



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

**TRAFFIC**  
the wildlife trade monitoring network



# ROUTES

## Reducing Opportunities for Unlawful Transport of Endangered Species

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Awareness for Passenger Screeners

Airline/Airport name here

Location and date of training here

© Erico Hiller



# Role-specific Awareness for Passenger Screeners

**The role of a baggage or cargo screener is to identify and detect weapons, explosives or other dangerous devices, articles or substances which may be used to commit an act of unlawful interference.**

**However, screening for such items may also lead to the detection of other illegal activities such as wildlife trafficking**





**C4ADS**  
innovation for peace



**TRAFFIC**  
the wildlife trade monitoring network



# ROUTES

## Reducing Opportunities for the Unlawful Transport of Endangered Species

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The **USAID** ROUTES Partnership aims to disrupt wildlife trafficking by reducing the use of legal transportation supply chains.

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



# **Role-specific Awareness for *Passenger Screening Staff***

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## **Section 1: Wildlife Trade and Trafficking**

**Introduction to wildlife trade and trafficking**



# ROUTES video



How Aviation Staff Can Help Stop  
the Illegal Wildlife Trade



Reducing Opportunities for Unlawful Transport of Endangered Species

PLAY

# Why is wildlife traded?

Timber Trade



Food



Traditional Medicine



Pet Trade



Zoos & Collectors



Trophies, decorations



# Legal and **illegal** trade

Much of the trade in wildlife is legal, but a significant proportion is not.

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Illegal wildlife trade is one of the  
**TOP 4 CRIMINAL MARKETS**

1. Illicit Drugs: \$354 billion/year

2. Counterfeit Goods: \$250 billion/year

3. Human Trafficking: \$32 billion/year

4. Illegal Wildlife (incl. timber and fish): \$26 billion/year

Source: Transnational Crime in the Developing World. 2011. Global Financial Integrity



# Laws and regulations

## National laws

All countries have laws to protect some wild animals and plants.

## International regulations

Convention on  
International Trade in  
Endangered Species of  
Wild Fauna and Flora



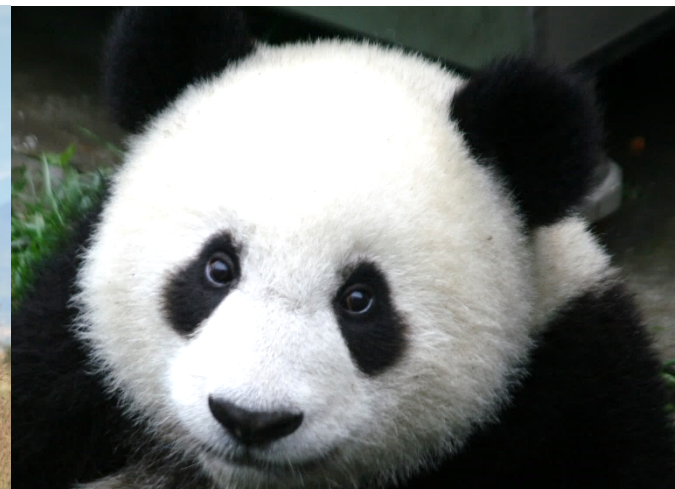
Agreement between more  
than 180 governments



Photograph by Rob from Cambridge, MA, distributed under a CC-BY-2.0 license



Photograph by Muhammad Mahdi Karim, distributed under a GNU Free Documentation License, Version 1.2



© Wikipedia/SheilaLau







**1 rhino killed  
every 7 hours**

Photograph by Heather Lang



**55 ELEPHANTS  
KILLED  
EVERY DAY**

**20 000  
A YEAR**

Photograph by Geir Kiste, distributed under a CC-BY-SA 3.0 license



Reducing Opportunities for Unlawful Transport of Endangered Species

C0P17 Doc 68, Annex 5 (IUCN SSC)

# Critically endangered

**Spix's  
Macaw**



**Ploughshare  
Tortoise**



**Sunda  
Pangolin**



**Clifton's  
Anguloa**



Just a few of the many species which are threatened by wildlife trafficking



# ILLEGAL WILDLIFE TRADE CAN ALSO LEAD TO

**Threats to National Security  
and Stability**

**Loss of Tourism and Income**

**Risks to the Environmental &  
Global Health**

**Support for corruption and  
organized crime**

**Undeclared Revenue and  
Taxes with loss of money for  
governments**



# Potential risks to aviation from wildlife trafficking



## Reputation

Media reports may give airline name, flight number or suggest staff involvement



## Legal

Risk of prosecution for failing to ensure baggage and cargo is legal



## Economic

Increased scrutiny leads to lost business, possible cost of repatriation

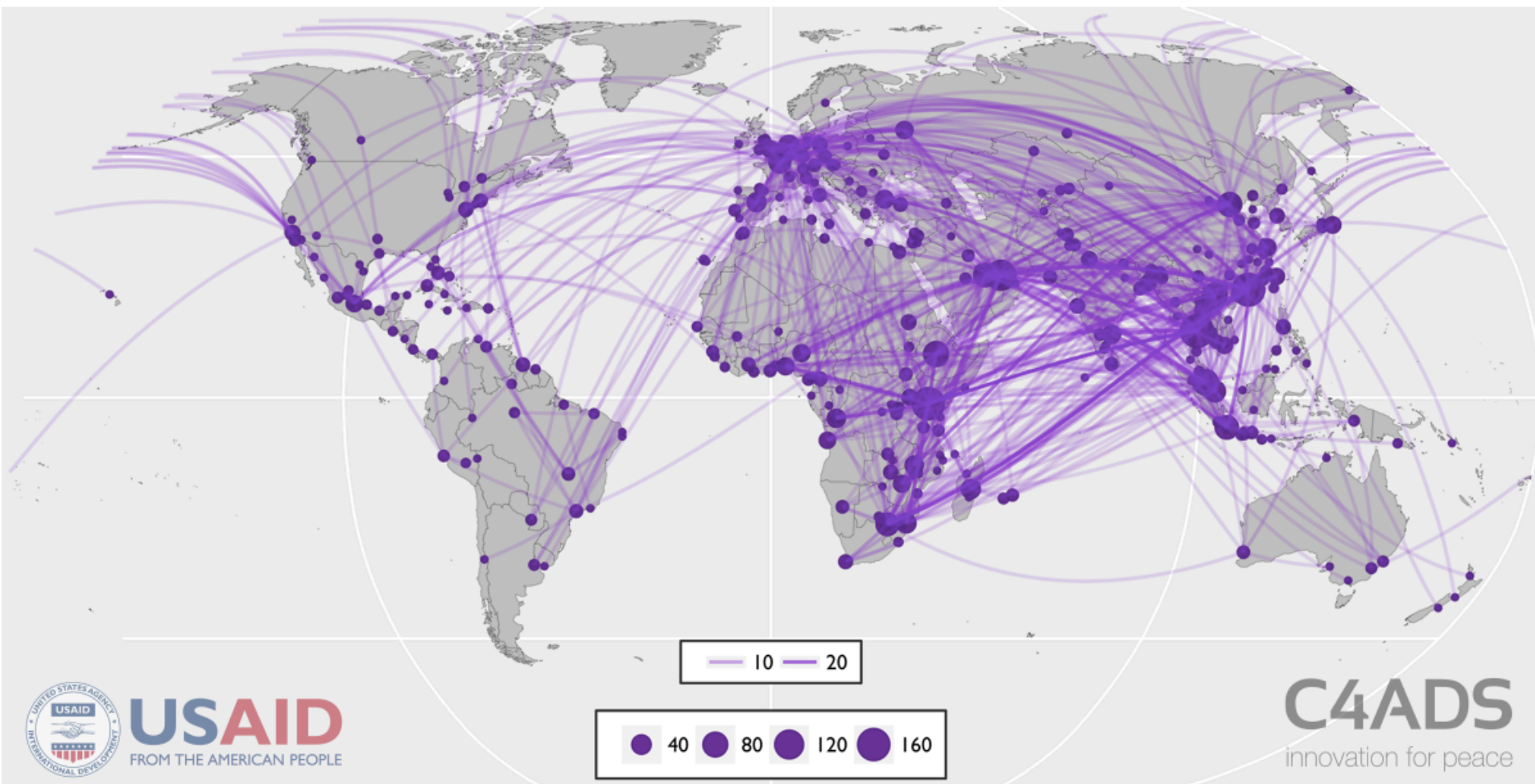


## Safety

Risk of injury and spread of disease from smuggled wildlife



# 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.



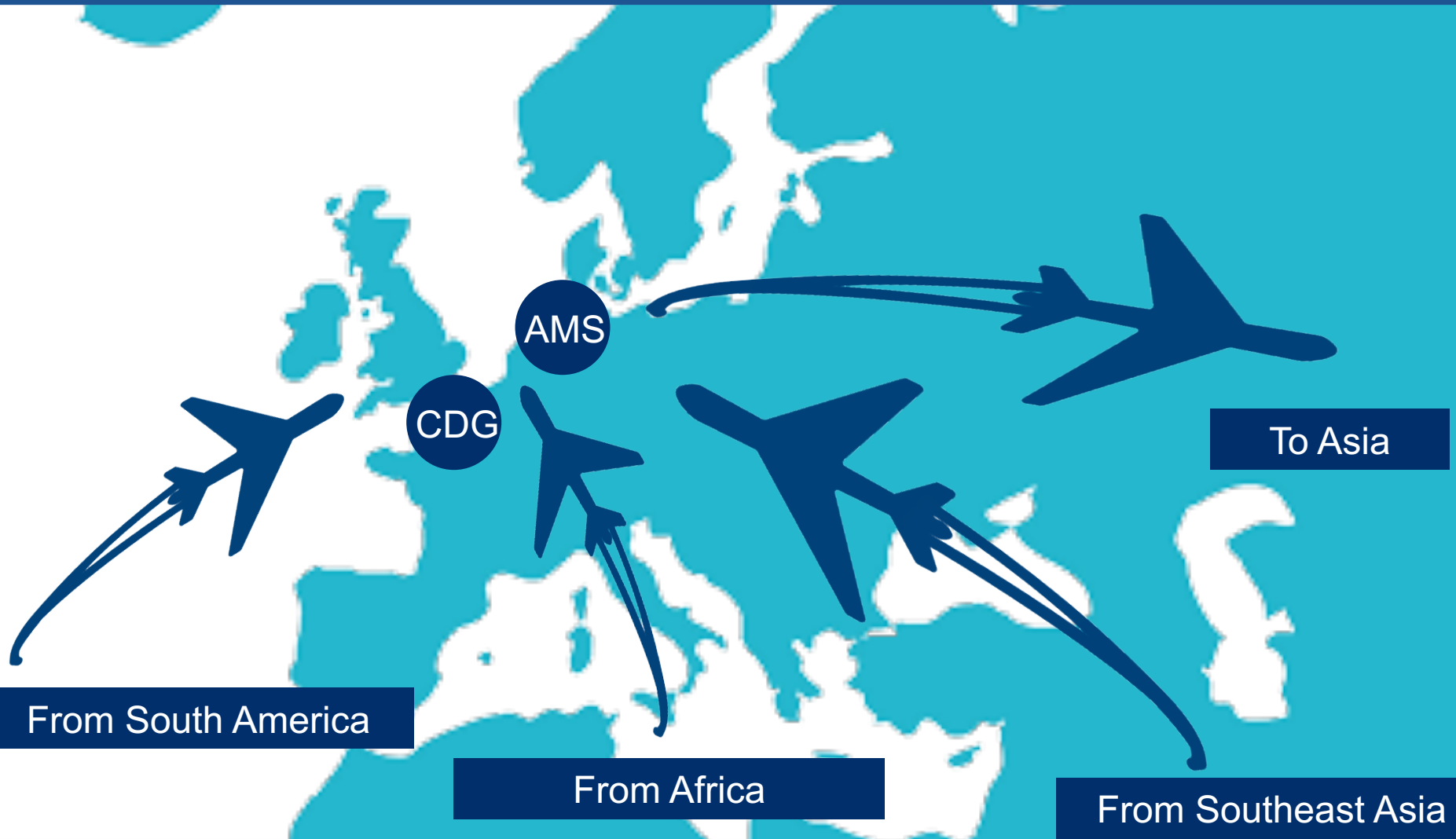
# Global hotspots



# Common routes – Africa to Asia



# Common routes – Europe





# Common routes – Asia Pacific



# Common routes – The Americas



# Key ways wildlife is trafficked by air:

## Hidden on body



© Australian Customs Service

## In baggage



© Wildlife Checkpoint Suvarnabhumi Airport

## Cargo



© TRAFFIC

## By post/courier



© The Star, Malaysia



# 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



Luggage scanned

Cargo arrives at  
destination airport

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



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

Passport control

Passenger arrives at  
destination airport



# **Role-specific Awareness for *Passenger Screening Staff***

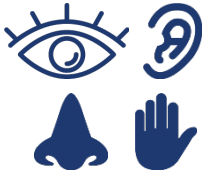
## **Section 2: Indicators of Wildlife Trafficking**

### **What you might see**

**Note: The role of a passenger screener is to identify and detect weapons, explosives or other dangerous devices, articles or substances which may be used to commit an act of unlawful interference. However, screening for such items may also lead you to the detection of other illegal activities such as wildlife trafficking.**



# Indicators of wildlife trafficking



- Odd smells / sounds/ movement in baggage or under clothing)

- Clothes too big and bulky, wrong clothes for climate



- Nervous body movements/speech and involuntary responses



- Unusual route and multiple connections



- Scan shows organic items as well as suspicious shapes/items which could be illegal wildlife



# Wildlife smuggling by passengers

There are two key ways passengers smuggle wildlife and wildlife products on board aircraft:

- Hidden on their body
- In carry-on baggage



# Wildlife smuggling – Hidden on the body



© UK Border Agency CITES team



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# Wildlife smuggling – Hidden on the body



© Hong Kong Customs



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# Wildlife smuggling – In carry-on baggage (X-ray)



© Wildlife Checkpoint Suvarnabhumi Airport



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# See, hear, smell, feel

## See



© flickr account 'flaunted'

## Hear

Splashing water alerts staff to woman smuggling fish under her skirt



© Australian Customs Service

## Smell

Foul smell reveals dead reptiles



© Miona Janeke

## Feel



© Customs & Border Patrol, U.S.A.



# **Role-specific Awareness for *Passenger Screening Staff***

## **Section 3: What you should do**

**What action should you take?**

**Note: The role of a passenger screener is to identify and detect weapons, explosives or other dangerous devices, articles or substances which may be used to commit an act of unlawful interference. However, screening for such items may also lead you to the detection of other illegal activities such as wildlife trafficking**



# 1<sup>st</sup> Response

- Report to the police and/or the regulatory authority via your local reporting procedures
- Do not take unnecessary risks
- Do not handle any wildlife unless necessary or safe to do so (use protective equipment)

## **If you find live animals:**

- If already contained - leave until experts arrive
- If not contained
  - Lock in a room or container if possible
  - Observe and do not let anyone access the area



# 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



# Don't handle smuggled wildlife



© Australian Customs Service

Report and wait for the experts!



© TRAFFIC



© Adrian Pingstone/Commons Wikimedia



# Report wildlife crime

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REPORT suspected wildlife trafficking to the police and/or the regulatory authority **via your locally approved reporting procedure..**

**Insert appropriate contact number/s here**





## Record seizure 18 rhino horns



The image is a screenshot of a news article on the Phys.org website. The article title is "S.Africa arrests two Vietnamese with record 41kg of rhino horns" and is dated November 1, 2014. The main image shows a collection of 18 rhino horns of various sizes and shapes, some with small tags attached, arranged on a tiled floor. To the left of the image are social media sharing buttons for Facebook (231 likes), Google+, Twitter, and Reddit. Below the image, a caption reads: "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 states: "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



# Corruption enables wildlife trafficking



Follow your company's standard reporting procedures/whistle blowing policy to report your suspicions.



For further information:

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<https://routespartnership.org>



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# THANK YOU



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