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the wildlife trade monitoring network



ROUTES

Reducing Opportunities for Unlawful Transport of Endangered Species

Awareness for Airline and Airport Staff (*Americas*)
One-hour course

Airline/Airport name here

Location and date of training here

© Erico Hiller



Reducing Opportunities for Unlawful Transport of Endangered Species

November 2018



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



C4ADS
innovation for peace



TRAFFIC
the wildlife trade monitoring network



ROUTES Partnership:

Assisting the private sector to respond to the international poaching crisis by targeting how organized criminals move contraband from source to end-use markets.

Goal:

Disrupt wildlife trafficking by reducing the use of legal transportation supply chains.



Reducing Opportunities for Unlawful Transport of Endangered Species

The ROUTES Partnership is supported by USAID

Training Content

This training is divided into four sections:

- *Overview of Wildlife Trafficking*
- *Wildlife Trafficking on Airlines*
- *Identifying Traffickers*
- *What Should You Do?*



Overview of Wildlife Trafficking



Wildlife Trafficking Overview

- Risk to legal transport supply chains
- Why wildlife is traded
- Laws and regulations
- Wildlife trafficking
- Impact and magnitude



Wildlife Trade

LEGAL TRADE

Worth over USD350 billion/year*

WILDLIFE TRAFFICKING

Fourth largest global criminal market
(after illicit drugs, counterfeit goods
and human trafficking)**



Laws and Regulations

NATIONAL LAWS

Every country has laws to protect wild animals and plants from overharvesting.

INTERNATIONAL REGULATIONS



Aims to ensure that international trade does not threaten the survival of wild animals and plants.

Signed by more than 180 countries.



Risks to Legal Supply Chains



Reputation



Legal



Economic



Safety



Why is Wildlife Traded?

Timber



Photograph by JFPerry, distributed under CC-BY-SA-2.0 license



Photograph by anonymous, distributed under CC-BY-SA 3.0 license

Food

Pangolin tail



Social media

查看原图 (143K)

Squirrel



© Sulma Warne / Freeland



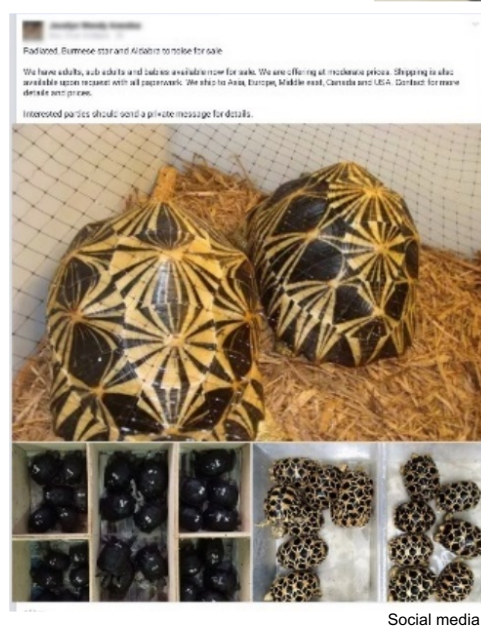
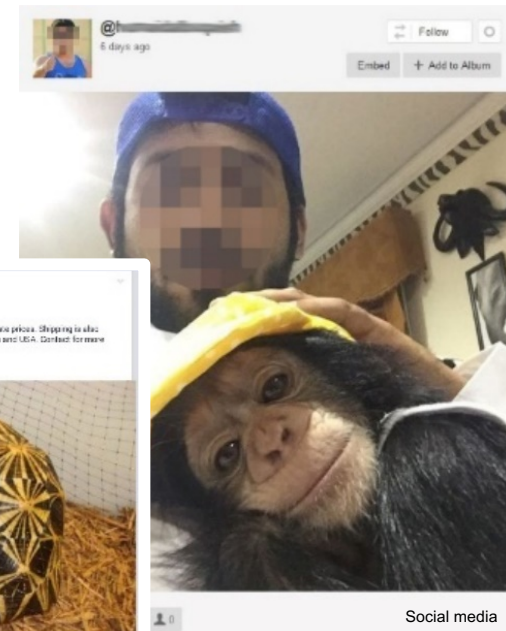
Reducing Opportunities for Unlawful Transport of Endangered Species

Why is Wildlife Traded?

Medicine



Pets



Why is Wildlife Traded?

Zoos & Collectors



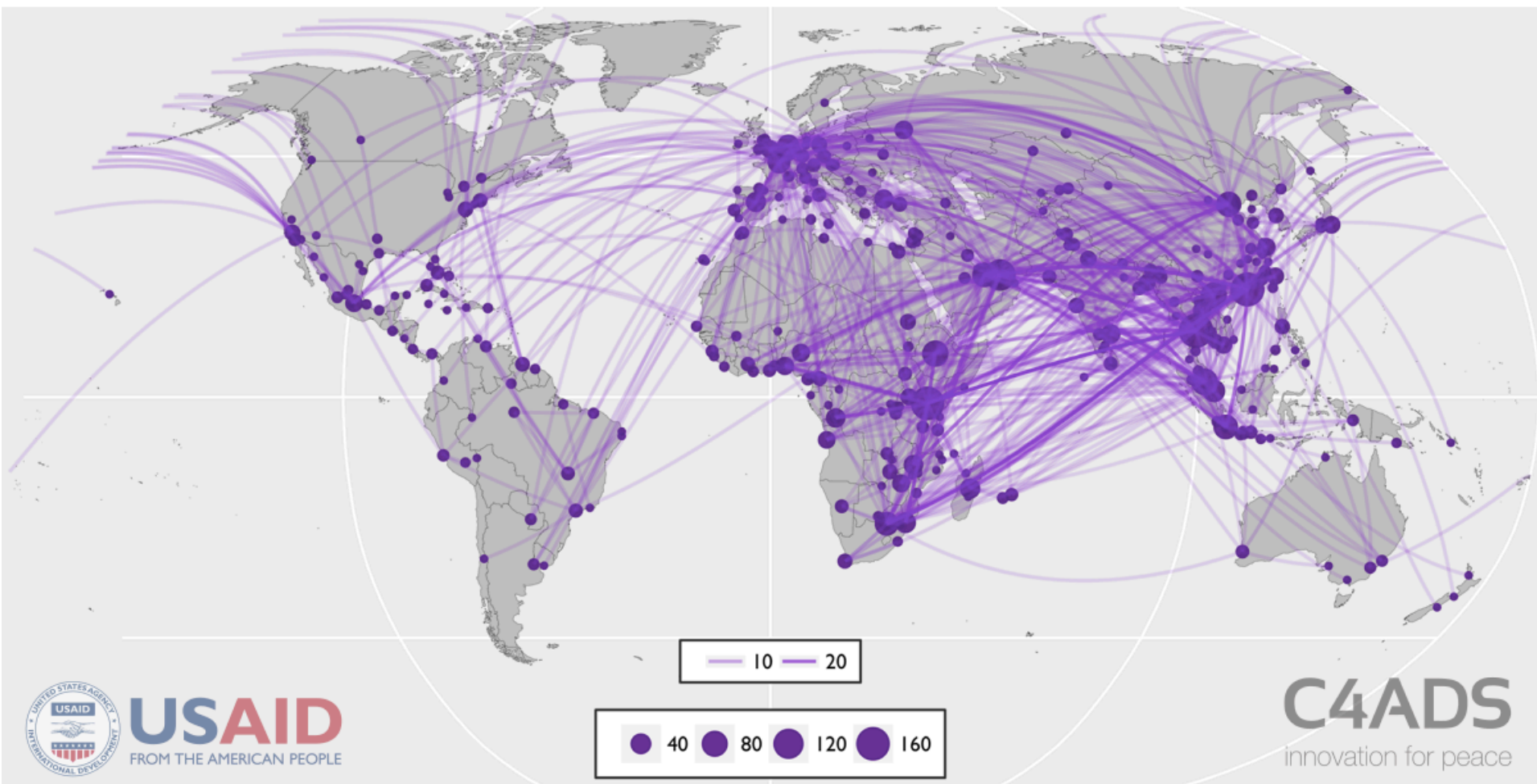
Trophies & Luxury



Helmeted Hornbill and carved beaks



Known air trafficking routes 2009 – 2017



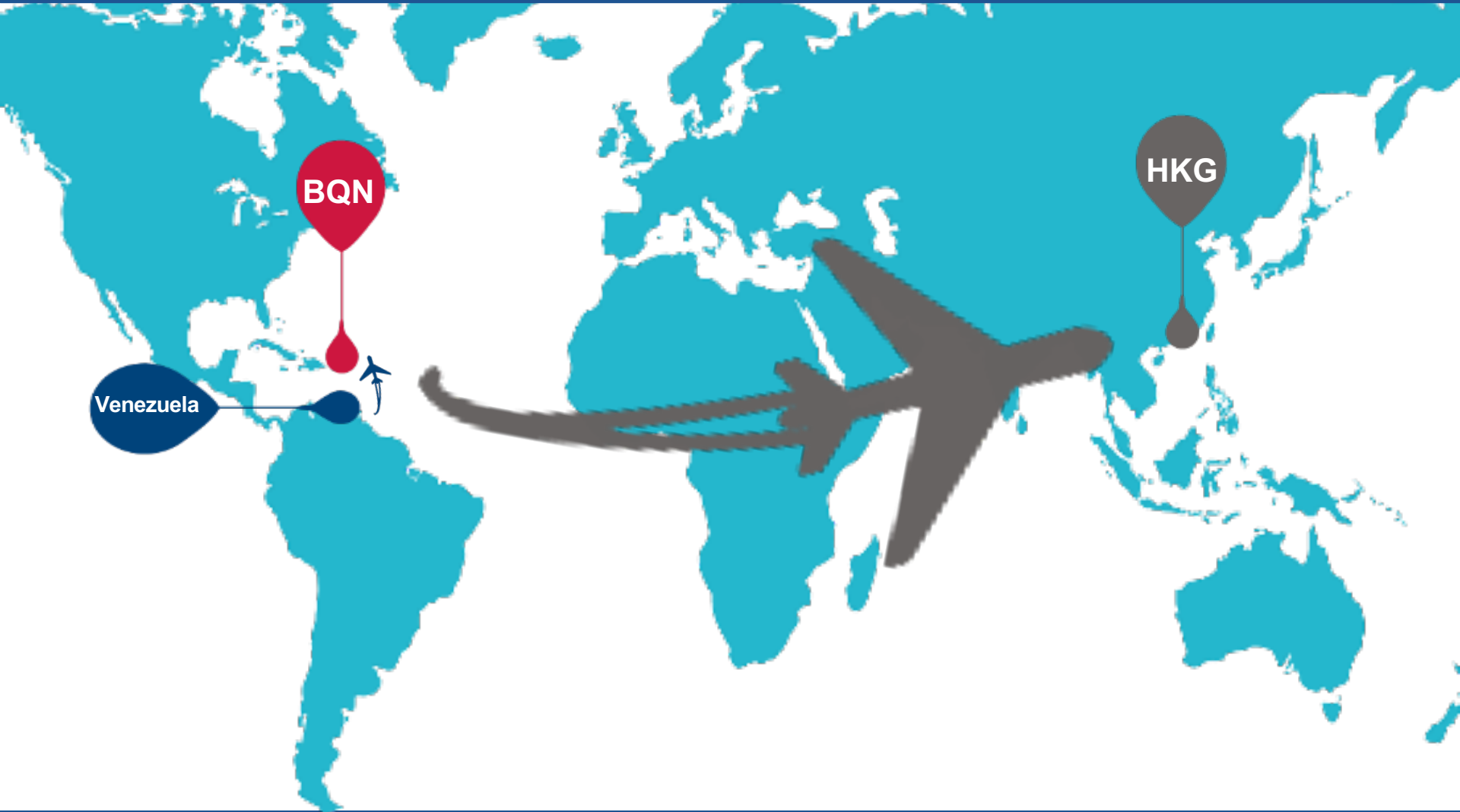
Utermohlen, M. and Baine, P. In Plane Sight: Wildlife Trafficking in the Air Transport Sector. C4ADS and Reducing Opportunities for Unlawful Transport of Endangered Species (ROUTES). August 2018.



Guyana to New York



Venezuela to Hong Kong via Puerto Rico



Mexico to Spain, via Amsterdam



U.S.A. to China and China to U.S.A.



Mexico to Madrid

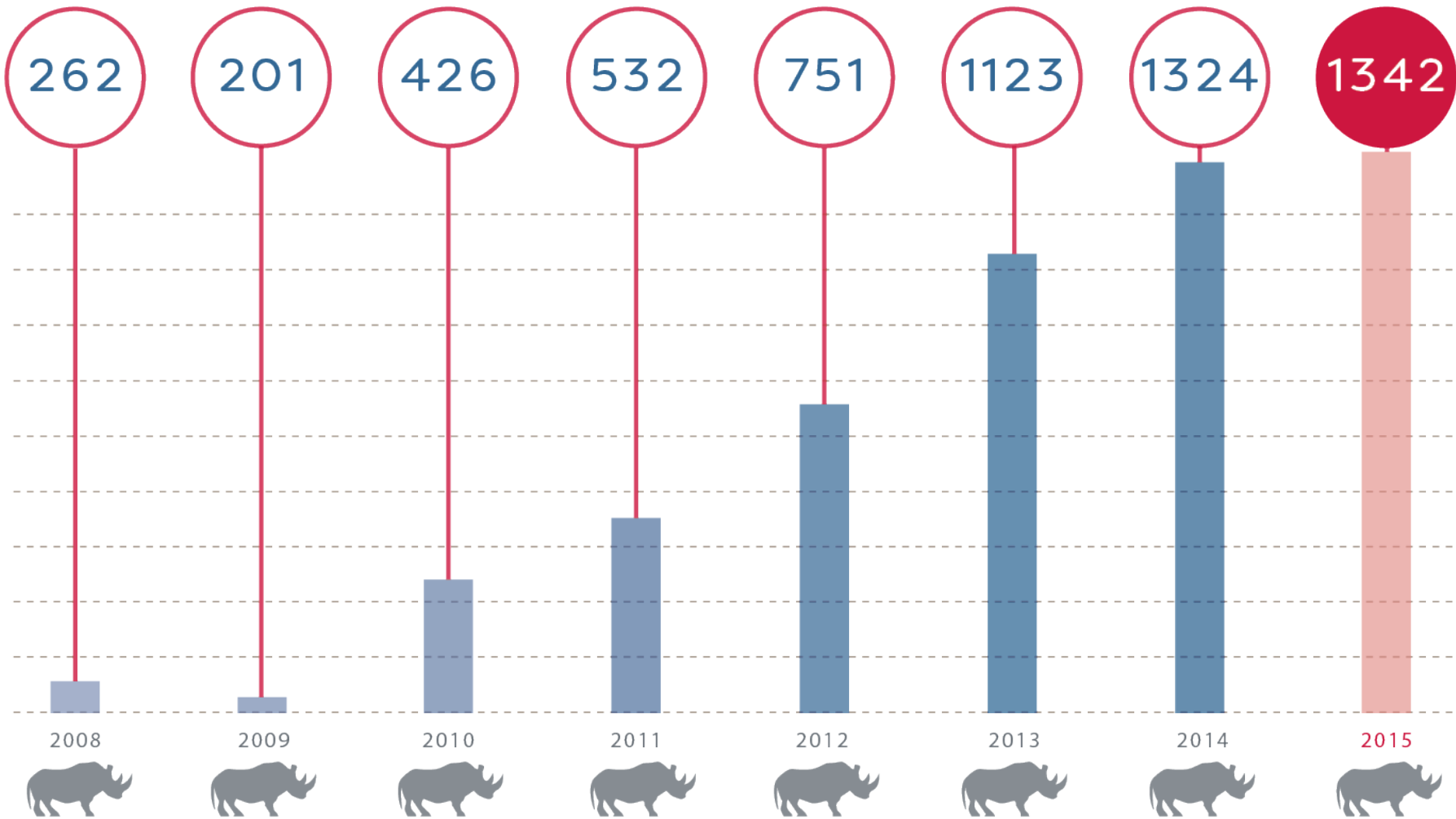


Nigeria to Los Angeles



Number of Rhinos Poached

Reported African Rhino Poaching Mortalities 2008 - 2015





55
ELEPHANTS ARE
KILLED
EVERY DAY

20,000
A YEAR*

© Freeland



Reducing Opportunities for Unlawful Transport of Endangered Species

IMPACTS OF ILLEGAL WILDLIFE TRADE

Threat to national security and stability

Loss of tourism and income

Risks to environmental & global health

Supports corruption and organized crime

Unpaid government revenue and Taxes



LOW RISK



Criminal
High reward

HIGH RISK



Frontline Officer
Low reward

1,000+ rangers killed in the
last ten years



How is wildlife trafficked?

By AIR



© Freeland

© Operation Cobra - Tanzania

By SEA



© Freeland

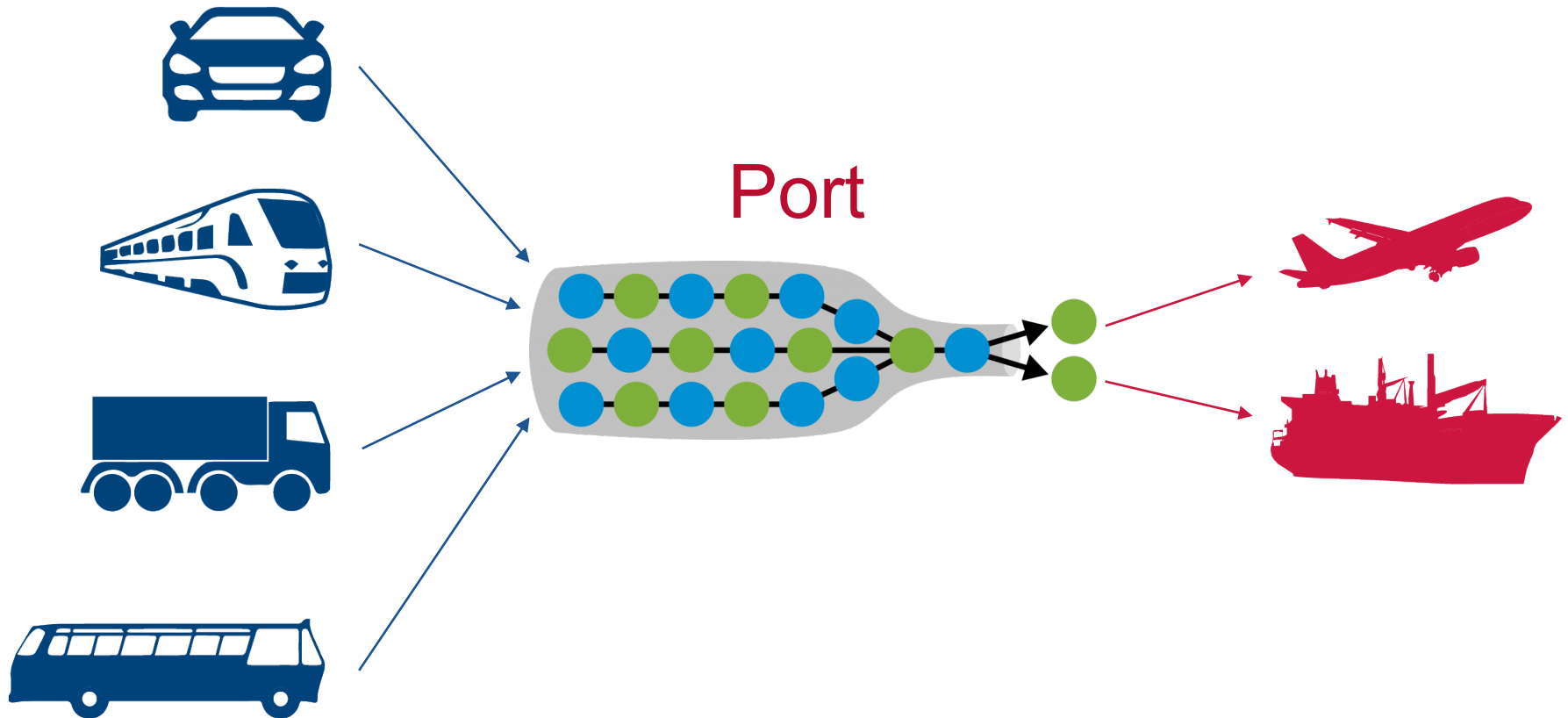
By LAND



The Importance of Transport Networks

Overland

Air and Sea



Wildlife Trafficking on Airlines





- Working to combat wildlife trafficking
- Taskforce aims to examine the role of the transport industry
- Has denounced the illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products
- Has developed a pledge for the transport industry



Wildlife Trafficking on Airlines Overview

- Why wildlife traffickers use airlines
- Wildlife smuggling by air
- Wildlife trafficking routes



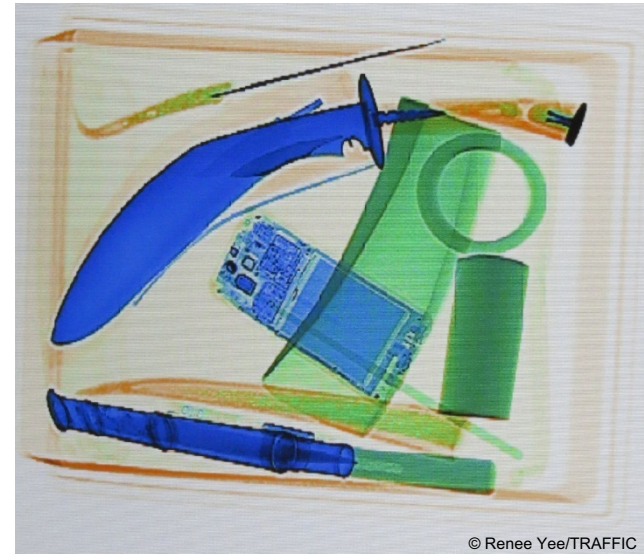
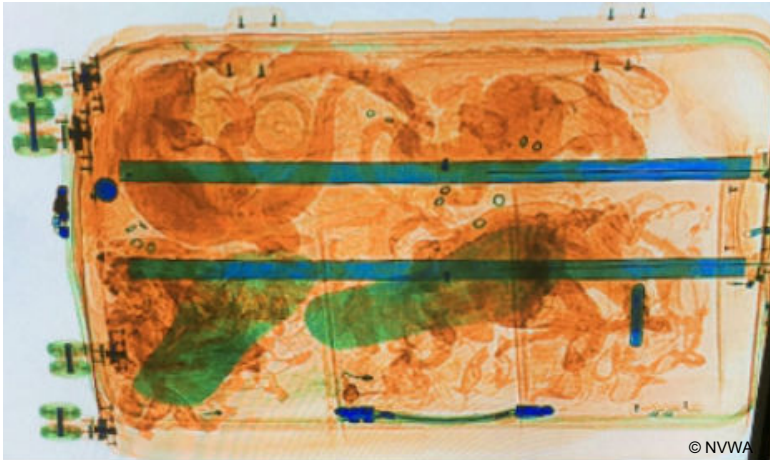
Why Wildlife Traffickers use Airlines



- Fast
- Convenient
- Cheap
- Small chance of getting caught
- Corruption



Wildlife Smuggling by Air



Wildlife Smuggling by Air

Passenger airlines

- Small shipments
- High value
- Live animals
- Light products
- In carry-on/check-in baggage
- On passengers.



Air cargo carriers & couriers

- Larger shipments
- Live animals, parts & products



Wildlife Smuggling by Air

Products and Parts



Live animals



Live Animal Transport – IATA



**The transport of live animals
by air must comply with the
International Air Transport
Association's
Live Animals Regulations**



main
concept



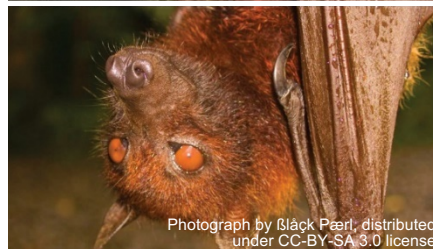
Reducing Opportunities for Unlawful Transport of Endangered Species

High Risk

DISEASE

Primates

(apes and monkeys)



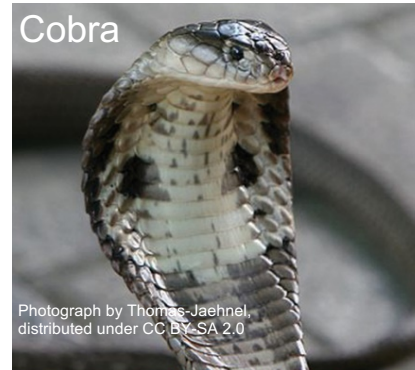
Carnivores

(civets and cats)

Birds

Bats

POISON / DANGER



Identifying Traffickers



Detect Wildlife Trafficking



Detect



Protect



Respond



Report



Identifying Traffickers Overview

- How wildlife is smuggled
- Identifying wildlife traffickers
- What to look for



Wildlife traffickers move wildlife by air in four main ways:

- Hidden on their body
- In personal baggage (check-in or carry-on)
- Air cargo
- By post or courier



Here are some examples...



Wildlife Smuggling – On the person



© UK Border Agency CITES team

© Australian Customs Service

© Hong Kong Customs



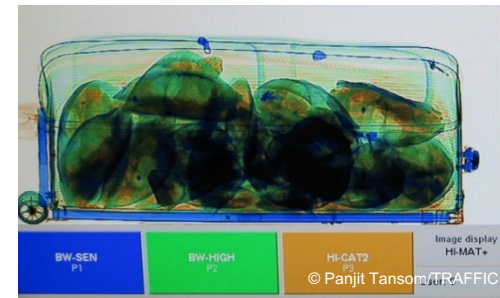
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Wildlife Smuggling – In baggage

Carry-on



Check-in



Wildlife Smuggling

Cargo



Post or Courier



Wildlife Smuggling

Disguised



Case study – On the person

- **Peru to Mexico City**
- 18 titi monkeys (put into socks) hidden under passenger's clothing
- Suspect was behaving nervously and had a mysterious bulge under his clothes



Case study – Check-in baggage

- **Detroit, U.S.A. to Shanghai, China**
- Over 1000 live turtles in passenger baggage
- Animals hidden in cereal boxes and rubber boots



U.S. Attorney's Office



Case study – Baggage

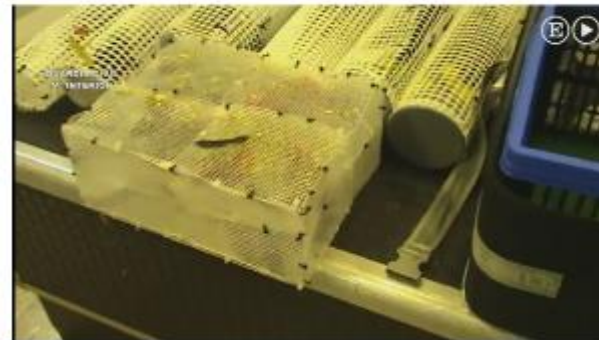
- **Mexico to Spain**
- 120 birds smuggled in four suitcases
- Suspects had been travelling between Mexico and Spain regularly

Illegal traffic of species: 120 birds hidden in four suitcases

The Civil Guard stops in Barajas two people for trying to introduce birds from Mexico. Almost half of the animals died asphyxiated in the trip



MANUEL PLARILLAS 
Madrid · 12/27/2017 · 11:29 CET



Case study – Baggage

- **Viet Nam to Los Angeles, U.S.A.**
- 93 birds found in passenger baggage
- Most of the birds died



U.S. Customs and Border Protection



U.S. Attorney's Office



WHAT YOU CAN LOOK OUT FOR



Trail of the Trafficker

PASSENGER
START
of the journey



Passenger check in

Passenger transit

Security check

Hand luggage
check & scan

Passenger scan

CARGO
START
of the journey



Ground staff baggage
control

Luggage scanned

Cargo in transit

Ground crew load
luggage

Passengers and
cargo on board

Flight en route

END
Passenger is
arrested and
sent to jail.
Cargo is
confiscated



Luggage scanned

Cargo arrives at
destination airport



Customs find passenger in possession
of illegal items. Customs find cargo with
smuggled wildlife products

Passport control

Passenger arrives at
destination airport



What you can look out for



Check-in

- Unusual route and connections
- baggage smells unusual



Security

- Clothes too big
- Wrong clothes for climate
- Multiple connection boarding passes



What you can look out for



Scanner

- Unusual smell or movement
- Contents not as expected
- Scan shows organic items or ivory



Immigration

- Abnormal travel
- Nervous passenger



What you can look out for



Cargo Handler

- Origin doesn't match declared contents
- Air holes where none needed



Ground Staff

- baggage/cargo moving
- baggage/cargo smells
- baggage/cargo makes noise
- Unusual/multiple connection tags



What you can look out for



Cabin Crew

Passengers who:

- Don't eat or move
- Are very nervous
- Smell unusual
- Wear baggy clothing



Customs

- Tip offs
- Known trafficking routes
- Frequent checks
- Passengers and small bags that might conceal wildlife

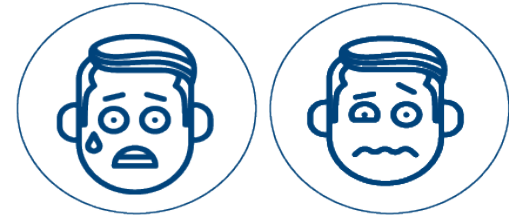


Remember!



Inappropriate Clothing

- Wrong clothes for climate
- Baggy clothing
- Clothes don't match occupation



Involuntary Responses

- Sweating, dilated pupils
- Avoids eye contact
- Nervousness
- Shaking & twitching



Remember!



Nervous Body Movements/Speech

- Adjusts clothing/jewelry
- Talks fast
- Delayed responses
- Repeats questions



Use Your Senses

- Unusual smells
- Animal sounds/noises
- Moving clothing



WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?



ROUTES video



How Aviation Staff Can Help Stop
the Illegal Wildlife Trade



PLAY

Minimize your risk

- Risks of handling wildlife
- Minimize risks to protect yourself and others
- Reporting wildlife crime
- Tip offs work!



Don't handle smuggled wildlife



© Australian Customs Service



© TRAFFIC



© Adrian Pingstone/Commons Wikimedia



Protect yourself



- Rabies
- Ebola
- SARS
- MERS
- Tuberculosis
- Anthrax
- Plague
- Salmonellosis

- Lyme disease
- Monkeypox
- Hantavirus
- West Nile Virus
- Tularemia
- Avian influenza
- Brucellosis



Goggles



Mask



Rubber boots



Gloves



Support prosecution

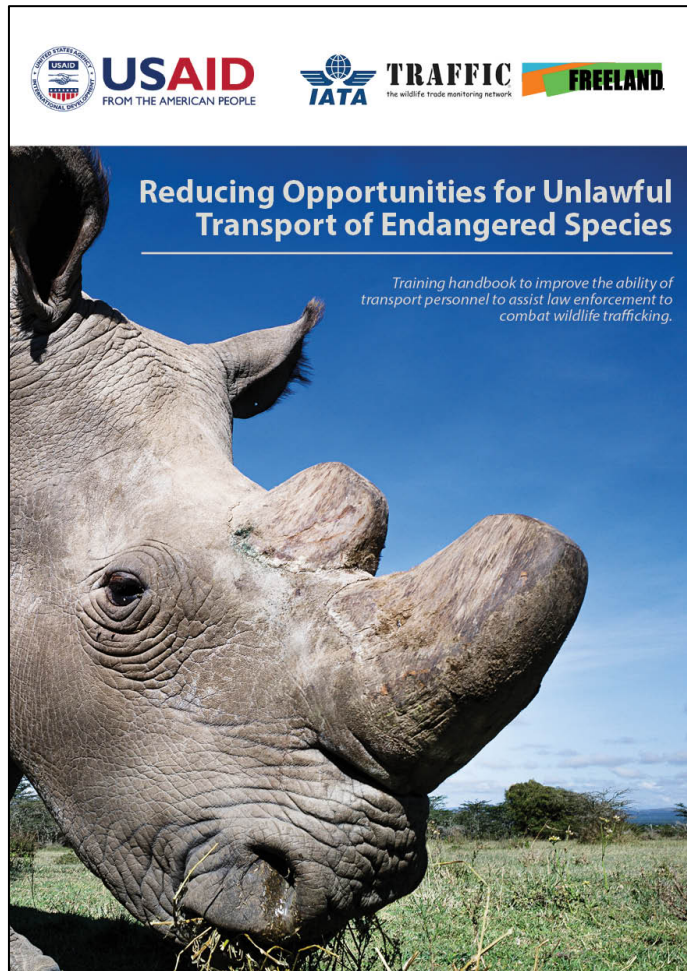
Protect items which could be used to help investigations and prosecutions:

- Don't let unauthorized personnel remove any items (e.g. baggage tags, documentation etc.).
- Give any photos to the authorities to help their investigation.
- Wear gloves if you are involved in the investigation.

If you are unsure, seek advice.



Report Wildlife Crime



Insert appropriate contact number/s
here



YOUR LOCAL CONTACTS

- Customs
- Airport
- Police
- Wildlife Department
- Animal Quarantine
- Airport Security
- Etc.



Tip offs do work

Record Seizure 18 rhino horns



The screenshot shows a news article on the Physics.org website. The article title is "S.Africa arrests two Vietnamese with record 41kg of rhino horns" dated November 1, 2014. Below the title is a photograph of 18 rhino horns arranged on a tiled floor. To the left of the photo are social media sharing buttons for Facebook, Google+, Twitter, and Reddit. Below the photo is a caption: "A cache of 41kg of smuggled rhino horns is seen at O.R. Tambo Airport in Johannesburg after it was confiscated from two Vietnamese passengers on a flight to Hanoi from Mozambique." At the bottom of the article, a sub-headline reads: "Two Vietnamese men were arrested at Johannesburg airport with a record haul of 18 rhino horns, weighing 41 kilos (90".

South African authorities stop plane
after tip off from airport staff

Notorious smuggler 14 Peregrine Falcon eggs



Suspicious passenger activity led to
tip off at Birmingham Airport, UK





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THANK YOU

<https://routespartnership.org>



Reducing Opportunities for Unlawful Transport of Endangered Species

Report Wildlife Crime

**Insert appropriate contact number/s
here**

YOUR LOCAL CONTACTS

- Customs
- Airport
- Police
- Wildlife Department
- Animal Quarantine
- Airport Security
- Etc.



Additional Slides



Mexico to Florida and Hong Kong



Venezuela to China



Case study – Baggage

- **Viet Nam to Houston, U.S.A.**
- 55 seahorses in a bottle, submerged in liquid
- Hidden in passenger baggage

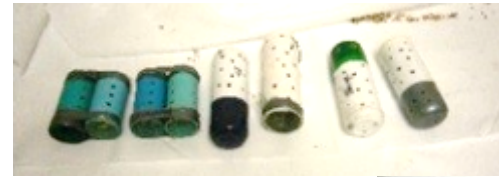


U.S. Customs and Border Protection



Case study – On the person

- **Havana, Cuba to Miami, U.S.A.**
- 9 live birds found on a passenger
- 6 found in a fanny pack and three hidden in his underwear



Customs and Border Patrol, USA



Case study – Baggage

- **Dominican Republic to Switzerland**
- 261 Mexican Red-kneed Tarantulas in baggage
- The spiders were packed in individual plastic bags



The screenshot shows a news article on the MailOnline website. The article title is "Creepy cargo: Plane passenger found with dozens of TARANTULAS hidden in luggage". The byline is "By DAILY MAIL REPORTER" and it is dated "UPDATED: 15:46 GMT, 15 February 2012". The article text states: "A plane passenger with dozens of tarantula spiders hidden in his luggage was arrested as he tried to smuggle the creepy-creepy critters past customs officials in Zurich Airport, Switzerland. The man - who has not been named - had stashed the spiders in six boxes hidden in a suitcase he'd taken on a flight from the Dominican Republic in the Caribbean. The specimens - all endangered Mexican red-kneed tarantulas - are understood to have died of cold during the flight." Below the text is a photograph showing several small plastic bags, each containing a tarantula spider. A caption below the photo reads: "In flight service: Some of the Mexican Tarantulas that were discovered by customs in Zurich, Switzerland". The website header includes "MailOnline News" and various navigation links like "Home", "News", "U.S.", "Sport", etc.



Case study – Hand-carry baggage

- Honduras to U.S.A.
- Corals, conch shells, sponges and other marine organisms in shopping bags (as carry on)



The screenshot shows a news article from 'VOICE Bay Islands'. The article is titled 'Coral Confiscated at Roatan Airport' and is dated June 23rd, 2014. The sub-headline reads 'Tourist was Returning to US with Marine Organisms Protected by CITES'. The article text states that airport security inspectors confiscated several shopping bags full of coral, conch shells, sponges, and other marine organisms from a tourist returning from Roatan to the US. A photo shows a collection of these prohibited items. The article also includes a quote from Giacomo Palavicini, executive director of the Roatan Marine Park, explaining that the items were seized because the tourist tried to carry them on board and stow them in the overhead bin.

VOICE
Bay Islands

Feature | Roatan | Utila | Guanaja | Ecology | People | Interview | Business | Sports | Español | C

Coral Confiscated at Roatan Airport

Tourist was Returning to US with Marine Organisms Protected by CITES
June 23rd, 2014
by -



Airport security inspectors confiscated several shopping bags full of coral, conch shells, sponges and other marine organisms in late May from a tourist returning from Roatan to the US, according to Giacomo Palavicini, executive director of the Roatan Marine Park.

"If he would have put it in the luggage under the plane, he might have taken it away," said Palavicini. The items were seized only because he tried to carry them on board and stow them in the overhead bin. The security staff detected them as part of normal pre-boarding inspection.

Palavicini said such contraband was seized at the airport "pretty much every week," but this seizure was unusually

Prohibited items confiscated from departing tourists at Roatan airport in late May. (photo courtesy Roatan Marine Park)



Case study – Hand-carry baggage

- **Costa Rica to Panama**
- 9 snakes, 84 frogs, 42 lizards and 203 tadpoles stuffed into plastic takeout containers inside baggage

The Telegraph

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German man caught trying to smuggle 170 animals in a suitcase

Costa Rica police stop suspect as he tries to depart with frogs, snakes and lizards in his bags



Plastic boxes and bags with animals seized from a German citizen arrested for smuggling in San Jose, Costa Rica. Photo: EPA

