving the ROUTES goal – to strengthen communication and information sharing between the transport sector and law enforcement.

OBJECTIVE 5
Strengthening Collaboration Between Transport and Law Enforcement

Diverse partnerships are empowering new and innovative solutions to combat wildlife trafficking

ROUTES Highlight

Collaboration began with a national enforcement agency to support the development of automated detection of wildlife using aviation screening data

Industry Highlight

IATA is securing regular opportunities to engage with INTERPOL, building cross-sector relationships, and enabling the sharing of information on insider threats

Sustainability Highlight

A secure and confidential platform has been identified to host and manage an aviation industry wildlife trafficking reporting tool to ensure strategic development and sustainability beyond ROUTES

Increase communications and data-sharing between transport sector and law enforcement

Through partners' growing experiences of addressing wildlife trafficking within aviation, a new issue was identified which was considered critical to address in order to achieve the ROUTES goal:

There is a lack of relationship between the transport sector and law enforcement agencies at both systemic and airport levels.

- The transport sector requires recognition and feedback on the outcomes of its efforts to support law enforcement in order to remain motivated to act and to support better targeted responses.
- A mechanism or protocol is required to enable anonymous reporting of wildlife trafficking incidents to law enforcement.

ROUTES is now addressing these issues through several industry-level and airport-level measures, including:

Raising awareness of the need for joint agency collaboration and for law enforcement to share information with the private sector

Establishing mechanisms to enable the sharing of wildlife trafficking information between transport and law enforcement

Identifying and encouraging multi-stakeholder communication and collaboration practices at airports

Developing technology to enable safe and rapid communication of detected wildlife trafficking incidents to law enforcement at airports
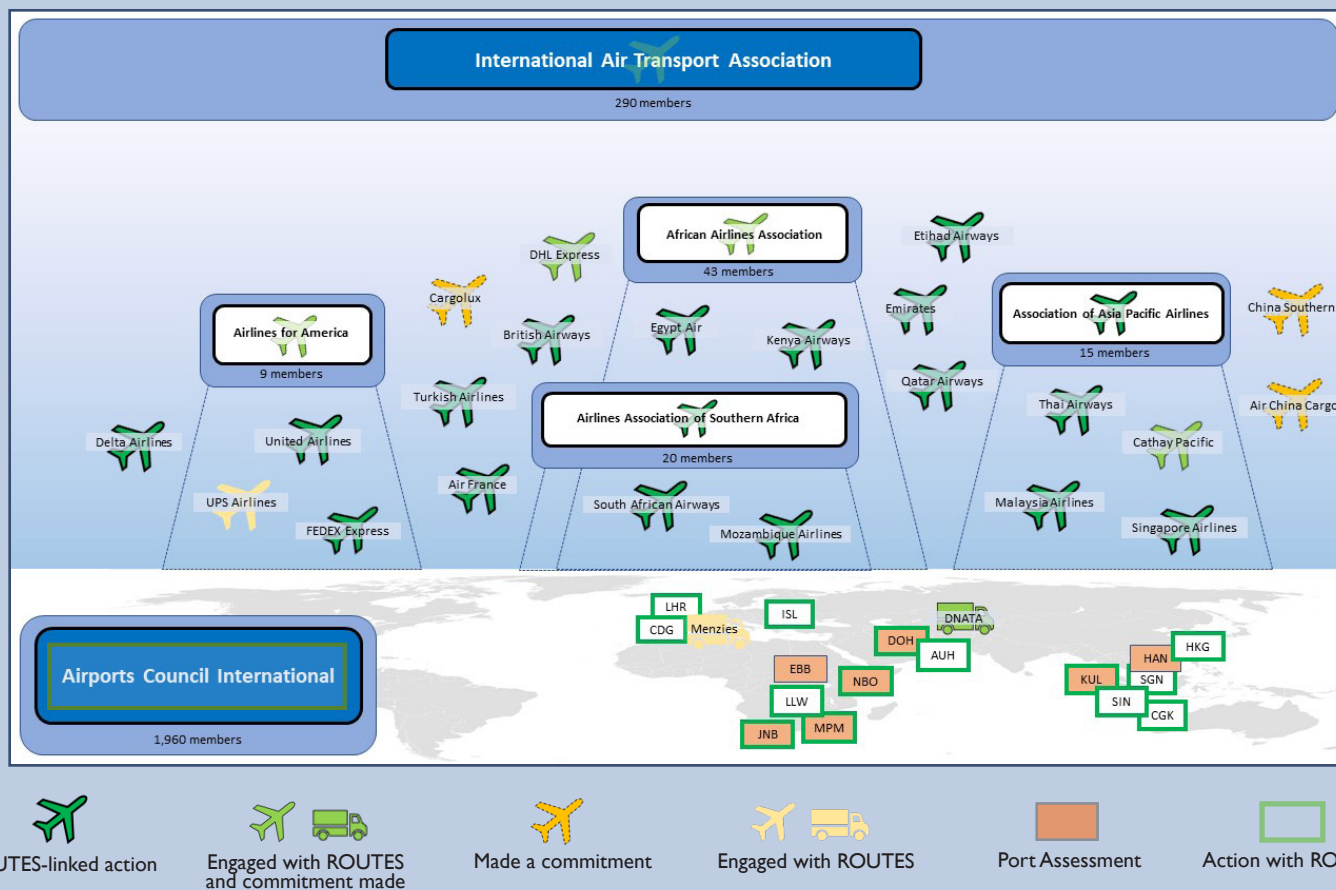
Automated detection technology

Steps are being taken to demonstrate the viability and operational requirements of automated detection of wildlife. A library of scanned images is being produced by a partner enforcement agency to supply data for the development of a scanner algorithm. Following its development, a trial to run the algorithm based on aviation screening images will be undertaken to determine the potential for enforcement authorities to automatically detect wildlife in baggage using aviation data, while ensuring that there is no impact on aviation security systems, procedure, or human resources. If successful, the technology could be a revolutionary solution to tackling wildlife trafficking in aviation.

Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning

ROUTES' engagement and impact with priority companies, governing bodies, and airports

Symbol	Meaning
ROUTES-linked action	
Engaged with ROUTES and commitment made	
Made a commitment	
Engaged with ROUTES	
Port Assessment	
Action with ROUTES	

Communications

Spring Into Action
May & June 2019

ROUTES launched its first-ever "Spring Into Action" wildlife trafficking awareness initiative in May 2019. Over the span of two months, fifteen transport companies and partners participated in 5 Steps of Action to strengthen awareness around combating wildlife trafficking.

50+
Participants from air transport companies and NGOs in training webinars

5
Social media toolkits

93k
Twitter impressions

34
Media pieces & placements

211k
Media coverage views

6
Partnership newsletters

Looking Ahead

Objective 1

- The ROUTES Dashboard will be further developed to improve the user interface, including graphic and information downloads.
- Analysis will focus on profiling 10 key countries' wildlife trafficking trends; highlighting the security risks linked to wildlife trafficking; and identifying the red flags associated with wildlife trafficking and other trafficking crimes.

Objective 2

- A community of 'champions' will be developed and supported to lead and encourage industry peers to develop a 'business as usual' response to wildlife trafficking.
- A business friendly reference document will be developed, identifying how industry actions on wildlife trafficking can be reported against the Sustainable Development Goal indicators.
- An Airport Guidance Document will be developed, with case studies, analysis, and guidance as to how airports can take action against wildlife trafficking.
- ROUTES will continue to engage the aviation industry by raising awareness of wildlife trafficking, supporting strategic actions such as integration of policy or standard practices addressing wildlife trafficking, and the embedding of

Objective 3

- New airport-focused training material will be developed for integration into airport training programs.
- Companies and airports will be supported to integrate ROUTES training materials into their ongoing training programs.

Objective 4

- A comprehensive IATA Guidance Manual on wildlife trafficking prevention will be published to guide airline actions.
- Additional IEnvA airlines will be assessed on their action against wildlife trafficking, and other opportunities to assess airline responses to wildlife trafficking will be developed.
- Awareness raising will continue with ICAO of the issue and the need for multi-agency collaboration and public-private information sharing to address crime and security threats in aviation.

Objective 5

- Law enforcement agencies will continue to be engaged and encouraged to share information with the transport sector, including through opportunities to facilitate greater coordination within existing location-specific operations.
- Optioneering will be completed for the development of the wildlife algorithm and the detection technology will be tested at one airport.

Reducing Opportunities for Unlawful Transport of Endangered Species

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For more information on the ROUTES Partnership visit www.routespartnership.org.