



KAYLEIGH GHIOT / FREELAND

# COUNTER WILDLIFE TRAFFICKING INITIATIVES REFERENCE GUIDE: CAMBODIA, CHINA, LAOS, THAILAND AND VIETNAM

## CONTENTS

ABBREVIATIONS	1
INTRODUCTION	3
METHODOLOGY	5
ABOUT THE AUTHOR	6
CAMBODIA	7
1. SUMMARY OF THE INITIATIVES IN CAMBODIA	7
2. CAMBODIA LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT (LANDSCAPE LEVEL)	8
3. CAMBODIA LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT (NATIONAL LEVEL)	8
4. CAMBODIA POLITICAL COMMITMENT BUILDING	14
5. CAMBODIA PRIVATE SECTOR COMMITMENT BUILDING	16
6. CAMBODIA CONSUMER DEMAND REDUCTION	17
CHINA	19
1. SUMMARY OF INITIATIVES IN CHINA	19
2. CHINA LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT (LANDSCAPE LEVEL)	20
3. CHINA LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT (NATIONAL LEVEL)	20
4. CHINA POLITICAL COMMITMENT BUILDING	25
5. CHINA PRIVATE SECTOR COMMITMENT BUILDING	26
6. CHINA CONSUMER DEMAND REDUCTION	27
LAOS	31
1. SUMMARY OF INITIATIVES IN LAOS	31
2. LAOS LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT (LANDSCAPE LEVEL)	32
3. LAOS LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT (NATIONAL LEVEL)	33
4. LAOS POLITICAL COMMITMENT BUILDING	40
5. LAOS PRIVATE SECTOR COMMITMENT BUILDING	43
6. CONSUMER DEMAND REDUCTION	44
THAILAND	46
1. SUMMARY OF INITIATIVES IN THAILAND	46
2. THAILAND LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT (LANDSCAPE LEVEL)	47
3. THAILAND LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT (NATIONAL LEVEL)	49
4. THAILAND POLITICAL COMMITMENT BUILDING	57
5. THAILAND PRIVATE SECTOR COMMITMENT BUILDING	59
6. THAILAND CONSUMER DEMAND REDUCTION	60
VIETNAM	63
1. SUMMARY OF INITIATIVES IN VIETNAM	63
2. VIETNAM LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT (LANDSCAPE LEVEL)	64
3. VIETNAM LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT (NATIONAL LEVEL)	65
4. VIETNAM POLITICAL COMMITMENT BUILDING	74
5. VIETNAM PRIVATE SECTOR COMMITMENT BUILDING	77
6. VIETNAM CONSUMER DEMAND REDUCTION	78

## ABBREVIATIONS

<b>AIPA</b>	ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly
<b>ASEAN</b>	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
<b>ASEAN-WEN</b>	Association of Southeast Asian Nations - Wildlife Enforcement Network
<b>BR</b>	Biosphere Reserve
<b>CCTV</b>	China Central Television
<b>CITES</b>	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
<b>CTOC</b>	Counter-Transnational Organized Crime
<b>CWT</b>	Combating Wildlife Trafficking/ Counter Wildlife Trafficking
<b>DEFRA</b>	Department for Environment, Food, and Rural Affairs, United Kingdom
<b>DETECT</b>	Detection of Environmental Crime Training
<b>DHSI</b>	Department of Homeland Security Intelligence, USA
<b>DNP</b>	Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation, Thailand
<b>DoFI</b>	Department of Forest Inspection, Laos
<b>EIA</b>	Environmental Investigation Agency, UK
<b>ENV</b>	Education for Nature Vietnam
<b>FIST</b>	Field Information Support Tool
<b>HSI</b>	Humane Society International
<b>ICCF</b>	International Conservation Caucus Foundation
<b>ICWC</b>	International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime
<b>IFAW</b>	International Fund for Animal Welfare
<b>IGO</b>	International Governmental Organization
<b>INL</b>	US Department of State Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs
<b>INTERPOL</b>	International Criminal Police Organization
<b>IRG</b>	International Resources Group
<b>IST</b>	Investigative Support Team
<b>IUCN</b>	International Union for Conservation of Nature
<b>KOL</b>	Key Opinion Leader
<b>MONRE</b>	Vietnam Ministry of National Resources and Environment
<b>NCB</b>	National Central Bureau
<b>NESS</b>	National Environmental Security Seminars
<b>NEST</b>	National Environmental Security Taskforce
<b>NGO</b>	Non-Governmental Organization
<b>NICE-CG</b>	National Inter-agency CITES Enforcement Coordination Group
<b>NPA</b>	National Protected Area
<b>OJT</b>	On-the-Job Training
<b>PICE-CG</b>	Provincial Interagency CITES Coordination Group
<b>PROTECT</b>	Protected-area Operational and Tactical Enforcement Conservation Training
<b>UfW</b>	United for Wildlife
<b>UNEP</b>	United Nations Environment Programme
<b>UNDP</b>	United Nations Development Programme
<b>UNODC</b>	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
<b>UN-REDD</b>	United Nations Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation
<b>USAID</b>	United States Agency for International Development
<b>US DEA</b>	United States Drug Enforcement Agency
<b>USG</b>	US Government
<b>US FWS</b>	United States Fish and Wildlife Service

<b>RIACM</b>	Regional Investigative and Analytical Case Meeting
<b>ROUTES</b>	Reducing Opportunities for Unlawful Transport of Endangered Species
<b>SBCC</b>	Social and Behavior Change Communication
<b>SIG</b>	Special Investigation Group
<b>SOMTC</b>	ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime
<b>SOP</b>	Standard Operating Procedure
<b>VN CITES MA</b>	Vietnam CITES Management Authority
<b>WCS</b>	Wildlife Conservations Society
<b>WCU</b>	Wildlife Crime Unit
<b>Wildlife TRAPS</b>	Wildlife Trafficking, Response, Assessment, and Priority Setting
<b>WIRE</b>	Wildlife Inter-Regional Enforcement Meetings
<b>WLFC</b>	UNODC's Global Programme on Wildlife and Forest Crime
<b>WWF</b>	World Wildlife Fund





KAYLEIGH GHIOT / FREELAND

## INTRODUCTION

Currently there are a large number of initiatives to counter wildlife trafficking occurring in South East Asia conducted by a variety of organizations and government actors. Many of these actions can occur in a degree of isolation to other similar initiatives due to a lack of coordination between the implementers, either within a specific country, or within the region. In advance of the Innovations in Counter Wildlife Trafficking Conference, held in Bangkok in March 2017, USAID Wildlife Asia engaged a consultant<sup>1</sup> with the intent of providing USAID Wildlife Asia, and conference participants, with a comprehensive understanding of all significant initiatives occurring in the region, to include identification of synergies (value added partnerships) and/or overlap within individual countries or within the region.

During a three-month period between February and May 2017, the consultant compiled a detailed report of all initiatives by governments, bilateral organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and private entities that address wildlife trafficking in Cambodia, China, Laos, Thailand, and Vietnam, for which information was made available. This report provides a complete index of initiatives being conducted in the countries listed above, with full details as to the scope, scale and duration of each initiative, with a core focus on mapping current or potential overlap and duplication.

The result is intended as a rapid reference guide to all significant initiatives in the countries listed above to assist in identifying synergies (value added partnerships) or overlap between projects within

---

<sup>1</sup> Consultancy provided by Christian Dietrich.

individual countries, or within the region. It will also effectively identify gaps in existing responses to wildlife trafficking to facilitate targeted measures to address these. In addition, the report, where possible, will identify key donors to the initiatives listed above in order to enable greater coordination, including in the pursuit of public-private partnerships.



KAYLEIGH GHIOT / FREELAND

## METHODOLOGY

This report provides a reference guide of initiatives to counter wildlife trafficking in Cambodia, China, Laos, Thailand, and Vietnam, and was contracted by International Resources Group (IRG), now owned by RTI International, on behalf of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Wildlife Asia Activity. This report was compiled during a three-month period between February and May 2017.

The author conducted desk-based research, followed by telephone/ skype interviews with inter-governmental organizations (IGOs) and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) who were invited to the USAID Wildlife Asia Innovations conference from March 14-15, 2017 in Bangkok, Thailand. The author also participated in the conference and conducted additional meetings with organizations in attendance. Following the conference, the author provided structured interview notes and other information gathered on the selected organizations to representatives of each organization individually to request their comments and feedback. This was done to ensure that information contained in this report was verified or edited by the organizations concerned, and prior to sharing with any other organization. Following consensus that the findings of this report would be made available to all participating organizations, and that the initiatives reference guide would be regularly updated by participating organizations in a secure online manner, the author decided that information contained in this report would represent input solely from the organizations themselves without any commentary as to the effectiveness of their initiatives and activities. As such, the author has relied entirely on the participating organizations to provide accurate information for this report. The author notes that some organizations provided value-based or subjective language to describe the achievements of their projects, or draw conclusions linking their activities with positive results, with which the author does not necessarily concur.

The author requested that the selected organizations submit one concise paragraph per initiative for each of the countries of interest to the USAID Wildlife Asia Activity – Cambodia, China, Laos, Thailand, and Vietnam. Initiatives were categorized by law enforcement support at a landscape level

(such as in a protected area or nature preserve); law enforcement support at a national level; political commitment building; private sector commitment building; and consumer demand reduction. The author notes that the USAID Wildlife Asia Activity uses the terminology “commitment building”, and the author determined that this could be primarily political commitment by host nations, though in other instances it could be commitment by donor or other nations, as well as private sector commitment building. The author also found it most effective to replicate information within each of the country sections for initiatives that may have a more regional approach. This was due to the need to provide concise and manageable information within each country section to facilitate accessibility to the reader, who may not wish to review the document in its entirety. Where projects are primarily regional in scope, or where information is referenced more than once, the author has endeavored to make this clear to the reader.

As of May 9, 2017, the report contains submissions by the following 17 organizations: Education for Nature Vietnam (ENV); Environmental Investigation Agency, UK (EIA); Freeland; Humane Society International (HSI); International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW); International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL); Panthera; TRAFFIC; United for Wildlife (UfW); United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP); United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC); USAID Wildlife Asia Activity; WildAid; Wildlife Conservations Society (WCS); World Customs Organization (WCO); and the World Wildlife Fund (WWF). The submissions of TRAFFIC and WCS covered the activities of the USAID Saving Species project in Vietnam as these two organizations are implementing partners for this project.

In addition, attempts were made to contact several relevant organizations but replies were not received by the author, or they declined to follow up with the author concerning their activities. These organizations were the Asian Development Bank; Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) Secretariat; the TRACE, the Wildlife Forensic Network; and Wildlife Alliance. Other organizations were interviewed by the author but they were not deemed to be directly involved in implementing projects in the five target countries.

All organizations provided with draft descriptions of their own initiatives to combat wildlife trafficking, and requested to provide feedback on this for the final report, were informed that the report would be shared by USAID with all participating organizations, and that the intent was to do so through a secure online format. This would enable each organization to update its activities regularly, and to view those of other IGOs and NGOs. Later versions of this reference guide will seek to include additional organizations whose initiatives are relevant to the countries and activity categories listed above.

## **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Christian Dietrich is an independent consultant, based in the United States, who has conducted similar assessments of initiatives in East Africa and Southeast Asia on combating ivory trafficking, with a specific focus on methods to support government law enforcement agencies for a major private philanthropy. Mr. Dietrich is a technical advisor to the United for Wildlife Transportation Taskforce established by the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and Prince Harry. Previously, Mr. Dietrich has also served as a criminal intelligence officer with the INTERPOL Environmental Security Sub-directorate based in Nairobi.





MOLLY FERRILL / FREELAND

## CAMBODIA

### I. SUMMARY OF THE INITIATIVES IN CAMBODIA

SUMMARY OF INITIATIVES IN CAMBODIA					
ORGANIZATION	LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT (LANDSCAPE LEVEL)	LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT (NATIONAL LEVEL)	POLITICAL COMMITMENT BUILDING	PRIVATE SECTOR COMMITMENT BUILDING	CONSUMER DEMAND REDUCTION
EIA		X			
Freeland	X	X	X		
INTERPOL		X	X		
Panthera	X				
TRAFFIC		X	X	X	X
UfW		X		X	X
UNDP	X	X	X		
UNEP		X	X		
UNODC		X	X		
USAID Wildlife Asia		X	X		X
WCS	X	X	X		
WCO		X			

Note: An "X" denotes an initiative by the organization in the above listed types of engagement.

## **2. CAMBODIA LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT (LANDSCAPE LEVEL)**

### **FREELAND**

Freeland provides capacity building to rangers, protected area managers, border security, and military through the Protected-area Operational and Tactical Enforcement Conservation Training (PROTECT) program that combines assessments, strategy design, and training to implement counter-poaching and counter-illegal logging strategies. This program has training courses for front-line rangers right up to protected area managers, is tailored to each audience and their threats, and has a mentoring element that Freeland refers to as On-the-Job Training (OJT). The OJTs can include digital forensics training and analytical support. PROTECT has been accredited by the American Council on Education. Freeland also developed Field Information Support Tool (FIST-PROTECT) with Kestrel Technologies to help rangers and their supervisors track, prevent and record poaching through phones or other hand-held devices that link up to satellites. FIST allows information, orders and requests to be transmitted between the field and command centers in real time through an analytical hub that provides user-friendly and useful analysis.

Freeland developed WildScan, a mobile phone application to facilitate species identification. For Cambodia, it is produced in Khmer, covering Cambodia-based species and is free for the government and public to download and use to record and report sightings of wildlife or wildlife crime.

### **PANTHERA**

Panthera is surveying Indochinese leopards in two protected areas within the Eastern Plains Landscape in eastern Cambodia. The organization collaborates with WWF Cambodia and the Ministry of Environment to identify areas of high illegal human activity, based on the camera trap data and human sign encountered. Panthera provides input and advice for law enforcement activities, and assists rangers with establishing check-points within the protected areas.

### **UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP)**

UNDP is developing a GEF-financed regional project across tiger range states titled “South-South Cooperation for Sustainability of the Global Tiger Recovery Programme” that will be implemented with the Global Tiger Forum. See section below on national level law enforcement support for details.

### **WILDLIFE CONSERVATION SOCIETY (WCS)**

WCS works in the four main landscapes in Cambodia, supporting protected area management and law enforcement teams including anti-poaching and Counter Wildlife Trafficking (CWT) activities. WCS Cambodia has also established conservation incentive schemes which prohibit hunting by participating community members. WCS has conducted wildlife trade surveys in three of these landscapes to inform the organization’s anti-poaching and CWT strategies.

## **3. CAMBODIA LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT (NATIONAL LEVEL)**

### **ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATION AGENCY (EIA), UK**

EIA is producing a field guide for law enforcement officers on the Asian big cat trade in partnership with CITES. This guide will assist front line officers in identifying products made or derived from these species and understand the methods of operation of the criminal networks involved in such

trade. The guide will be distributed by the CITES Secretariat to all CITES Parties including to the CITES authorities in Cambodia, China, Laos, Thailand, and Vietnam.

EIA is finalizing a short film and 17 modules to be used for wildlife law enforcement training. This project has been formally endorsed by the CITES Secretariat, INTERPOL, WCO and several governments. Relevant enforcement agencies in Hong Kong, Thailand and Vietnam have participated in the film. The modules cover different areas such as crime scene management, controlled deliveries, DNA analysis of ivory, financial investigations and best practice for successful prosecutions. The film and the modules will be distributed physically through USB sticks/DVDs and via a password-protected secure website. This will be distributed widely to various national government agencies, including in Cambodia, China, Laos, Thailand, and Vietnam.

### **FREELAND**

Freeland provides national and regional level capacity building to polices, customs, financial intelligence units, and prosecutors, through its Detection of Environmental Crime Training (DETECT) and LEGAL programs that combine assessments, strategy design, and training to implement strategies. Each of the programs outlined below is tailored to each audience and their threats, and has a mentoring element that Freeland refers to as On-the-Job Training (OJT). The OJTs can include digital forensics training and analytical support. The LEGAL program is for prosecutors and judiciary, while the DETECT program is for counter-trafficking and is designed mainly for police, customs, financial intelligence units, and prosecutors, and includes basic and advanced courses. DETECT cross-border courses led to the formation of the ASEAN-WEN “SIG” (Special Investigation Group). Recently, Freeland produced a highly-advanced course under DETECT named “Counter-Transnational Organized Crime” (CTOC), which empowers officers to identify and disrupt illicit supply chains involved in wildlife trafficking and other forms of transnational crime.

Freeland runs a project titled “Trafficking Free Enterprises” that includes training programs for airport-based personnel; bank compliance officers; and hospitality staff. These “eyes and ears” awareness trainings are half day and have been held in Cambodia, China, Thailand, Vietnam, as well as two African countries.

Freeland developed WildScan, a mobile phone application to facilitate species identification – see above section on landscape level law enforcement support for additional details.

### **INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL POLICE ORGANIZATION (INTERPOL)**

INTERPOL assists its 190 Member Countries, which include Cambodia, China, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam share criminal intelligence, including for issues of environmental crime, through National Central Bureaus (NCBs) in each country. INTERPOL can, upon the request of member countries, deploy an Investigative Support Team (IST) pertaining to investigative pursuits. INTERPOL’s Environmental Security Sub-Directorate provides analysis of information submitted by member countries covering investigations of major cases, including both domestic transnational cases.

INTERPOL hosts Regional Investigative and Analytical Case Meetings (RIACMs) to bring two or more countries together to exchange information and work together on specific investigations. In the first half of 2017, INTERPOL is planning three RIACMs that involve the countries of the region:

- Yangon – March 2017 – China
- Singapore – May 2017 – Cambodia, Vietnam
- Singapore – May 2017 – Thailand

Other RIACMs are planned for later in the year. The dates and venues are yet to be confirmed. Cambodia, China, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam will be invited based on the investigation covered by the meeting.

INTERPOL hosts National Environmental Security Seminars (NESS) to encourage national multi-agency communication and cooperation on environmental crime. Member countries are then encouraged to form a National Environmental Security Taskforce (NEST). A NESS was held in March 2017 in Cambodia, and a follow up NESS is planned for the second half of 2017.

INTERPOL provides specialized training to member countries, primarily to their police services, and regularly brings together representatives from multiple countries simultaneously. The following training has been planned for the first half of 2017 (including subject, member countries invited, and venue):

- Fundamentals of Intelligence Analysis – Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam (Nairobi, April 2017); and Advanced Intelligence Analysis – Cambodia, China, Laos, Vietnam (Lyon, May 2017);
- Online trade investigation training – Cambodia, China, Laos, Thailand, Vietnam (Singapore, June 2017);
- Digital forensics: data extraction and analysis – Cambodia, China, Laos, Thailand, Vietnam (Singapore, June 2017);
- Crime Scene Investigation Training – Cambodia, China, Laos, Thailand, Vietnam (July 2017).

INTERPOL conducts annual operations targeting environmental crime. The most recent, Thunderbird, finalized in February 2017, included 43 countries. While Cambodia did not participate in Operation Thunderbird, the country actively participated in past INTERPOL Operations including Operation CONNEXUS, Operation PAWS, and Operation PREY.

## TRAFFIC

TRAFFIC has expertise and credibility in tackling wildlife trafficking and acts through its regional and country-based teams across Asia as well as in Africa, Europe and Americas. Using primary research and contextual understanding to analyze information on wildlife trade dynamics, TRAFFIC's evidence-based outputs assist government law enforcement agencies to disrupt and dismantle trafficking syndicates and increase deterrents through sentencing and prosecution. The Wildlife Trafficking, Response, Assessment, and Priority Setting (Wildlife TRAPS) Project, financed by USAID and implemented by TRAFFIC, in collaboration with the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), is designed to develop and deliver a suite of ground-breaking partnerships and pioneering approaches to tackle wildlife crime between Africa and Asia. The Wildlife TRAPS Project delivers activities through six key thematic work streams including: 1) Engaging the Transportation Sector, 2) Enforcement Capacity and Inter-Agency Collaboration, 3) Financial Investigation and Asset Recovery, 4) Wildlife Forensics, 5) Consumer Behavior Change and Demand Reduction and 6) Community Engagement. The project is building a collective understanding of the true character and scale of the response required through targeted assessments, setting priorities through collaborative action planning, identifying interventions points, and testing non-traditional approaches. This project commenced in 2013 and will run through February 2020. Reducing Opportunities for Unlawful Transport of Endangered Species (ROUTES) is an innovative and transformational partnership, supported by USAID and implemented by TRAFFIC, that brings together international conservation organizations, donors, government, and the transportation and logistics industry for a multi-year collaborative program to disrupt wildlife trafficking by reducing the use of legal transportation supply chains.

TRAFFIC closely collaborates with Cambodia-based Wildlife Alliance to foster political commitment and enhance wildlife trade-related legislation in the country, including closing loopholes that undermine adequate law enforcement responses. It also provides species specific seizure and market data analysis to continue to inform on new emerging trends and required interventions related to bear, ivory, pangolin and rhino horn. The following is a selection of TRAFFIC reports involving the wildlife trade in Cambodia:

- Stoner, S., Krishnasamy, K., Wittmann, T., Delean, S. and Cassey, P. (2016). Reduced to skin and bones re-examined: Full analysis. An analysis of Tiger seizures from 13 range countries from 2000-2015. TRAFFIC, Southeast Asia Regional Office, Petaling Jaya, Selangor, Malaysia.
- Burgess, E. A., Stoner, S.S., and Foley, K.E. (2014). Brought to Bear: An Analysis of Seizures across Asia (2000–2011). TRAFFIC, Petaling Jaya, Selangor, Malaysia.

### **UNITED FOR WILDLIFE (UfW)**

UfW is working with the transportation sector through the UfW Transport Taskforce to encourage increased action regarding the transport of illegal wildlife products. One of the focus activities is to enable the sharing of NGO information on wildlife trafficking with the transportation industry – see below section on private sector commitment building.

In 2014 and 2015 the global law firm, DLA Piper, undertook reviews of wildlife legislation in several countries involved in the illegal wildlife trade as either predominantly supply, transit and consumer locations. This work was undertaken pro bono in support of UfW. These reports provide a snapshot of the wildlife legislation as well as identifying any ancillary legislation that can be used in the prosecution of wildlife crimes. Cambodia was included in the second phase of reports under this work.

### **UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP)**

UNDP is developing a GEF-financed regional project across tiger range states titled “South-South Cooperation for Sustainability of the Global Tiger Recovery Programme” that will be implemented with the Global Tiger Forum. The project’s goal is to promote the long-term survival of the tiger in ecologically intact landscapes across its range. The project will develop and test a simplified and harmonized monitoring and reporting protocol in close consultation with the 13 tiger range countries, tiger researchers and other relevant scientists, conservation practitioners and managers of tiger areas. The project will also address the financial sustainability of tiger conservation by making the business case for tiger conservation, developing new streams of domestic finance for tigers and targeting private finance at the regional level. Finally, the project will ensure that tiger range countries have sufficient capacity, tools and mechanisms for effective implementation, monitoring and updating of their respective National Tiger Recovery Plans, including collaboration and joint action in thematic areas that transcend national boundaries.

### **UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME (UNEP)**

UNEP, in partnership with the UNDP and others, will convene an Africa-Asia Symposium on Strengthening Legal Frameworks to Combat Wildlife Crime on July 4-5, 2017, in Bangkok. (See reference below in commitment building section, and as referenced by Symposium partner UNDP).

### **UNITED NATIONS OFFICE ON DRUGS AND CRIME (UNODC)**

UNODC has supported the establishment of a network of more than 70 Border Liaison Offices (BLOs) through its Border Management Programme throughout the Greater Mekong Sub-region,



including in Cambodia, China, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam. UNODC provides regular training and capacity building support to BLOs to ensure that border law enforcement agencies have standardized knowledge, skills and communication mechanisms to collect and share information and intelligence, and can better respond to the growing threat of cross-border crimes in the region.

UNODC and WCO partner in the Global Container Control Programme (CCP), which operates in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) countries including Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam. The CCP aims to secure the global containerized supply chain and minimize the risk of shipping containers being exploited for illicit trafficking, transnational organized crime, and other forms of black market activity. The CCP works with governments to establish inter-agency container profiling units, and strengthen the capacity of customs and law enforcement authorities through the delivery of training, mentoring, equipment, standard operating procedures, and access to tools and databases.

UNODC organizes the Wildlife Inter-Regional Enforcement Meetings (WIRE), which offer specialized platforms for law enforcement officials to develop ties with their direct counterparts in African and Asian countries:

- A WIRE-Police meeting was held in November 2016 in Bangkok for police and wildlife investigators from India, Kenya, South Africa, and ASEAN countries including Cambodia, as well as INTERPOL, Lusaka Agreement Task Force, UNODC and WCO, to exchange criminal intelligence for the identification of wildlife trafficking routes, groups and trends.
- A WIRE-Prosecutors meeting was held in March 2017 in Bangkok for prosecutors with experience in wildlife crime cases and for Central Authorities responsible for sending and receiving mutual legal assistance requests, from Botswana, Kenya, Uganda, and six key ASEAN countries including Cambodia. This meeting focused on effective use of Mutual Legal Assistance Treaties (MLAT), and authorization for the use of specialized investigative techniques for wildlife crime cases.
- A WIRE-Customs meeting will also be organized in the third quarter 2017 on identifying CITES-risk indicators to assist the detection of containers and cargoes potentially carrying illegal wildlife products.

UNODC intends to provide the following training to law enforcement agencies in Cambodia:

- A training course in April 2017 on prosecution of wildlife crime cases for Cambodian prosecutors, focusing on best practices for gathering and handling evidence for wildlife crime cases, case management, communication channels to request information and mutual legal assistance, and preparing and presenting wildlife crime cases in court.
- A training course will be conducted in September 2017 as a synergy between the CCP and the UNODC Global Programme for Combating Wildlife and Forest Crime, for Cambodian customs and police officers on CITES regulations and procedures for checking CITES permits, risk analysis and management, methods of concealment and criminal modus operandi in relation to wildlife and timber trafficking in the containerized supply chain.
- A cross-border cooperation course on anti-smuggling and advanced investigative techniques for frontline law enforcement officials will be held in July 2017 at BLOs between Cambodia-Thailand.
- In 2017 UNODC will work in cooperation with the United Nations Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (UN-REDD) and Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam to draft a set of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to combat wildlife and timber trafficking, based on the BLO mechanism. The SOPs will aim to enable law enforcement authorities to take an agreed standardized approach to

respond to cross-border wildlife and timber trafficking cases and efficiently engage in international cooperation.

### USAID WILDLIFE ASIA

USAID Wildlife Asia will strengthen regional law enforcement capacity and coordination by institutionalizing capacity building efforts in Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, and Vietnam. This will occur through the establishment of a working group tasked with developing and delivering competency standards for key positions within judicial and law enforcement agencies responsible for addressing wildlife crime and trafficking in the region. In addition, USAID Wildlife Asia will strengthen regional and international cooperation and coordination through training and networking workshops, including convening targeted Asia/Africa Special Investigation Group (SIG) meetings designed to allow sharing of information and building collaborative efforts across agencies and borders of both source, transit and demand countries. The USAID Wildlife Asia Activity is implemented by the International Resources Group (IRG) – which is owned by RTI International – with a consortium of organizations and companies including FHI 360, International Fund for Animal Welfare, Freeland and Integra. Specific law enforcement capacity building and coordination activities in FY2017 include:

- Conduct CWT Institutionalization Needs Assessment, Establish and CWT Institutionalization Working Group, and convene a CWT Institutionalization Needs Workshop.
- Conduct a SIG Asia – Africa “back tracking the seizures” in Bangkok, to include police, wildlife authorities, customs and prosecutors from Cambodia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Thailand and Vietnam, as well as officers and specialists from the Tanzania, South Africa, Uganda and Zambia, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The event will be jointly funded and coordinated with INL’s strengthening cross border wildlife enforcement program in Africa. [February 2017]
- Conduct a Counter-Transnational Organized Crime Training Course and SIG, in Lusaka Zambia, involving wildlife authorities, police, customs and prosecutors from Cambodia, Thailand, Malaysia, Vietnam, Zambia, Malawi and Kenya. The event will be jointly funded and coordinated with INL’s strengthening cross border wildlife enforcement program in Africa. [June 2017]
- Conduct a Detection of Environmental Crime Training Course (DETECT) for wildlife authorities in Cambodia and Thailand, to include a “Twinning and Surviving Together” exercise between the Cambodia-WEN and the Thai-WEN. [August 2017]
- Collaborate with the UNODC on a series of capacity building events focusing on strengthening customs authorities’ ability to detect, investigate and develop wildlife trafficking cases for successful prosecution. Conduct three, 3 to 5 day workshops, with relevant customs authorities in air and sea ports in Cambodia, Lao and Vietnam. [September 2017]
- Develop country specific Rapid Reference Guides (RRG) for both investigators and prosecutors that will encompass all relevant offenses and what is required to build an evidential case against those accused of wildlife and related crimes. The RRG will include standard operating procedures and is geared towards fostering cooperation and collaboration between all agencies involved in the fight against wildlife crime and trafficking.
- Develop a law enforcement field guide to pangolin species identification. The pangolin species identification products will be broadly disseminated in printed and digital formats to improve methods and capacity for customs, border, and investigative personnel to detect and identify illegally traded pangolins and pangolin products.

### **WILDLIFE CONSERVATION SOCIETY (WCS)**

WCS receives funding from the US Department of State Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL) for capacity building with the Cambodian Customs and Forests departments. WCS is in the process of developing a strategy of capacity building away from classroom training, and looking at the competencies and systems they need; this includes looking at whether technology is needed and how WCS can make this technology useful to the government agency. WCS further examines interagency cooperation and agreements such as between forestry, customs and police. WCS is commencing a strategy on CWT, and is in the process of identifying needs in Cambodia of the Forestry Administration (which includes the CITES reporting and compliance desk), customs, and the Ministry of Environment. WCS is also planning more work with Customs, including training in July/August 2017 as part of the INL grant.

WCS and partners are assisting the government to resolve specific international cases of ivory and rhino horn trafficking. For example, WCS together with US Department of Homeland Security Intelligence (DHSI) and Wildlife Alliance helped take samples of rhino horn that had come from Namibia – and was the focus of a request by the Namibian police – this contact was facilitated by TRACE Wildlife Forensics Network to WCS and to DHSI through the US Fish and Wildlife Service in Africa. WCS further worked together with DHSI and Wildlife Alliance on cases of an ivory seizure (inventory and sampling) in a dry port in Cambodia from Mozambique, and WCS organized the first partial inventory of government-held ivory (Forestry Administration) in March 2016, with participation from DHSI. WCS notes that the Cambodian court was enthusiastic about the ability of DHSI, WCS and Wildlife Alliance to provide international support to similar cases.

### **WORLD CUSTOMS ORGANIZATION (WCO)**

UNODC and WCO partner in the Global Container Control Programme (CCP), which operates in ASEAN countries including Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam. The CCP aims to secure the global containerized supply chain and minimize the risk of shipping containers being exploited for illicit trafficking, transnational organized crime, and other forms of black market activity. The CCP works with governments to establish inter-agency container profiling units, and strengthen the capacity of customs and law enforcement authorities through the delivery of training, mentoring, equipment, standard operating procedures, and access to tools and databases. CCP information also cited in UNODC section on national level law enforcement support.

## **4. CAMBODIA POLITICAL COMMITMENT BUILDING**

### **FREELAND**

Freeland has a Memorandum of Understanding with the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) that commits the two organizations to collaborate to strengthen and harmonize legislation across the 10 ASEAN Member States on combating wildlife crime. Using the Freeland-produced ASEAN Handbook on Combating Wildlife Crime, a Freeland-led Legal Support Task Force (that also includes National University of Singapore and ASEAN-WEN) provides technical training and support to parliamentarians and their staff who are responsible for writing laws and policies. Freeland also provides technical support to the AIPA Secretariat to mobilize interest among politicians and media across ASEAN to suppress wildlife trafficking.

### **INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL POLICE ORGANIZATION (INTERPOL)**

INTERPOL's Environmental Security Sub-Directorate seeks to promote the prioritization of work by national police services on environmental crime issues. See also the above INTERPOL reference in the section concerning support of law enforcement (national level).

### **TRAFFIC**

TRAFFIC closely collaborates with Cambodia-based Wildlife Alliance to foster political commitment and enhance wildlife trade-related legislation in the country, including closing loopholes that undermine adequate law enforcement responses – see section above on law enforcement support at a national level.

### **UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP)**

UNDP and UNEP, in partnership with other UN agencies such as UNODC and the CITES Secretariat, along with the Global Wildlife Program, will convene an Africa-Asia Symposium on Strengthening Legal Frameworks to Combat Wildlife Crime in Bangkok in July 2017. The Symposium is expected to bring together up to 10 countries from Africa and 10 from Asia to discuss criteria for effective legal frameworks and priority issues to strengthen application of national laws to wildlife crime. See also reference in UNEP section.

### **UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME (UNEP)**

UNEP, in partnership with UNDP and others, will convene an Africa-Asia Symposium on Strengthening Legal Frameworks to Combat Wildlife Crime in Bangkok on July 4-5, 2017. The key objective of the Symposium is to advance efforts in Africa and Asia Pacific to strengthen and harmonize legal frameworks to combat wildlife crime. Participants will discuss their countries' experience with developing and enacting laws that address wildlife crime, and debate proposed criteria and recommended minimum requirements for strengthening legislation that governs the multiple aspects of wildlife crime. Opportunities to strengthen political will to combat wildlife crime through the strategic engagement of parliamentarians from Africa and Asia Pacific will also be explored as a secondary objective. The Symposium will support the participation of 20 representatives from Africa and Asia Pacific, and more if additional resources can be mobilized. Target participants will be senior government officials who are responsible for developing or strengthening laws and regulations relevant to combating wildlife crime. Cambodia is proposed for inclusion in the Symposium.

### **UNITED NATIONS OFFICE ON DRUGS AND CRIME (UNODC)**

UNODC, through its Global Programme for Combating Wildlife and Forest Crime, works with national legal systems and law enforcement agencies of Member States (which in ASEAN includes Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Thailand, Philippines and Vietnam) to strengthen legislative frameworks, shape policy, enhance knowledge and capacities, and increase regional cooperation to combat wildlife and forest crime. In October 2015, the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime agreed to include "wildlife and timber trafficking" as a priority crime under the purview of the Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC). In June 2016, UNODC worked in cooperation with Thailand and the Royal Thai Police to convene a regional conference to bring the SOMTC focal points on wildlife and timber trafficking together to agree on a work programme. The Work Programme to Combat Wildlife and Timber Trafficking will be

integrated with the existing SOMTC 2016-2018 Work Programme to implement the ASEAN Plan of Action to Combat Transnational Crime. In parallel, UNODC is also encouraging the establishment of a SOMTC working group on wildlife and timber trafficking to coordinate implementation of the Work Programme.

UNODC conducted a rapid assessment in Cambodia in 2015 to evaluate the strengths and challenges of the national criminal justice response to wildlife and forest crime. In May 2017, UNODC will co-organize a national roundtable meeting in collaboration with WCS and the US Embassy to raise the profile of wildlife trafficking and identify barriers and propose solutions to enhance the criminal justice system response to wildlife crime in Cambodia. UNODC will present the results of the rapid assessment at the meeting.

#### **USAID WILDLIFE ASIA**

USAID Wildlife Asia will seek to build commitment by engaging high levels of the judiciary in the region. See above section on law enforcement support (national level) for additional information with specific reference to Cambodia.

#### **WILDLIFE CONSERVATION SOCIETY (WCS)**

WCS has assisted the Ministry of Environment since 2015 to draft new primary legislation pertaining to wildlife trafficking, under the Natural Resource and Environmental Code (an overarching legal framework for all environmental laws in the country). WCS coordinated a group of technical experts to provide input to the development of this draft legislation (on wildlife and protected areas management), and will continue to play a coordination role in the development of supporting legislation related to wildlife trafficking and wildlife crime over the next few years.

WCS undertook surveys to examine the trade and trafficking of wildlife in Cambodia in order to better understand the current situation (trafficking routes, modus operandi etc.), develop more effective strategies and provide recommendations to Government of Cambodia.

WCS is planning a national round table on wildlife trafficking in May 2017 with UNODC and the US Department of Homeland Security. This will be attended by Cambodian law enforcement agencies and the judiciary.

## **5. CAMBODIA PRIVATE SECTOR COMMITMENT BUILDING**

#### **TRAFFIC**

The TRAFFIC project, ROUTES is an innovative and transformational partnership, supported by USAID, that brings together international conservation organizations, donors, government, and the transportation and logistics industry for a multi-year collaborative program to disrupt wildlife trafficking by reducing the use of legal transportation supply chains. Specific to Cambodia, TRAFFIC, through the USAID funded Wildlife TRAPS project, works to enhance the ability of the transport sector such as DHL Cambodia to detect shipments of illegal wildlife and provide guidance to assist in the development of Standard Operating Procedures to frame subsequent actions.



### UNITED FOR WILDLIFE (UfW)

UfW is working with the transportation sector through the UfW Transport Taskforce, which developed and is working to implement the commitments in the UfW Buckingham Palace Declaration. This work is being done in recognition that international freight and passenger transportation is vital to the movement of illegal wildlife products from source through transit and into markets, and that the private sector can assist in reducing such shipments. UfW, through the Royal Foundation of The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and Prince Harry, provides the secretariat for the Transport Taskforce, which includes 75 representatives from across the transport sector covering aviation, maritime, freight forwarders and enforcement. To support action from the transportation sector, the Transport Taskforce is providing a mechanism for the collection and analysis of NGO information regarding wildlife trafficking, and sharing of verified information with signatories to the Buckingham Palace Declaration, including through regular alerts pertaining to illicit trafficking methods as well as details of specific trafficking cases.

## 6. CAMBODIA CONSUMER DEMAND REDUCTION

### TRAFFIC

TRAFFIC has been helping improve policies and legislation at the national level, engage public-private partnerships, and drive a suite of interventions to catalyze behavior change efforts with partners to reduce demand in major consumer markets in Southeast Asia and China. TRAFFIC hosts the Wildlife Consumer Behaviour Change Toolkit [www.changewildlifeconsumers.org](http://www.changewildlifeconsumers.org) and provides a suite of services for the ‘Demand Reduction Community of Practice’ that uses the Toolkit as an information and coordination hub – services include an element of Webinars, learning and experience exchange events, Expert Roundtables on key topics and Good Practice Guidelines on measuring the impact of behavioral change.

### UNITED FOR WILDLIFE (UFW)

UfW has grown a large and engaged social media community through a variety of digital campaigns and activities aimed at young people across the world. With a growing online community to share news with and raise awareness of illegal wildlife trade, UfW shares unique content and activities enabling young people to engage with the issue of illegal wildlife trade while learning more about conservation in general.

UfW has also developed a platform for the delivery of online learning material and provides online courses that enable self-paced learning on several general and specialized topics relevant to conservation, including a short course focusing on illegal wildlife trade. At the end of 2016 over 8,500 people from 196 countries had registered on the platform and more than 170,000 people follow the course and its content on social media with marketing focused on the priority countries identified by UfW in regards to consumer markets. The platform won a highly-regarded Learning Technologies award in 2016.

UfW further works with the online gaming sector to expand the audience of conservation messaging, with 100,000 downloads of the UfW “We Are the Rangers” Minecraft map, and over 2.6 million YouTube play-throughs. This included content created by popular Minecraft YouTubers in Thailand and initial player generated map events submitted from Vietnam.

### USAID WILDLIFE ASIA

USAID Wildlife Asia will reduce consumer demand for wildlife parts and products by communicating, mobilizing and advocating ways to change behaviors and build new social norms around the use of wildlife. Planned activities include communication campaigns using proven social and behavior change communication (SBCC) approaches and technical assistance to strengthen capacity of organizations to use SBCC in planning and implementing demand reduction campaigns. Year 1 activities include conduct of a situational analysis to identify priority consumer segments, demand drivers and influencing factors underlying the purchase and use of wildlife products in China, Thailand and Vietnam; development and preparation for implementation of new campaigns in these three countries; as well as providing support to align existing campaigns with USAID Wildlife Asia messages, and SBCC capacity building of organizations involved in wildlife communication. The USAID Wildlife Asia is implemented by the International Resources Group (IRG) – which is owned by RTI International – with a consortium of organizations and companies including FHI 360, International Fund for Animal Welfare, Freeland and Integra.

# CHINA

## I. SUMMARY OF INITIATIVES IN CHINA

SUMMARY OF INITIATIVES IN CAMBODIA					
ORGANIZATION	LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT (LANDSCAPE LEVEL)	LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT (NATIONAL LEVEL)	POLITICAL COMMITMENT BUILDING	PRIVATE SECTOR COMMITMENT BUILDING	CONSUMER DEMAND REDUCTION
EIA		X	X		X
HSI					X
IFAW		X	X	X	
INTERPOL		X	X		
TRAFFIC		X	X	X	X
UfW		X		X	X
UNDP	X	X	X		
UNEP		X	X		
UNODC		X			X
USAID Wildlife Asia					X
WildAid			X	X	X
WCS		X			
WCO		X			

Note: An “X” denotes an initiative by the organization in the above listed types of engagement.

## **2. CHINA LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT (LANDSCAPE LEVEL)**

### **UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP)**

UNDP is supporting the development and implementation of multiple GEF-financed protected area projects, including the “China’s Protected Area System Reform (C-PAR)” program, “Main Streams of Life - Wetland Protected Area System Strengthening for Biodiversity Conservation” program, and the “Strengthening the effectiveness of the protected area system in Qinghai Province” project. These are implemented with a range of partners including the Ministry of Environmental Protection, the Foreign Economic Cooperation Office (FECO), the State Forestry Administration and multiple provincial governments. While the illegal wildlife trade is not a core focus of projects, many include activities to strengthen law enforcement at targeted protected areas.

UNDP is developing a GEF-financed regional project across tiger range states titled “South-South Cooperation for Sustainability of the Global Tiger Recovery Programme” that will be implemented with the Global Tiger Forum. See section below on national level law enforcement support for details.

## **3. CHINA LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT (NATIONAL LEVEL)**

### **ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATION AGENCY (EIA), UK**

EIA conducts research and investigations on the trade in tigers and their parts and derivatives, profiling individuals, businesses and networks involved in this trade in China and Laos, and with partners, maps those networks as they extend between Thailand and Vietnam. EIA publishes reports of their research and investigation findings, and provides more sensitive information to relevant national government agencies such as police, customs and CITES authorities, and to relevant IGOs such as INTERPOL and enforcement contacts in the CITES Secretariat. EIA has also shared such information with US Fish and Wildlife Service (US FWS) and US Drug Enforcement Agency (US DEA) agents based in Asia. Where appropriate, EIA also shares such sensitive information with certain NGOs with the relevant expertise based in China, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam. This also includes mapping the scale and trends in the illicit trade of Asian big cats in the region. EIA’s reports as well as more detailed confidential information help to mobilize action by organizations involved in law enforcement as well as consumer demand reduction. These campaign tools can also be used to pressure relevant government agencies, including in China, Laos and Vietnam, to ensure there are adequate resources to improve regional and international enforcement co-operation. EIA is also examining wildlife protection laws in China and Laos, with a specific reference to tiger farming, to assist in strengthening wildlife protection and the implementation of the relevant CITES Resolution and associated Decisions. This follows on previous work of EIA on the tiger trade including a report and film in 2015 concerning this trade in China and by Chinese nationals and businesses in Laos.

EIA conducts research and investigations on the trafficking of ivory between Africa and Asia, particularly China, Laos and Vietnam, with some linkages to Thailand. These investigations examine the composition of criminal networks and their methods to traffic ivory, and other wildlife contraband, on an inter-regional level between source countries in Africa and destination countries in Asia. EIA publishes reports of this research and investigative findings, and provides more sensitive information to relevant national government agencies such as police, customs and CITES authorities, and to relevant IGOs such as INTERPOL, the WCO and enforcement contacts in the CITES Secretariat. EIA has also shared such information with US FWS and US DEA agents based in Africa and Asia. Where appropriate, EIA shares such sensitive information with certain NGOs with the relevant expertise based in China, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam. This also includes mapping the scale

and trends in the illicit trade of ivory. The information can then be provided to assist organizations conducting law enforcement support, and can be used to pressure relevant governments, including in China, Laos and Vietnam, to act to investigate the individuals and companies identified by EIA as likely being involved in ivory trafficking, and to improve regional and international enforcement co-operation.

EIA is producing a field guide for law enforcement officers on the Asian big cat trade in partnership with CITES. This guide will assist front line officers in identifying products made or derived from these species and understand the methods of operation of the criminal networks involved in such trade. The guide will be distributed by the CITES Secretariat to all CITES Parties including to the CITES authorities in Cambodia, China, Laos, Thailand, and Vietnam.

EIA is finalizing a short film and seventeen modules to be used for wildlife law enforcement training. This project has been formally endorsed by the CITES Secretariat, INTERPOL, WCO and several governments. Relevant enforcement agencies in Hong Kong, Thailand and Vietnam have participated in the film. The modules cover different areas such as crime scene management, controlled deliveries, DNA analysis of ivory, financial investigations and best practice for successful prosecutions. The film and the modules will be distributed physically through USB sticks/DVDs and via a password-protected secure website. This will be distributed widely to various national government agencies, including in Cambodia, China, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam.

#### **INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR ANIMAL WELFARE (IFAW)**

IFAW monitors wildlife markets (online and offline) and provides information to enforcement agencies. Based on the understanding of the wildlife markets and trade trends, IFAW produces species identification manuals, provides training for enforcement agencies and industries to crack down on illegal trade and better regulate the marketplaces. IFAW conducts at least six workshops each year. Participants include CITES Management and enforcement officials, customs, and forestry police officials in China. The last training was in December 2016, IFAW in collaboration with CNMA Urumqi Office organized the Inner Mongolia multi-departmental CITES enforcement training. IFAW notes that illicit wildlife trade is an issue that expands beyond China's borders, thus supports international collaboration between Chinese enforcement agencies with their counterparts from other countries, regions and continents.

#### **INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL POLICE ORGANIZATION (INTERPOL)**

INTERPOL assists its 190 Member Countries, which include Cambodia, China, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam share criminal intelligence, including for issues of environmental crime, through National Central Bureaus (NCBs) in each country. INTERPOL can, upon the request of member countries, deploy an Investigative Support Team (IST) pertaining to investigative pursuits.

INTERPOL's Environmental Security Sub-Directorate provides analysis of information submitted by member countries covering investigations of major cases, including both domestic transnational cases. INTERPOL also hosts Regional Investigative and Analytical Case Meetings (RIACMs) to bring two or more countries together to exchange information and work together on specific investigations. In the first half of 2017, INTERPOL is planning three RIACMs that involve the countries of the region:

- Yangon – March 2017 – China
- Singapore – May 2017 – Cambodia, Vietnam
- Singapore – May 2017 – Thailand



Other RIACMs are planned for later in the year. The dates and venues are yet to be confirmed. Cambodia, China, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam, will be invited based on the investigation covered by the meeting.

INTERPOL provides specialized training to member countries, primarily to their police services, and regularly brings together representatives from multiple countries simultaneously. The following training has been planned for the first half of 2017 (including subject, member countries invited, and venue):

- Online trade investigation training – Cambodia, China, Laos, Thailand, Vietnam (Singapore, June 2017);
- Digital forensics: data extraction and analysis – Cambodia, China, Laos, Thailand, Vietnam (Singapore, June 2017);
- Crime Scene Investigation Training – Cambodia, China, Laos, Thailand, Vietnam (July 2017).

INTERPOL hosts National Environmental Security Seminars (NESS) to encourage national multi-agency communication and cooperation on environmental crime. Member countries are then encouraged to form a National Environmental Security Taskforce (NEST). A NESS is planned for China in 2017 with a date to be confirmed.

INTERPOL Project Waylay, funded by the U.K. Department for Environment, Food, and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), has been focusing on building control delivery capacity and interest in member countries since 2014. So far, the work has been on capacity building and developing a common guideline. Currently INTERPOL is working with countries that have expressed an interest in Asia and Africa to identify potential cases in which controlled deliveries can be organized. Discussions are ongoing with China, Laos, Thailand, and Vietnam on this issue. Equipment may be provided as needed.

INTERPOL conducts annual operations targeting environmental crime. The most recent, Thunderbird, finalized in February 2017, included 43 countries, among which were China (Hong Kong) and Thailand.

## TRAFFIC

TRAFFIC has expertise and credibility in tackling wildlife trafficking and acts through its regional and country-based teams across Asia as well as in Africa, Europe and Americas. Using primary research and contextual understanding to analyze information on wildlife trade dynamics, TRAFFIC's evidence-based outputs assist government law enforcement agencies to disrupt and dismantle trafficking syndicates and increase deterrents through sentencing and prosecution. The Wildlife Trafficking, Response, Assessment, and Priority Setting (Wildlife TRAPS) Project, financed by USAID and implemented by TRAFFIC, in collaboration with the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), is designed to develop and deliver a suite of ground-breaking partnerships and pioneering approaches to tackle wildlife crime between Africa and Asia. The Wildlife TRAPS Project delivers activities through 6 key thematic work streams including: 1) Engaging the Transportation Sector, 2) Enforcement Capacity and Inter-Agency Collaboration, 3) Financial Investigation and Asset Recovery, 4) Wildlife Forensics, 5) Consumer Behaviour Change and Demand Reduction and 6) Community Engagement. The project is building a collective understanding of the true character and scale of the response required through targeted assessments, setting priorities through collaborative action planning, identifying interventions points, and testing non-traditional approaches. This project commenced in 2013 and will run through February 2020.

TRAFFIC conducts regular market monitoring surveys along with seizure data analysis and intelligence gathering across the country particularly related to the trades in ivory, tigers, rhinos, pangolins, shark fins and many other products. Chinese e-commerce websites and social media are also systematically monitored. Research and analysis conducted by TRAFFIC is used to advocate legislative changes and step up enforcement interventions – e.g. within the National Inter-agency CITES Enforcement Coordination Group (NICE-CG) and Provincial Interagency CITES Coordination Group (PICE-CG). The following is a selection of TRAFFIC reports involving the wildlife trade in China:

- [Xiao, Y., Wang, J. \(2015\). Moving Target: tracking online sales of illegal wildlife products in China. TRAFFIC Briefing Paper: February.](#)
- [Guan, J. and Xu, L. \(2015\). Deadly Messaging: illegal ivory trade in China's Social Media. TRAFFIC report: November.](#)
- [Xu, L., Guan, J., Lau, W., Xiao, Y. \(2016\) An Overview of Pangolin Trade in China. TRAFFIC Briefing September 2016.](#)

TRAFFIC conducts regular law enforcement trainings, a number of which involve cross-border/multi-country trainings. Furthermore, TRAFFIC, through the Wildlife TRAPS project, is supporting the participation of Asian customs officials, including from Hong Kong, in the World Custom's Organization's project INAMA trainings to build capacity on enforcement planning with customs officials from sub-Saharan African countries.

#### **UNITED FOR WILDLIFE (UFW)**

UfW is working with the transportation sector through the UfW Transport Taskforce to encourage increased action regarding the transport of illegal wildlife products. One of the focus activities is to enable the sharing of NGO information on wildlife trafficking with the transportation industry – see below section on private sector commitment building.

In 2014 and 2015 the global law firm, DLA Piper, undertook reviews of wildlife legislation in several countries involved in illegal wildlife trade as either predominantly supply, transit and consumer locations. This work was undertaken pro bono in support of UfW. These reports provide a snapshot of the wildlife legislation as well as identifying any ancillary legislation that can be used in the prosecution of wildlife crimes. China was included in the first phase of reports under this work. Subsequently DLA Piper also provided input and comment on the revision of the Wildlife Law in China.

#### **UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP)**

UNDP is developing a GEF-financed regional project across tiger range states titled “South-South Cooperation for Sustainability of the Global Tiger Recovery Programme” that will be implemented with the Global Tiger Forum. The project's goal is to promote the long-term survival of the tiger in ecologically intact landscapes across its range. The project will develop and test a simplified and harmonized monitoring and reporting protocol in close consultation with the 13 tiger range countries, tiger researchers and other relevant scientists, conservation practitioners and managers of tiger areas. The project will also address the financial sustainability of tiger conservation by making the business case for tiger conservation, developing new streams of domestic finance for tigers and targeting private finance at the regional level. Finally, the project will ensure that tiger range countries have sufficient capacity, tools and mechanisms for effective implementation, monitoring and updating of their respective National Tiger Recovery Plans, including collaboration and joint action in thematic areas that transcend national boundaries.

### **UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME (UNEP)**

UNEP, in partnership with UNDP and others, will convene an Africa-Asia Symposium on Strengthening Legal Frameworks to Combat Wildlife Crime on July 4-5, 2017, in Bangkok – see reference below in commitment building section.

### **UNITED NATIONS OFFICE ON DRUGS AND CRIME (UNODC)**

UNODC has not yet officially engaged with China on wildlife and forest crime issues, but in 2017 UNODC will conduct three cross-border cooperation courses on anti-smuggling and advanced investigative techniques for frontline law enforcement officials, which will also include sessions on wildlife trafficking. The courses will be conducted through the Border Liaison Offices at crossings between China-Pakistan, China-Laos, and China-Vietnam. UNODC has supported the establishment of a network of more than 70 Border Liaison Offices through its Border Management Programme throughout the Greater Mekong Sub-region, including in Cambodia, China, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam. UNODC provides regular training and capacity building support to BLOs to ensure that border law enforcement agencies have standardized knowledge, skills and communication mechanisms to collect and share information and intelligence, and can better respond to the growing threat of cross-border crimes in the region.

### **WILDLIFE CONSERVATION SOCIETY (WCS)**

WCS is gathering information on rhino horn, turtle, ivory and pangolin trafficking in Southern China and the connections to Southeast Asia, particularly Vietnam, Indonesia, and Africa with a focus on Mozambique and Uganda. WCS also carries out regular monitoring of availability and price of ivory, rhino horn, freshwater turtles and tortoises, tiger and pangolin in physical markets in southern China and national online markets.

WCS facilitates cross-border cooperation between China and Vietnam, Lao and Myanmar, providing support to meetings, joint-trainings and serving as a communications bridge to share intelligence that has led to enforcement actions.

WCS is working with Chinese and Ugandan diplomatic missions, State-owned Enterprises, and law enforcement agencies on a crime prevention program targeting Chinese travelers to Uganda who buy ivory and other contraband wildlife products. This includes developing government and corporate policies and supporting transnational enforcement cooperation. WCS is seeking to train a cadre of investigators who could be used in African investigations. WCS notes there is a lack of Chinese or Vietnamese undercover investigators for international wildlife crime cases.

WCS partners with training academies to provide CWT capacity-building events to more than 1,000 officers from forestry police, customs, SFA, quarantine, fisheries and prosecutors primarily in Southern China (Yunnan, Guangxi, Guangdong provinces).

WCS partnered with Beijing Normal University and The Nature Conservancy convened an expert group of economists, criminologists, ivory trade experts and China experts to develop a series of briefing papers to guide the ivory ban implementation.

### **WORLD CUSTOMS ORGANIZATION (WCO)**

WCO project INAMA focuses on wildlife trafficking in sub-Saharan Africa mainly, though some initiatives have also included Asian countries. For example, under INAMA, WCO conducted a

training in Bangkok in January 2015 concerning controlled delivery of illegally traded wildlife goods. This training was attended, amongst others, by China and Thailand (customs, wildlife agency, and police). As a follow-up to this training a delegation from China Customs visited South African Customs in May-June 2015, and another delegation from China Customs visited Kenya Customs. The objective of both visits was to explore the possibility of conducting a controlled delivery of illegally traded wildlife products and to strengthen the relationship between the two customs administrations. Furthermore, in May-June 2016 a delegation from Kenya Customs visited China to explore the possibility of drafting a memorandum of understanding to enable the sharing of information and to set up the framework to conduct controlled deliveries.

INAMA hosted a significant training to build capacity on enforcement planning in Namibia from May 8-12, 2017, for customs officials from sub-Saharan African countries, and customs officials joined from Hong Kong, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam due to funding from the TRAFFIC TRAPS project.

#### **4. CHINA POLITICAL COMMITMENT BUILDING**

##### **ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATION AGENCY (EIA), UK**

EIA published a report in the lead up to the Hanoi Conference on Illegal Wildlife Trade in November 2016 examining how 15 countries including China, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam – had implemented their commitments under the London Declaration of February 2014. This report utilized specific indicators developed by EIA to assess the countries' actions. EIA continues to review progress made in implementation of the London Declaration particularly by China, Laos and Vietnam.

EIA investigative products are used by several stakeholders to push for greater commitment by consumer countries to enforce wildlife crime laws pertaining to the trade in Asian big cats and ivory – see above description in the law enforcement support section.

##### **INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR ANIMAL WELFARE (IFAW)**

IFAW works with government agencies and industries to make segments of marketplaces unavailable for the trade of endangered species. Since 2008, e-commerce giants Alibaba and Taobao have banned the trade of tigers, elephants, rhinos, pangolins, sharks and many other wildlife parts and products. Banning online trade resulted in sustained reduction of wildlife trade on e-commerce sites. In 2012, an IFAW tipoff led to a government ban on the auction of tiger bone, rhino horn and elephant ivory. The ban reduced mainland China's auction sales volume by 40 percent in one year. The 90 percent reduction of ivory auctions in China positively correlated with Proportion of Illegally Killed Elephants (PIKE) data. To combat illegal wildlife trade on social media sites, IFAW joined the Tencent for the Planet initiative in 2015.

##### **INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL POLICE ORGANIZATION (INTERPOL)**

INTERPOL's Environmental Security Sub-Directorate seeks to promote the prioritization of work by national police services on environmental crime issues. See also the above INTERPOL reference in the section concerning support of law enforcement (national level).

## **TRAFFIC**

TRAFFIC conducts regular market monitoring surveys along with seizure data analysis and intelligence gathering across the country particularly related to the trades in ivory, tigers, rhinos, pangolins, shark fins and many other products. Research and analysis conducted by TRAFFIC is used to advocate legislative changes – see national level law enforcement support section for additional information.

TRAFFIC was part of the international effort that advocated for an ivory ban in China. Through a public campaign with the World Wildlife Fund (WWF), public support for the ivory ban was generated.

## **UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP)**

UNDP and UNEP, in partnership with other UN agencies such as UNODC and the CITES Secretariat, along with the Global Wildlife Program, will convene an Africa-Asia Symposium on Strengthening Legal Frameworks to Combat Wildlife Crime in Bangkok in July 2017. The Symposium is expected to bring together up to 10 countries from Africa and 10 from Asia to discuss criteria for effective legal frameworks and priority issues to strengthen application of national laws to wildlife crime. See also reference in UNEP section.

## **UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME (UNEP)**

UNEP, in partnership with UNDP and others, will convene an Africa-Asia Symposium on Strengthening Legal Frameworks to Combat Wildlife Crime in Bangkok on July 4-5, 2017. The key objective of the Symposium is to advance efforts in Africa and Asia Pacific to strengthen and harmonize legal frameworks to combat wildlife crime. Participants will discuss their countries' experience with developing and enacting laws that address wildlife crime, and debate proposed criteria and recommended minimum requirements for strengthening legislation that governs the multiple aspects of wildlife crime. Opportunities to strengthen political will to combat wildlife crime through the strategic engagement of parliamentarians from Africa and Asia Pacific will also be explored as a secondary objective. The Symposium will support the participation of 20 representatives from Africa and Asia Pacific, and more if additional resources can be mobilized. Target participants will be senior government officials who are responsible for developing or strengthening laws and regulations relevant to combating wildlife crime. China is proposed for inclusion in the Symposium.

## **WILDAID**

WildAid assists the Government of China in advancing efforts to reduce illegal wildlife trade – see section below concerning consumer demand.

## **5. CHINA PRIVATE SECTOR COMMITMENT BUILDING**

### **INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR ANIMAL WELFARE (IFAW)**

IFAW conducts activities related to political commitment building and reducing the availability of wildlife products in the marketplace, which includes private sector commitment building – see above section on political commitment building.

## TRAFFIC

TRAFFIC works in China with a range of sectors e.g. tourism, postal/courier companies, Traditional Chinese Medicine industry and e-commerce and social media platforms to foster industry pledges and develop solutions to counter the illegal wildlife trade. TRAFFIC works with Baidu, Alibaba and Tencent (BAT)—the top three internet service providers in China to create an industry-wide alliance to tackle online wildlife trafficking.

## UNITED FOR WILDLIFE (UfW)

UfW is working with the transportation sector through the UfW Transport Taskforce, which developed and is working to implement the commitments in the UfW Buckingham Palace Declaration. This work is being done in recognition that international freight and passenger transportation is vital to the movement of illegal wildlife products from source through transit and into markets, and that the private sector can assist in reducing such shipments. UfW, through the Royal Foundation of The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and Prince Harry, provides the secretariat for the Transport Taskforce, which includes 75 representatives from across the transport sector covering aviation, maritime, freight forwarders and enforcement. To support action from the transportation sector the Transport Taskforce is providing a mechanism for the collection and analysis of NGO information regarding wildlife trafficking, and sharing of verified information with signatories to the Buckingham Palace Declaration, including through regular alerts pertaining to illicit trafficking methods as well as details of specific trafficking cases. The Transport Taskforce includes a number of Chinese transport companies.

## WILDAID

WildAid works with corporate entities and business leaders in advancing efforts to reduce the illegal wildlife trade – see section below concerning consumer demand.

## 6. CHINA CONSUMER DEMAND REDUCTION

### ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATION AGENCY (EIA), UK

EIA investigative products on the trade in tigers and their parts and derivatives, profiling individuals and networks involved in this trade, combined with EIA's analysis of open source information, assists stakeholders to identify relevant consumer groups and to further target their campaigns to reduce consumer demand – see above description in the law enforcement support section.

### HUMANE SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL (HSI)

HSI worked on demand reduction campaigns concerning shark fin, ivory and pangolins in China. The shark fin campaign, titled the “No Shark Fin Project,” is a partnership with Roots & Shoots of the Jane Goodall Institute China and other local groups. It was initiated in 2011 and promoted awareness about the importance of shark protection, and motivated perception and behavioral changes regarding the consumption and trade of shark fin products. The campaign mainly focused on students encouraging them to engage with businesses and consumers leading to, for example, more than 300 restaurants and several dozen companies to stop consuming shark fin soup. The campaign also published findings on the sale of shark fins at high-end restaurants in major cities across China, generating public and media attention. HSI also partnered with Roots & Shoots on the “Guardians of the Elephants” project since 2014 to raise awareness about the importance of protecting elephants,



and to promote attitudinal and behavioral change towards commercial trading and consumption of ivory. Similar to the shark fin campaign, the ivory campaign focuses on students as the next set of potential consumers, and also agents of change in consumer behavior by other sectors of the population. Lastly, HSI partnered with the Aita Foundation to raise awareness about pangolin consumption in China through outreach to young children and university students and with the general public, such as a billboard at the Beijing airport. The campaign also conducted an opinion survey on the Chinese public's attitude towards pangolins and the consumption of pangolins. This campaign included public events as well as traditional and social media outreach, and showcased celebrity engagement on the issue.

## TRAFFIC

TRAFFIC has been helping improve policies and legislation at the national level, engage public-private partnerships, and drive a suite of interventions to catalyze behavior change efforts with partners to reduce demand in major consumer markets in Southeast Asia and China. TRAFFIC hosts the Wildlife Consumer Behaviour Change Toolkit [www.changewildlifeconsumers.org](http://www.changewildlifeconsumers.org) and provides a suite of services for the 'Demand Reduction Community of Practice' that uses the Toolkit as an information and coordination hub – services include an element of Webinars, learning and experience exchange events, Expert Roundtables on key topics and Good Practice Guidelines on measuring the impact of behavioral change.

TRAFFIC works with a wide range of partners to conduct targeted and evidence based demand reduction efforts. Examples include continuing work with e-Commerce and internet lifestyle companies to reach out to website audiences with various types of messaging; ongoing public awareness activities and events – such as those on World Wildlife Day, Earth Hour, through the WWF/TRAFFIC 'Linking Fingers' initiative.

TRAFFIC, together with government partners and WWF, has organized several awareness raising events targeting Chinese nationals in Africa; upcoming ones will take place in Namibia and Zimbabwe.

## UNITED FOR WILDLIFE (UfW)

UfW has grown a large and engaged social media community through a variety of digital campaigns and activities aimed at young people across the world. With a growing online community to share news with and raise awareness of illegal wildlife trade, UfW shares unique content and activities enabling young people to engage with the issue of illegal wildlife trade while learning more about conservation in general.

UfW has also developed a platform for the delivery of online learning material and provides online courses that enable self-paced learning on a number of general and specialized topics relevant to conservation, including a short course focusing on illegal wildlife trade. At the end of 2016 over 8,500 people from 196 countries had registered on the platform and more than 170,000 people follow the course and its content on social media with marketing focused on the priority countries identified by UfW in regards to consumer markets. The platform won a highly-regarded Learning Technologies award in 2016. In 2017 efforts are underway to develop course content for the platform that has a focus on conservation issues and efforts in China. This is being done in partnership with locally based organizations and will provide a specific course and translations.

UfW further works with the online gaming sector to expand the audience of conservation messaging, with 100,000 downloads of the UfW “We Are the Rangers” Minecraft map, and over 2.6 million YouTube play-throughs.

#### **UNITED NATIONS OFFICE ON DRUGS AND CRIME (UNODC)**

UNODC launched a brief public service announcement concerning wildlife trafficking in China in 2014-2015.

#### **USAID WILDLIFE ASIA**

USAID Wildlife Asia will reduce consumer demand for wildlife parts and products by communicating, mobilizing and advocating ways to change behaviors and build new social norms around the use of wildlife. Planned activities include communication campaigns using proven social and behavior change communication (SBCC) approaches and technical assistance to strengthen capacity of organizations to use SBCC in planning and implementing demand reduction campaigns. Year 1 activities include conduct of a situational analysis to identify priority consumer segments, demand drivers and influencing factors underlying the purchase and use of wildlife products in China, Thailand and Vietnam; development and preparation for implementation of new campaigns in these three countries; as well as providing support to align existing campaigns with USAID Wildlife Asia messages, and SBCC capacity building of organizations involved in wildlife communication. The USAID Wildlife Asia Activity is implemented by the International Resources Group (IRG) – which is owned by RTI International – with a consortium of organizations and companies including FHI 360, International Fund for Animal Welfare, Freeland and Integra.

#### **WILDAID**

WildAid conducts consumer demand campaigns targeting shark fin (commenced 2006), ivory (commenced 2012), rhino horn (commenced 2012), and pangolins (commenced 2016). The target audience for the campaigns includes medium to high income consumers, business leaders, government officials and policy makers, media influencers. These initiatives address the lack of awareness on the trade in ivory, rhino horn, and pangolins, and the associated poaching crisis; build more pro-conservation attitudes; persuade consumers not to buy the wildlife products, and to support government efforts to end this trade (ivory) or support government enforcement efforts (rhino horn and pangolins). All three recent campaigns have used a combination of strategies including press/media outreach/education, international and Chinese celebrity-driven media campaigns (TV PSAs, billboards, print), online and social media campaigns, and briefings and consultations with relevant government agencies. The ivory and rhino horn campaigns also included a China Central Television (CCTV) documentary film featuring Yao Ming with substantial media promotion; and the ivory campaign further included a business leaders pledge, and a policy recommendation to the National People’s Congress by Yao Ming and prominent CEO delegates. The ivory and rhino horn campaigns further have included sub-campaigns involving a wide range of international and Chinese celebrities. These campaigns will continue their messaging in 2017 and their ongoing activities for ivory include a follow-up documentary film with CCTV featuring Yao Ming, media reports on poaching/reduced demand, social media, etc.; for rhino horn, a documentary film with Shanghai Media Group and associated TV PSA/billboard campaign featuring actress Jiang Yiyang, TV shows and a TV PSA with popular antiques collector Ma Weidu on rhino horn, media reports on poaching/reduced demand, social media, etc.; and for pangolin, a TV PSA and billboard campaign with Jackie Chan, media reports on poaching/reduced demand, online and social media, cooperation with government agencies on strengthened enforcement (including working with

authorities to resolve the pangolin scales stockpile allocated to traditional medicine providers and producers), etc.

WildAid also launched an ivory campaign in Hong Kong initiated in 2015 to address lack of awareness on the ivory trade and elephant poaching crisis, build more pro-conservation attitudes, persuade consumers not to buy ivory and support government efforts to end the ivory trade. Using a combination of strategies including press/media outreach/education, celebrity-driven media campaigns (TV PSAs, billboards, print), online and social media campaigns, government officials and policy makers, media influencers, briefings and consultations with relevant government agencies, etc. Target audience includes medium to high income consumers, business leaders, government officials and policy makers, media influencers, etc. Over two years, the campaign has included sub-campaigns involving a wide range of international and Chinese celebrities. In 2017, the campaign continues to communicate the importance of ending the ivory trade and the urgency of ending the poaching crisis while building support for the current ivory trade ban under consideration by the Legislative Council. Ongoing efforts include legislator outreach and education, TV PSAs/billboards/print, media reports on poaching/reduced demand, and social media.

# LAOS

## I. SUMMARY OF INITIATIVES IN LAOS

SUMMARY OF INITIATIVES IN CAMBODIA					
ORGANIZATION	LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT (LANDSCAPE LEVEL)	LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT (NATIONAL LEVEL)	POLITICAL COMMITMENT BUILDING	PRIVATE SECTOR COMMITMENT BUILDING	CONSUMER DEMAND REDUCTION
EIA		X	X		X
Freeland	X	X	X		
INTERPOL		X	X		
TRAFFIC		X	X	X	X
UfW		X		X	X
UNDP	X	X	X		
UNEP		X	X		
UNODC		X	X		
USAID Wildlife Asia		X	X		X
WCS	X	X	X		
WCO		X			
WWF	X	X	X		X

Note: An “X” denotes an initiative by the organization in the above listed types of engagement.

## 2. LAOS LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT (LANDSCAPE LEVEL)

### FREELAND

Freeland provides capacity building to rangers, protected area managers, and military through the PROTECT program that combines assessments, strategy design, and training to implement strategies. This program has training programs for front line rangers right up to protected area managers, and is tailored to each audience and their threats, and has a mentoring element that Freeland refers to as On-the-Job Training (OJT). The OJTs can include digital forensics training and analytical support. It has been accredited by the American Council on Education. Freeland also developed Field Information Support Tool (FIST) - PROTECT with Kestrel Technologies to help rangers and their supervisors track, prevent and record poaching through phones or other hand-held devices that link up to satellites. FIST allows information, orders and requests to be transmitted between the field and command centers in real time through an analytical hub that provides user-friendly and useful analysis.

Freeland developed WildScan, a mobile phone application to facilitate species identification. The Lao application is currently in development.

### UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP)

The UNDP-supported, GEF-financed sustainable forest management project titled “Sustainable Forest and Land Management in the Dry Dipterocarp Forest Ecosystems of Southern Lao PDR” is implemented with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment as the implementing partner. This project includes work to resolve jurisdictional issues and coordination relating to enforcement of wildlife and forest protection laws, and could include some site-based law enforcement efforts in the future.

UNDP is developing a GEF-financed regional project across tiger range states titled “South-South Cooperation for Sustainability of the Global Tiger Recovery Programme” that will be implemented with the Global Tiger Forum. See section below on national level law enforcement support for details.

### WILDLIFE CONSERVATION SOCIETY (WCS)

WCS conducts anti-poaching capacity building and mentoring for Government of Laos authorities along source sites and the borders of Thailand and Vietnam, a project funded by INL. This project also supports real time technical assistance to rangers and field law enforcement officers to promote intelligence-led investigative approaches.

### WORLD WILDLIFE FUND (WWF)

WWF is involved in an initiative to reduce poaching in the Mekong transboundary protected areas in Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam. WWF provides assistance to enhance government capacities to conduct enforcement work in those areas, which includes working with local law enforcement, mainly wildlife authorities. WWF-Laos works with government, provincial and district authorities, and communities to improve or develop protected area management plans, support law enforcement activities and conduct biological surveys. In Nam Pouy National Protected Area (NPA), WWF is helping to bolster law enforcement to intercept or deter poachers who might enter the area to poach elephants for their ivory and hides. WWF has carried out capacity trainings with the District Department of Natural Resources and Environment staff to improve law enforcement in the protected area. In the Laos-Vietnam border landscape, a recently ended project built the ability of law enforcement agencies to combat illegal transboundary timber and wildlife trade. This involves

technical, leadership and health and safety training, while they are also taught GIS skills and how to use ‘tactical’ mapping to identify hotspots of illegal activity. See also WWF work on law enforcement support at a national level, below.

### **3. LAOS LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT (NATIONAL LEVEL)**

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATION AGENCY (EIA), UK**

EIA conducts research and investigations on the trade in tigers and their parts and derivatives, profiling individuals, businesses and networks involved in this trade in China and Laos, and with partners, maps those networks as they extend between Thailand and Vietnam. EIA publishes reports of their research and investigation findings, and provides more sensitive information to relevant national government agencies such as police, Customs and CITES authorities, and to relevant IGOs such as INTERPOL and enforcement contacts in the CITES Secretariat. EIA has also shared such information with US Fish and Wildlife Service (US FWS) and US Drug Enforcement Agency (US DEA) agents based in Asia. Where appropriate, EIA also shares such sensitive information with certain NGOs with the relevant expertise based in China, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam. This also includes mapping the scale and trends in the illicit trade of Asian big cats in the region. EIA’s reports as well as more detailed confidential information help to mobilize action by organizations involved in law enforcement as well as consumer demand reduction. These campaign tools can also be used to pressure relevant government agencies, including in China, Laos and Vietnam, to ensure there are adequate resources to improve regional and international enforcement co-operation. EIA is also examining wildlife protection laws in China and Laos, with a specific reference to tiger farming, to assist in strengthening wildlife protection and the implementation of the relevant CITES Resolution and associated Decisions. This follows on previous work of EIA on the tiger trade including a report and film in 2015 concerning this trade in China and by Chinese nationals and businesses in Laos.

EIA conducts research and investigations on the trafficking of ivory between Africa and Asia, particularly China, Laos and Vietnam, with some linkages to Thailand. These investigations examine the composition of criminal networks and their methods to traffic ivory, and other wildlife contraband, on an inter-regional level between source countries in Africa and destination countries in Asia. EIA publishes reports of this research and investigations findings, and provides more sensitive information to relevant national government agencies such as police, customs and CITES authorities, and to relevant IGOs such as INTERPOL, WCO and enforcement contacts in the CITES Secretariat. EIA has also shared such information with US FWS and US DEA agents based in Africa and Asia. Where appropriate, EIA also shares such sensitive information with certain NGOs with the relevant expertise based in China, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam. This also includes mapping the scale and trends in the illicit trade of ivory. The information can then be provided to assist organizations conducting law enforcement support, and also can be used to pressure relevant governments, including in China, Laos and Vietnam, to take action to investigate the individuals and companies identified by EIA as likely being involved in ivory trafficking, and to improve regional and international enforcement co-operation.

EIA is producing a field guide for law enforcement officers on the Asian big cat trade in partnership with CITES. This guide will assist front line officers in identifying products made or derived from these species and understand the methods of operation of the criminal networks involved in such



trade. The guide will be distributed by the CITES Secretariat to all CITES Parties including to the CITES authorities in Cambodia, China, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam.

EIA is finalizing a short film and seventeen modules to be used for wildlife law enforcement training. This project has been formally endorsed by the CITES Secretariat, INTERPOL, WCO and several governments. Relevant enforcement agencies in Hong Kong, Thailand and Vietnam have participated in the film. The modules cover different areas such as crime scene management, controlled deliveries, DNA analysis of ivory, financial investigations and best practice for successful prosecutions. The film and the modules will be distributed physically through USB sticks/DVDs and via a password-protected secure website. This will be distributed widely to various national government agencies, including in Cambodia, China, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam.

### **FREELAND**

Freeland provides national and regional level capacity building to police, Customs, financial intelligence units, prosecutors, through its DETECT and LEGAL programs that combine assessments, strategy design, and training to implement strategies. Each of the programs outlined below is tailored to each audience and their threats, and has a mentoring element that Freeland refers to as On-the-Job Training (OJT). The OJTs can include digital forensics training and analytical support. The LEGAL program is for prosecutors and judiciary, while the DETECT program is for counter-trafficking and is designed mainly for police, customs, financial intelligence units, and prosecutors, and includes basic and advanced courses. DETECT cross-border courses led to the formation of the ASEAN-WEN “SIG” (Special Investigation Course). Recently, Freeland produced a highly-advanced course under DETECT named “CTOC” (Counter-Transnational Organized Crime), which empowers officers to identify and disrupt illicit supply chains involved in wildlife trafficking and other forms of transnational crime.

Freeland runs a project titled “Trafficking Free Enterprises” that includes training programs for airport-based personnel; bank compliance officers; and hospitality staff. These “eyes and ears” awareness trainings are half day and have been held in Cambodia, China, Thailand, Vietnam, as well as two African countries.

Freeland developed WildScan, a mobile phone application to facilitate species identification. The Lao application is currently in development.

### **INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL POLICE ORGANIZATION (INTERPOL)**

INTERPOL assists its 190 Member Countries, which include Cambodia, China, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam share criminal intelligence, including for issues of environmental crime, through National Central Bureaus (NCBs) in each country. INTERPOL can, upon the request of member countries, deploy an Investigative Support Team (IST) pertaining to investigative pursuits. INTERPOL’s Environmental Security Sub-Directorate provides analysis of information submitted by member countries covering investigations of major cases, including both domestic transnational cases. INTERPOL also hosts Regional Investigative and Analytical Case Meetings (RIACMs) to bring two or more countries together to exchange information and work together on specific investigations. Countries are invited to the RIACMs based on relevance to the cases that the RIACM focuses on.

INTERPOL hosts National Environmental Security Seminars (NESS) to encourage national multi-agency communication and cooperation on environmental crime. Member countries are then encouraged to form a National Environmental Security Taskforce (NEST). A NESS was held in February 2017 in Laos, and a follow up NESS is planned for the second half of 2017.

INTERPOL provides specialized training to member countries, primarily to their police services, and regularly bringing together representatives from multiple countries simultaneously. The following training has been planned for the first half of 2017 (including subject, member countries invited, and venue):

- Fundamentals of Intelligence Analysis – Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam (Nairobi, April 2017); and Advanced Intelligence Analysis – Cambodia, China, Laos, Vietnam (Lyon, May 2017);
- Online trade investigation training – Cambodia, China, Laos, Thailand, Vietnam (Singapore, June 2017);
- Digital forensics: data extraction and analysis – Cambodia, China, Laos, Thailand, Vietnam (Singapore, June 2017);
- Crime Scene Investigation Training – Cambodia, China, Laos, Thailand, Vietnam (July 2017);
- Species Identification – Laos (date and venue to be confirmed).

INTERPOL Project Waylay, funded by the U.K. Department for Environment, Food, and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) has been focusing on building control delivery capacity and interest in member countries since 2014. So far, the work has been on capacity building and developing a common guideline. Currently INTERPOL is working with countries that have expressed an interest in Asia and Africa to identify potential cases in which controlled deliveries can be organized. Discussions are ongoing with China, Laos, Thailand, and Vietnam on this issue. Equipment may be provided as needed.

INTERPOL conducts annual operations targeting environmental crime. The most recent, Thunderbird, finalized in February 2017, included 43 countries. While Laos did not participate in Operation Thunderbird, the country actively participated in past INTERPOL Operations including Operation CONNEXUS, Operation PAWS, and Operation PREY.

## TRAFFIC

TRAFFIC has expertise and credibility in tackling wildlife trafficking and acts through its regional and country-based teams across Asia as well as in Africa, Europe and Americas. Using primary research and contextual understanding to analyze information on wildlife trade dynamics, TRAFFIC's evidence-based outputs assist government law enforcement agencies to disrupt and dismantle trafficking syndicates and increase deterrents through sentencing and prosecution. The Wildlife TRAPS Project, financed by USAID and implemented by TRAFFIC, in collaboration with the IUCN, is designed to develop and deliver a suite of ground-breaking partnerships and pioneering approaches to tackle wildlife crime between Africa and Asia. The Wildlife TRAPS Project delivers activities through 6 key thematic work streams including: 1) Engaging the Transportation Sector, 2) Enforcement Capacity and Inter-Agency Collaboration, 3) Financial Investigation and Asset Recovery, 4) Wildlife Forensics, 5) Consumer Behavior Change and Demand Reduction and 6) Community Engagement. The project is building a collective understanding of the true character and scale of the response required through targeted assessments, setting priorities through collaborative action planning, identifying interventions points, and testing non-traditional approaches. This project commenced in 2013 and will run through February 2020. ROUTES, an innovative and transformational partnership, is supported by USAID and implemented by TRAFFIC. This brings together international conservation organizations, donors, government, and the transportation and logistics industry for a multi-year collaborative program to disrupt wildlife trafficking by reducing the use of legal transportation supply chains.

TRAFFIC conducts regular market monitoring surveys in Laos along with seizure data analysis and intelligence gathering across the country particularly related to the trades in ivory, bears, birds, pangolins, and tigers. Its research and analysis are used to advocate legislative reform to close

loopholes and step up enforcement interventions. The following is a selection of TRAFFIC reports involving the wildlife trade in Laos:

- Gomez, L., Leupen, B T.C., and Heinrich, S. (2016). Observations of the illegal pangolin trade in Lao PDR. TRAFFIC, Southeast Asia Regional Office, Petaling Jaya, Selangor, Malaysia.
- Krishnasamy, K., Leupen, B., Or, O.C. (2016). Observations of the Helmeted Hornbill Trade in Lao PDR. TRAFFIC, Southeast Asia Regional Office, Petaling Jaya, Selangor, Malaysia.
- Stoner, S., Krishnasamy, K., Wittmann, T., Delean, S. and Cassey, P.(2016). Reduced to skin and bones re-examined: Full analysis. An analysis of Tiger seizures from 13 range countries from 2000-2015. TRAFFIC, Southeast Asia Regional Office, Petaling Jaya, Selangor, Malaysia.
- Burgess. E. A., Stoner, S.S., and Foley, K.E. (2014). Brought to Bear: An Analysis of Seizures across Asia (2000–2011). TRAFFIC, Petaling Jaya, Selangor, Malaysia.

TRAFFIC also commenced a series of law enforcement trainings in 2008 in Laos, a number of which involve cross-border/multi-country trainings.

#### **UNITED FOR WILDLIFE (UfW)**

UfW is working with the transportation sector through the UfW Transport Taskforce to encourage increased action regarding the transport of illegal wildlife products. One of the focus activities is to enable the sharing of NGO information on wildlife trafficking with the transportation industry – see below section on private sector commitment building.

In 2014 and 2015 the global law firm, DLA Piper, undertook reviews of wildlife legislation in several countries involved in illegal wildlife trade as either predominantly supply, transit and consumer locations. This work was undertaken pro bono in support of UfW. These reports provide a snapshot of the wildlife legislation as well as identifying any ancillary legislation that can be used in the prosecution of wildlife crimes. Laos was included in the second phase of reports under this work.

#### **UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP)**

UNDP is developing a GEF-financed regional project across tiger range states titled “South-South Cooperation for Sustainability of the Global Tiger Recovery Programme” that will be implemented with the Global Tiger Forum. The project’s goal is to promote the long-term survival of the tiger in ecologically intact landscapes across its range. The project will develop and test a simplified and harmonized monitoring and reporting protocol in close consultation with the 13 tiger range countries, tiger researchers and other relevant scientists, conservation practitioners and managers of tiger areas. The project will also address the financial sustainability of tiger conservation by making the business case for tiger conservation, developing new streams of domestic finance for tigers and targeting private finance at the regional level. Finally, the project will ensure that tiger range countries have sufficient capacity, tools and mechanisms for effective implementation, monitoring and updating of their respective National Tiger Recovery Plans, including collaboration and joint action in thematic areas that transcend national boundaries.

#### **UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME (UNEP)**

UNEP, in partnership with UNDP and others, will convene an Africa-Asia Symposium on Strengthening Legal Frameworks to Combat Wildlife Crime on July 4-5, 2017, in Bangkok – see

reference below in commitment building section.

### UNITED NATIONS OFFICE ON DRUGS AND CRIME (UNODC)

UNODC has supported the establishment of a network of more than 70 Border Liaison Offices (BLOs) through its Border Management Programme throughout the Greater Mekong Sub-region, including in Cambodia, China, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam. UNODC provides regular training and capacity building support to BLOs to ensure that border law enforcement agencies have standardized knowledge, skills and communication mechanisms to collect and share information and intelligence, and are able to better respond to the growing threat of cross-border crimes in the region.

UNODC and WCO partner in the Global Container Control Programme (CCP), which operates in ASEAN countries including Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam. The CCP aims to secure the global containerized supply chain and minimize the risk of shipping containers being exploited for illicit trafficking, transnational organized crime, and other forms of black market activity. The CCP works with governments to establish inter-agency container profiling units, and strengthen the capacity of customs and law enforcement authorities through the delivery of training, mentoring, equipment, standard operating procedures, and access to tools and databases.

UNODC organizes the Wildlife Inter-Regional Enforcement Meetings (WIRE), which offer specialized platforms for law enforcement officials to develop ties with their direct counterparts in African and Asian countries:

- A WIRE-Police meeting was held in November 2016 in Bangkok for police and wildlife investigators from India, Kenya, South Africa, and ASEAN countries including Laos, as well as INTERPOL, Lusaka Agreement Task Force, UNODC and WCO, to exchange criminal intelligence for the identification of wildlife trafficking routes, groups and trends.
- A WIRE-Prosecutors meeting was held in March 2017 in Bangkok for prosecutors with experience in wildlife crime cases and for Central Authorities responsible for sending and receiving mutual legal assistance requests, from Botswana, Kenya, Uganda, and six key ASEAN countries. This meeting focused on effective use of MLA, and authorization for the use of specialized investigative techniques for wildlife crime cases.
- A WIRE-Customs meeting will also be organized in the third quarter 2017 on identifying CITES-risk indicators to assist the detection of containers and cargoes potentially carrying illegal wildlife products.

UNODC provided assistance to Laos in reviewing the Environmental Chapter of the Penal Code in 2016. A set of recommendations was presented to the Lao Government Task Force in Sept 2016. The new draft has incorporated several key recommendations from UNODC, and is expected to be passed in April 2017. After approval of the new law, UNODC will provide further support to Laos to disseminate the new environmental chapter to relevant authorities.

UNODC provided and intends to provide the following training to law enforcement agencies in Laos:

- Training course on controlled deliveries, electronic surveillance, and intelligence analysis held in Nov 2016 for Environmental Police, Customs, and the Department of Forest Inspection; UNODC also trialed the first cross-border surveillance and controlled delivery training course with Laos and Vietnam in April 2016, for Police, Border Army, Forestry, and Customs officers in both countries.

- Training course for prosecutors held July 2016, focusing on best practices for gathering and handling evidence for wildlife crime cases, case management, communication channels to request information and mutual legal assistance, and preparing and presenting wildlife crime cases in court;
- Training for selected police intelligence analysts on the use of Sentinel Visualizer software to analyze data and intelligence – held in August 2016.
- Regional workshop on “*Strengthening regional cooperation to mitigate corruption risks in wildlife and forest crimes*” in November 2016, which included the participation of anti-corruption authorities from Laos and Thailand, as well as other ASEAN countries. The workshop promoted multi-agency, multi-disciplinary law enforcement cooperation in combating wildlife and forest crime, including an active role for anti-corruption authorities.
- Training workshop on anti-money laundering and financial investigation techniques relating to wildlife and forest crime cases, for prosecutors and environmental police officers in November 2016.
- In 2017, UNODC will provide mentorship and advisory support to police to enhance wildlife crime investigations.
- UNODC will conduct a training course on anti-smuggling and advanced investigation techniques for frontline law enforcement officers, as a synergy between the Border Management Programme and the Combating Wildlife and Forest Crime Programme.
- In 2017 UNODC will work in cooperation with the United Nations Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (UN-REDD) Programme and Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam to draft a set of SOPs to combat wildlife and timber trafficking, based on the BLO mechanism. The SOPs will aim to enable law enforcement authorities to take an agreed standardized approach to respond to cross-border wildlife and timber trafficking cases and efficiently engage in international cooperation.

### USAID WILDLIFE ASIA

USAID Wildlife Asia will strengthen regional law enforcement capacity and coordination by institutionalizing capacity building efforts in Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, and Vietnam. This will occur through the establishment of a working group tasked with developing and delivering competency standards for key positions within judicial and law enforcement agencies responsible for addressing wildlife crime and trafficking in the region. In addition, USAID Wildlife Asia will strengthen regional and international cooperation and coordination through training and networking workshops, including convening targeted Asia/Africa Special Investigation Group (SIG) meetings designed to allow sharing of information and building collaborative efforts across agencies and borders of both source, transit and demand countries. The USAID Wildlife Asia Activity is implemented by the International Resources Group (IRG) – which is owned by RTI International – with a consortium of organizations and companies including FHI 360, International Fund for Animal Welfare, Freeland and Integra. Specific law enforcement capacity building and coordination activities in FY2017 include:

- Conduct CWT Institutionalization Needs Assessment, Establish and CWT Institutionalization Working Group, and convene a CWT Institutionalization Needs Workshop.
- Conduct a SIG Asia – Africa “back tracking the seizures” in Bangkok, to include police, wildlife authorities, customs and prosecutors from Cambodia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Thailand

and Vietnam, as well as officers and specialists from the Tanzania, South Africa, Uganda and Zambia, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The event will be jointly funded and coordinated with INL's strengthening cross border wildlife enforcement program in Africa. [February 2017]

- Conduct a Counter-Transnational Organized Crime Training Course and SIG, in Lusaka Zambia, involving wildlife authorities, police, customs and prosecutors from Cambodia, Thailand, Malaysia, Vietnam, Zambia, Malawi and Kenya. The event will be jointly funded and coordinated with INL's strengthening cross border wildlife enforcement program in Africa. [June 2017]
- Conduct a Detection of Environmental Crime Training Course (DETECT) for wildlife authorities in Cambodia and Thailand, to include a "Twinning and Surviving Together" exercise between the Cambodia-WEN and the Thai-WEN. [August 2017]
- Collaborate with the UNODC on a series of capacity building events focusing on strengthening customs authorities' ability to detect, investigate and develop wildlife trafficking cases for successful prosecution. Conduct three, 3 to 5 day workshops, with relevant customs authorities in air and sea ports in Cambodia, Lao and Vietnam. [September 2017]
- Develop country specific Rapid Reference Guides (RRG) for both investigators and prosecutors that will encompass all relevant offenses and what is required to build an evidential case against those accused of wildlife and related crimes. The RRG will include standard operating procedures and is geared towards fostering cooperation and collaboration between all agencies involved in the fight against wildlife crime and trafficking.
- Develop a law enforcement field guide to pangolin species identification. The pangolin species identification products will be broadly disseminated in printed and digital formats to improve methods and capacity for customs, border, and investigative personnel to detect and identify illegally traded pangolins and pangolin products.

USAID Wildlife Asia will identify priorities in laws, policies and jurisprudence on which to focus in Cambodia, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam. USAID Wildlife Asia will host capacity-building events for parliaments; present and develop conservation fund models; showcase forfeiture best practices in prosecution and sentencing; and develop and propose sentencing guidelines for the judiciary. During year 1, the project will prioritize Cambodia and Laos since these countries have ongoing formal CWT-related legislative reform initiatives both in the legislative and judicial arms of the government.

USAID Wildlife Asia will support USAID RDMA activities to enhance coordination amongst US Government (USG) agencies. This will include logistic, technical and financial support for coordination activities; compilation, synthesis and provision of information to USG agencies on CWT efforts of different actors in the region; and emergence of a community of practice and learning agenda for enhanced CWT efforts. USAID Wildlife Asia also will link with relevant bodies such as UNEP and International Conservation Caucus Foundation (ICCF) to capitalize on increased attention to CWT as a priority development agenda for ASEAN and the UN.

### **WILDLIFE CONSERVATION SOCIETY (WCS)**

WCS is conducting information gathering surveys on individuals and companies involved in the illegal wildlife trade routes between Thailand and Vietnam and China. Many of the species involved have been sourced from Africa. Information gathered is inputted into the WCS intelligence management system where a range of intelligence products are produced and disseminated to Laos law enforcement authorities. WCS also provides technical support for bilateral meetings between Lao, Thai and Chinese enforcement agencies to join and share information on wildlife trafficking and



international cooperation mechanisms to enable joint investigations between the countries – see section on political commitment building.

WCS receives funding from INL and other donors for capacity building with the Department of Forest Inspections and other Laos WEN agencies (e.g. Customs, and Environmental Police) in Laos. WCS has developed a capacity building strategy that relies on practical competency based training as opposed to the classroom approach.

WCS has been active in assisting the Department of Forest Inspection and the Laos Wildlife Enforcement Agencies with a strategy to close the domestic ivory market.

With funding from the US FWS an awareness campaign, targeting Chinese visitors to Laos, is being developed to advise visitors on the risks and legalities in purchasing and transporting ivory out of Laos that will complement enhanced enforcement efforts.

#### **WORLD CUSTOMS ORGANIZATION (WCO)**

UNODC and WCO partner in the Global Container Control Programme (CCP), which operates in ASEAN countries including Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam. The CCP aims to secure the global containerized supply chain and minimize the risk of shipping containers being exploited for illicit trafficking, transnational organized crime, and other forms of black market activity. The CCP works with governments to establish inter-agency container profiling units, and strengthen the capacity of customs and law enforcement authorities through the delivery of training, mentoring, equipment, standard operating procedures, and access to tools and databases. CCP information also cited in UNODC section on national level law enforcement support.

#### **WORLD WILDLIFE FUND (WWF)**

WWF-Laos is implementing support to strengthen wildlife law enforcement in Laos to address illegal wildlife trade in key markets and trade hubs in the country – particularly in northern Laos, Vientiane Capital, and the Laos-Vietnam border Landscape in the Central Annamites. Specific law enforcement training and operations support will be provided to Laos government agencies, through the Department of Forest Inspection (DoFI) as lead agency of Lao-WEN, and focused for northern Laos and Vientiane Capital. See also WWF work on law enforcement support at a landscape level, above.

## **4. LAOS POLITICAL COMMITMENT BUILDING**

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATION AGENCY (EIA), UK**

EIA published a report in the lead up to the Hanoi Conference on Illegal Wildlife Trade in November 2016 examining how 15 countries including China, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam – had implemented their commitments under the London Declaration of February 2014. This report utilized specific indicators developed by EIA to assess the countries' actions. EIA continues to review progress made in implementation of the London Declaration particularly by China, Laos and Vietnam.

EIA investigative products are used by a number of stakeholders to push for greater commitment by consumer countries to enforce wildlife crime laws pertaining to the trade in Asian big cats and ivory – see above description in the law enforcement support section.

#### **FREELAND**

Freeland has a Memorandum of Understanding with the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) that commits the two organizations to collaborate to strengthen and harmonize legislation across the 10 ASEAN Member States on combating wildlife crime. Using the Freeland-produced ASEAN Handbook on Combating Wildlife Crime, a Freeland-led Legal Support Task Force (that also includes National University of Singapore and ASEAN-WEN) provides technical training and support to parliamentarians and their staff who are responsible for writing laws and policies. Freeland also provides technical support to the AIPA Secretariat to mobilize interest among politicians and media across ASEAN to suppress wildlife trafficking.

#### **INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL POLICE ORGANIZATION (INTERPOL)**

INTERPOL's Environmental Security Sub-Directorate seeks to promote the prioritization of work by national police services on environmental crime issues. See also the above INTERPOL reference in the section concerning support of law enforcement (national level).

#### **TRAFFIC**

TRAFFIC conducts regular market monitoring surveys in Laos along with seizure data analysis and intelligence gathering across the country particularly related to the trades in ivory, bears, birds, pangolins, and tigers. Its research and analysis are used to advocate legislative reform to close loopholes and step up enforcement interventions – see national law enforcement support section for additional information.

#### **UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP)**

UNDP, UNEP and other UN agencies such as UNODC and the CITES Secretariat, along with the Global Wildlife Program, will convene an Africa-Asia Symposium on Strengthening Legal Frameworks to Combat Wildlife Crime in Bangkok in July 2017. The Symposium is expected to bring together up to 10 countries from Africa and 10 from Asia to discuss criteria for effective legal frameworks and priority issues to strengthen application of national laws to wildlife crime.

#### **UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME (UNEP)**

UNEP, UNDP and other partners, will convene an Africa-Asia Symposium on Strengthening Legal Frameworks to Combat Wildlife Crime in Bangkok on July 4-5, 2017. The key objective of the Symposium is to advance efforts in Africa and Asia Pacific to strengthen and harmonize legal frameworks to combat wildlife crime. Participants will discuss their countries' experiences with developing and enacting laws that address wildlife crime, and debate proposed criteria and recommended minimum requirements for strengthening legislation that governs the multiple aspects of wildlife crime. Opportunities to strengthen political will to combat wildlife crime through the strategic engagement of parliamentarians from Africa and Asia Pacific will also be explored as a secondary objective. The Symposium will support the participation of 20 representatives from Africa and Asia Pacific, and more if additional resources that can be mobilized. Target participants will be senior government officials who are responsible for developing or strengthening laws and

regulations relevant to combating wildlife crime. Laos is proposed for inclusion in the Symposium.

#### **UNITED NATIONS OFFICE ON DRUGS AND CRIME (UNODC)**

UNODC, through its Global Programme for Combating Wildlife and Forest Crime, works with national legal systems and law enforcement agencies of Member States (which in ASEAN includes Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Thailand, Philippines and Vietnam) to strengthen legislative frameworks, shape policy, enhance knowledge and capacities, and increase regional cooperation to combat wildlife and forest crime. In October 2015, the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime agreed to include “wildlife and timber trafficking” as a priority crime under the purview of the Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC). In June 2016, UNODC worked in cooperation with Thailand and the Royal Thai Police to convene a regional conference to bring the SOMTC focal points on wildlife and timber trafficking together to agree on a work programme. The Work Programme to Combat Wildlife and Timber Trafficking will be integrated with the existing SOMTC 2016-18 Work Programme to implement the ASEAN Plan of Action to Combat Transnational Crime. In parallel, UNODC is also encouraging the establishment of a SOMTC working group on wildlife and timber trafficking to coordinate implementation of the Work Programme.

UNODC conducted a rapid assessment in Laos in October 2014 to evaluate the strengths and challenges of the national criminal justice response to wildlife and forest crime. In July 2016, UNODC conducted a brief update of this assessment, collecting updated statistics and evaluating recent changes in the institutional structure.

UNODC organized a press conference in Laos to highlight World Environment Day 2016, in cooperation with representatives from the Ministry of Public Security and the Office of the Supreme People’s Procuracy, to call for an end to wildlife trafficking.

UNODC hosted a Laos-Vietnam policy dialogue in April 2016 to improve the response of trafficking of natural resources across land borders. It was the first policy dialogue meeting on this issue between the two countries. Participants identified a framework of challenges and solutions to improve international cooperation, focusing on trade and regulations, and law enforcement and corruption.

#### **USAID WILDLIFE ASIA**

USAID Wildlife Asia will seek to build commitment by engaging high levels of the judiciary in the region. See above section on law enforcement support (national level) for additional information with specific reference to Laos.

#### **WILDLIFE CONSERVATION SOCIETY (WCS)**

WCS conducts internal constituency building within the government to build support for wildlife trafficking issues, including with the media and diplomatic groups and hosting side events for the national assembly. This work is funded by the U.K. Department for Environment, Food, and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) Illegal Wildlife Trade (IWT) Challenge Fund for Laos.

WCS provides technical support for bilateral meetings between Lao, Thai and Chinese enforcement agencies to join and share information on wildlife trafficking and international cooperation mechanisms to enable joint investigations between the countries.

WCS provides support to the Government of Laos to phase out tiger farming in the country. WCS is a member of a working group advising the government on the development of a phase-out strategy as well as management options for the 700 tigers held in tiger farms within the country.

The Wildlife and Aquatic Law as well as the Penal Code contain many grey areas and inconsistencies that make them confusing for law enforcement officers to implement. With support from the US Department of State Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL), WCS has assisted with the revision of the penal code and is in the process of reviewing the Wildlife and Aquatic law to enhance legislative and regulatory frameworks.

#### **WORLD WILDLIFE FUND (WWF)**

Multi-lateral trans-boundary workshop support to follow-up on relevant international/regional commitments to tackle IWT and bilateral meetings/inter-provincial roundtable dialogues support to strengthen cross-border cooperation with neighboring countries (China, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam) are also part of WWF's project with the Lao government. This includes providing technical advice on relevant IWT issues.

## **5. LAOS PRIVATE SECTOR COMMITMENT BUILDING**

#### **TRAFFIC**

The TRAFFIC project, Reducing Opportunities for Unlawful Transport of Endangered Species (ROUTES), is an innovative and transformational partnership, supported by USAID, that brings together international conservation organizations, donors, government, and the transportation and logistics industry for a multi-year collaborative program to disrupt wildlife trafficking by reducing the use of legal transportation supply chains – referenced also in the national level law enforcement section above.

#### **UNITED FOR WILDLIFE (UfW)**

UfW is working with the transportation sector through the UfW Transport Taskforce, which developed and is working to implement the commitments in the UfW Buckingham Palace Declaration. This work is being done in recognition that international freight and passenger transportation is vital to the movement of illegal wildlife products from source through transit and into markets, and that the private sector can assist in reducing such shipments. UfW, through the Royal Foundation of The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and Prince Harry, provides the secretariat for the Transport Taskforce, which includes 75 representatives from across the transport sector covering aviation, maritime, freight forwarders and enforcement. To support action from the transportation sector the Transport Taskforce is providing a mechanism for the collection and analysis of NGO information regarding wildlife trafficking, and sharing of verified information with signatories to the Buckingham Palace Declaration, including through regular alerts pertaining to illicit trafficking methods as well as details of specific trafficking cases.

## 6. CONSUMER DEMAND REDUCTION

### ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATION AGENCY (EIA), UK

EIA investigative products on the trade in tigers and their parts and derivatives, profiling individuals and networks involved in this trade, combined with EIA's analysis of open source information, assists stakeholders to identify relevant consumer groups and to further target their campaigns to reduce consumer demand – see above description in the law enforcement support section.

### TRAFFIC

TRAFFIC has been helping improve policies and legislation at the national level, engage public-private partnerships, and drive a suite of interventions to catalyze behavior change efforts with partners to reduce demand in major consumer markets in Southeast Asia and China. TRAFFIC hosts the Wildlife Consumer Behaviour Change Toolkit ([www.changewildlifeconsumers.org](http://www.changewildlifeconsumers.org)) and provides a suite of services for the 'Demand Reduction Community of Practice' that uses the Toolkit as an information and coordination hub – services include an element of Webinars, learning and experience exchange events, Expert Roundtables on key topics and Good Practice Guidelines on measuring the impact of behavioral change.

### UNITED FOR WILDLIFE (UFW)

UfW has grown a large and engaged social media community through a variety of digital campaigns and activities aimed at young people across the world. With a growing online community to share news with and raise awareness of illegal wildlife trade UfW shares unique content and activities enabling young people to engage with the issue of illegal wildlife trade while learning more about conservation in general.

UfW has also developed a platform for the delivery of online learning material and provides online courses that enable self-paced learning on several general and specialized topics relevant to conservation, including a short course focusing on illegal wildlife trade. At the end of 2016 over 8,500 people from 196 countries had registered on the platform and more than 170,000 people follow the course and its content on social media with marketing focused on the priority countries identified by UfW in regard to consumer markets. The platform won a highly-regarded Learning Technologies award in 2016.

UfW further works with the online gaming sector to expand the audience of conservation messaging, with 100,000 downloads of the UfW "We Are the Rangers" Minecraft map, and over 2.6 million YouTube play-throughs. This included content created by popular Minecraft YouTubers in Thailand and initial player generated map events submitted from Vietnam.

### USAID WILDLIFE ASIA

USAID Wildlife Asia will reduce consumer demand for wildlife parts and products by communicating, mobilizing and advocating ways to change behaviors and build new social norms around the use of wildlife. Planned activities include communication campaigns using proven social and behavior change communication (SBCC) approaches and technical assistance to strengthen capacity of organizations to use SBCC in planning and implementing demand reduction campaigns. Year 1 activities include conduct of a situational analysis to identify priority consumer segments, demand drivers and influencing factors underlying the purchase and use of wildlife products in China,

Thailand and Vietnam; development and preparation for implementation of new campaigns in these three countries; as well as providing support to align existing campaigns with USAID Wildlife Asia messages, and SBCC capacity building of organizations involved in wildlife communication. The USAID Wildlife Asia Activity is implemented by the International Resources Group (IRG) – which is owned by RTI International – with a consortium of organizations and companies including FHI 360, International Fund for Animal Welfare, Freeland and Integra.

#### **WORLD WILDLIFE FUND (WWF)**

WWF-Laos will work with the Lao government and organizations in Laos on public outreach and awareness-raising activities. It is also exploring potential activities to support the government and local authorities in engaging with communities and targeting travelers and tourists on illegal wildlife trafficking issues to reduce poaching and trading of wildlife.



# THAILAND

## I. SUMMARY OF INITIATIVES IN THAILAND

SUMMARY OF INITIATIVES IN CAMBODIA					
ORGANIZATION	LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT (LANDSCAPE LEVEL)	LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT (NATIONAL LEVEL)	POLITICAL COMMITMENT BUILDING	PRIVATE SECTOR COMMITMENT BUILDING	CONSUMER DEMAND REDUCTION
EIA		X	X		X
Freeland	X	X	X		X
INTERPOL		X	X		
Panthera	X				
TRAFFIC		X	X	X	X
UfW		X		X	X
UNDP	X	X	X		X
UNEP		X	X		
UNODC		X	X		
USAID Wildlife Asia		X	X		X
WCS	X	X	X		
WildAid			X	X	X
WCO		X			
WWF	X				X

Note: An “X” denotes an initiative by the organization in the above listed types of engagement.

## 2. THAILAND LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT (LANDSCAPE LEVEL)

### FREELAND

Freeland provides capacity building to rangers, protected area managers, and military through the PROTECT program that combines assessments, strategy design, and training to implement strategies. This program has training programs for front line rangers right up to protected area managers, and is tailored to each audience and their threats, and has a mentoring element that Freeland refers to as “On-the-Job Training” (OJT). The OJTs can include digital forensics training and analytical support. PROTECT has been accredited by the American Council on Education. Freeland also developed Field Information Support Tool (FIST)-PROTECT with Kestrel Technologies to help rangers and their supervisors track, prevent and record poaching through phones or other hand-held devices that link up to satellites. FIST allows information, orders and requests to be transmitted between the field and command centers in real time through an analytical hub that provides user-friendly and useful analysis.

Freeland developed WildScan, a mobile phone application to facilitate species identification. It is produced in Thai, covering species found in Thailand and is free for government officers or the public to download and use to record and report sightings of wildlife or wildlife crime.

### PANTHERA

Panthera is devoted exclusively to the conservation of the world’s wild cat species and their ecosystems. Utilizing the expertise of premier cat biologists, Panthera develops and implements global strategies for the most imperiled large cats: tigers, lions, jaguars, snow leopards, cheetahs, pumas, and leopards. Panthera partners with local and international NGOs, scientific institutions, local communities, and governments around the globe, to ensure a future for wild cats. Due to the nature of threats in Asia, Panthera’s Tiger Program has pioneered solutions to recover tigers in key sites throughout Asia by improving law enforcement capacity to detect, capture and prosecute poachers and secure the most important breeding populations. In Thailand, Panthera works in the southern extent of the Western Forest Complex in partnership with the Zoological Society of London (ZSL), and in the Eastern Forest Complex partnering with Freeland.

In the Western Forest Complex, Panthera has provided ranger training, including on intelligence gathering and conducting intelligence-led operations to address many types of forest poaching and illicit harvesting activities. Panthera also aims to link crime base criminal intelligence on poachers and traffickers to national level investigations with the Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation. In the Eastern Forest Complex, Panthera has enhanced wildlife monitoring to improve protection of tigers in the Dong Phrayayen-Khao Yai Forest Complex.

In the Khlong Saeng-Khao Sok Complex, Panthera is monitoring an isolated population of melanistic leopards in partnership with ZSL, and providing law enforcement data on illegal human activities.

### UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP)

The UNDP-supported, GEF-financed project titled “Strengthening Capacity and Incentives for Wildlife Conservation in the Western Forest Complex” (also known as Project Tiger), is implemented with the Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation of Thailand. The project’s first goal is to develop and test innovative approaches to enforcement and compliance in the protected area to reduce the direct threats to tigers and prey, improve effectiveness of wildlife sanctuary management, and enhance the use of data and information to support key management decision-making. To achieve this goal, the project will increase the coverage of ranger

patrols and the use of the SMART patrolling system; improve efficiency and response time of ranger staff; bolster rangers' performance and motivation; improve intelligence-led planning and management; and improve relationships among rangers, the community and other stakeholders. The project will also enhance the DNA analysis of wild tigers to link to the national database of wild and captive tigers in Thailand. The second goal of the project is to link sustainable livelihood development in the enclave and buffer zone villages with specific conservation outcomes; and the third goal is to raise awareness among local communities as to the need to conserve, and the importance of protecting, the forest landscapes and associated wildlife.

UNDP is developing a GEF-financed regional project across tiger range states titled "South-South Cooperation for Sustainability of the Global Tiger Recovery Programme" that will be implemented with the Global Tiger Forum. See section below on national level law enforcement support for details.

### **WILDLIFE CONSERVATION SOCIETY (WCS)**

WCS assists the government to strengthen protection of endangered species, including tigers and elephants, in national parks and wildlife sanctuaries with a focus on reducing poaching. The organization has been involved for more than a decade in supporting high quality SMART patrol training, long-term support on patrol equipment and supplies, advanced patrol database, and other morale boosting activities. As a result, the performance of park rangers in the Huai Kha Khaeng World Heritage Site and Thung Yai Wildlife Sanctuaries of the Western Thailand next to Myanmar has been exemplified in deterring and arresting serious poachers and saving lives of many endangered species. The ultimate result is that the tiger population has shown a trend of positive recovery and dispersal to repopulate the remaining forest areas both in Western Thailand and Myanmar. In Thap Lan National Park of Dong Phrayayen-Khao Yai World Heritage Site, WCS has helped the government to strengthen the SMART patrol system with real-time anti-poaching camera traps to significantly increase the arrest rates of rosewood and wildlife poachers before they either cut the trees or kill animals. The SMART patrol system and anti-poaching camera traps have been adopted by the Thai government to strengthen many protected areas in Thailand.

WCS works with the Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation (DNP) establishing wildlife crime units through CITES checkpoints at border posts with a grant from the INL. This includes the provision of IBM i2 software and the training of the border crime units on its application, and linking information collected through SMART to i2 to intensify national investigations. Other activities include community engagement to enhance support to law enforcement agencies, and strengthening patrols of protected areas along the borders, as well as promoting local demand reduction for bush meat. WCS focuses on key checkpoints which are major wildlife trafficking routes at checkpoints between Thailand and both Laos and Myanmar. On the Thai/Myanmar border WCS is supporting a 'joint agency wildlife crime enforcement center' involving customs, police and the DNP.

### **WORLD WILDLIFE FUND (WWF)**

WWF is involved in an initiative to reduce poaching in the Mekong transboundary protected areas in Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam. WWF provides assistance to enhance government capacities to conduct enforcement work in those areas, which includes working with local law enforcement, mainly wildlife authorities. WWF supports efforts by the Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation to reduce poaching in Kuiburi, Mae Wong, and Khlong Lan national parks by providing Smart Patrol training, technical assistance, equipment, and supplies for rangers.

### 3. THAILAND LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT (NATIONAL LEVEL)

#### ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATION AGENCY (EIA), UK

EIA conducts research and investigations on the trade in tigers and their parts and derivatives, profiling individuals, businesses and networks involved in this trade in China and Laos, and with partners, maps those networks as they extend between Thailand and Vietnam. EIA publishes reports of their research and investigation findings, and provides more sensitive information to relevant national government agencies such as police, customs and CITES authorities, and to relevant IGOs such as INTERPOL and enforcement contacts in the CITES Secretariat. EIA has also shared such information with US FWS and US Drug Enforcement Agency (US DEA) agents based in Asia. Where appropriate, EIA also shares such sensitive information with certain NGOs with the relevant expertise based in China, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam. This also includes mapping the scale and trends in the illicit trade of Asian big cats in the region. EIA's reports as well as more detailed confidential information help to mobilize action by organizations involved in law enforcement as well as consumer demand reduction. These campaign tools can also be used to pressure relevant government agencies, including in China, Laos and Vietnam, to ensure there are adequate resources to improve regional and international enforcement co-operation. EIA is also examining wildlife protection laws in China and Laos, with a specific reference to tiger farming, to assist in strengthening wildlife protection and the implementation of the relevant CITES Resolution and associated Decisions. This follows on previous work of EIA on the tiger trade including a report and film in 2015 concerning this trade in China and by Chinese nationals and businesses in Laos.

EIA conducts research and investigations on the trafficking of ivory between Africa and Asia, particularly China, Laos and Vietnam, with some linkages to Thailand. These investigations examine the composition of criminal networks and their methods to traffic ivory, and other wildlife contraband, on an inter-regional level between source countries in Africa and destination countries in Asia. EIA publishes reports of this research and investigative findings, and provides more sensitive information to relevant national government agencies such as police, customs and CITES authorities, and to relevant IGOs such as INTERPOL, WCO and enforcement contacts in the CITES Secretariat. EIA has also shared such information with US FWS and US DEA agents based in Africa and Asia. Where appropriate, EIA also shares such sensitive information with certain NGOs with the relevant expertise based in China, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam. This includes mapping the scale and trends in the illicit trade of ivory. The information can then be provided to assist organizations conducting law enforcement support, and also can be used to pressure relevant governments, including in China, Laos and Vietnam, to take action to investigate the individuals and companies identified by EIA as likely being involved in ivory trafficking, and to improve regional and international enforcement co-operation.

EIA is producing a field guide for law enforcement officers on the Asian big cat trade in partnership with CITES. This guide will assist front line officers in identifying products made or derived from these species and understand the methods of operation of the criminal networks involved in such trade. The guide will be distributed by the CITES Secretariat to all CITES Parties including to the CITES authorities in Cambodia, China, Laos, Thailand, and Vietnam.

EIA is finalizing a short film and seventeen modules to be used for wildlife law enforcement training. This project has been formally endorsed by the CITES Secretariat, INTERPOL, WCO and several governments. Relevant enforcement agencies in Hong Kong, Thailand and Vietnam have participated in the film. The modules cover different areas such as crime scene management, controlled

deliveries, DNA analysis of ivory, financial investigations and best practice for successful prosecutions. The film and the modules will be distributed physically through USB sticks/DVDs and via a password-protected secure website. This will be distributed widely to various national government agencies, including in Cambodia, China, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam.

## **FREELAND**

Freeland provides national and regional level capacity building to police, customs, financial intelligence units, prosecutors, through its DETECT and LEGAL programs that combine assessments, strategy design, and training to implement strategies. Each of the programs outlined below is tailored to each audience and their threats, and has a mentoring element that Freeland refers to as “On-the-Job Training” (OJT). The OJTs can include digital forensics training and analytical support. The LEGAL program is for prosecutors and judiciary, while the DETECT program is for counter-trafficking and is designed mainly for police, customs, financial intelligence units, and prosecutors, and includes basic and advanced courses. DETECT cross-border courses led to the formation of the ASEAN-WEN “SIG” (Special Investigation Group). Recently, Freeland produced a highly-advanced course under DETECT named “CTOC” (Counter-Transnational Organized Crime), which empowers officers to identify and disrupt illicit supply chains involved in wildlife trafficking and other forms of transnational crime.

Freeland runs a project titled “Trafficking Free Enterprises” that includes training programs for airport-based personnel; bank compliance officers; and hospitality staff. These “eyes and ears” awareness trainings are half day and have been held in Cambodia, China, Thailand, Vietnam, as well as two African countries.

Freeland developed WildScan, a mobile phone application to facilitate species identification. See above section on landscape level law enforcement support for additional information.

## **INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL POLICE ORGANIZATION (INTERPOL)**

INTERPOL assists its 190 Member Countries, which include Cambodia, China, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam share criminal intelligence, including for issues of environmental crime, through National Central Bureaus (NCBs) in each country. INTERPOL can, upon the request of member countries, deploy an Investigative Support Team (IST) pertaining to investigative pursuits. INTERPOL’s Environmental Security Sub-Directorate provides analysis of information submitted by member countries covering investigations of major cases, including both domestic transnational cases. INTERPOL also hosts Regional Investigative and Analytical Case Meetings (RIACMs) to bring two or more countries together to exchange information and work together on specific investigations. In the first half of 2017, INTERPOL is planning three RIACMs that involve the countries of the region:

- Yangon – March 2017 – China
- Singapore – May 2017 – Cambodia, Vietnam
- Singapore – May 2017 – Thailand

Other RIACMs are planned for later in the year. The dates and venues are yet to be confirmed. Cambodia, China, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam, will be invited based on the investigation covered by the meeting.

INTERPOL hosts National Environmental Security Seminars (NESS) to encourage national multi-agency communication and cooperation on environmental crime. Member countries are then encouraged to form a National Environmental Security Taskforce (NEST). A NESS was held in January 2017 in Thailand, and a follow up NESS is planned for the second half of 2017.

INTERPOL provides specialized training to member countries, primarily to their police services, and regularly bringing together representatives from multiple countries simultaneously. The following training has been planned for the first half of 2017 (including subject, member countries invited, and venue):

- Fundamentals of Intelligence Analysis – Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam (Nairobi, April 2017); and Advanced Intelligence Analysis – Cambodia, China, Laos, Vietnam (Lyon, May 2017);
- Online trade investigation training – Cambodia, China, Laos, Thailand, Vietnam (Singapore, June 2017);
- Digital forensics: data extraction and analysis – Cambodia, China, Laos, Thailand, Vietnam (Singapore, June 2017);
- Crime Scene Investigation Training – Cambodia, China, Laos, Thailand, Vietnam (July 2017).

INTERPOL Project Waylay, funded by the U.K. Department for Environment, Food, and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), has been focusing on building control delivery capacity and interest in member countries since 2014. So far, the work has been on capacity building and developing a common guideline. Currently INTERPOL is working with countries that have expressed an interest in Asia and Africa to identify potential cases in which a controlled delivery can be organized. Discussions are ongoing with China, Laos, Thailand, and Vietnam on this issue. Equipment may be provided as needed.

INTERPOL conducts annual operations targeting environmental crime. The most recent, Thunderbird, finalized in February 2017, included 43 countries, among which were China (Hong Kong) and Thailand.

## TRAFFIC

TRAFFIC has expertise and credibility in tackling wildlife trafficking and acts through its regional and country-based teams across Asia as well as in Africa, Europe and Americas. Using primary research and contextual understanding to analyze information on wildlife trade dynamics, TRAFFIC's evidence-based outputs assist government law enforcement agencies to disrupt and dismantle trafficking syndicates and increase deterrents through sentencing and prosecution. The Wildlife Trafficking, Response, Assessment, and Priority Setting (Wildlife TRAPS) Project, financed by USAID and implemented by TRAFFIC, in collaboration with the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), is designed to develop and deliver a suite of ground-breaking partnerships and pioneering approaches to tackle wildlife crime between Africa and Asia. The Wildlife TRAPS Project delivers activities through 6 key thematic work streams including: 1) Engaging the Transportation Sector, 2) Enforcement Capacity and Inter-Agency Collaboration, 3) Financial Investigation and Asset Recovery, 4) Wildlife Forensics, 5) Consumer Behaviour Change and Demand Reduction and 6) Community Engagement. The project is building a collective understanding of the true character and scale of the response required through targeted assessments, setting priorities through collaborative action planning, identifying interventions points, and testing non-traditional approaches. This project commenced in 2013 and will run through February 2020. Reducing Opportunities for Unlawful Transport of Endangered Species (ROUTES) is an innovative and transformational partnership, supported by USAID and implemented by TRAFFIC, that brings together international conservation organizations, donors, government, and the transportation and logistics industry for a multi-year collaborative program to disrupt wildlife trafficking by reducing the use of legal transportation supply chains.



TRAFFIC conducts routine monitoring of indicator markets in Thailand, including online availability through Facebook and other social media that are found selling illegal wildlife products. Along with IUCN, WWF and Freeland, TRAFFIC has been recently appointed as member of a government multi-agency task force to combat online wildlife trafficking. Furthermore, TRAFFIC collects intelligence information through its informant networks and other channels such as the “Wildlife Witness App”, produces actionable crime analyses, and provides them to Thai enforcement agencies to support targeted action. Research based on seizure and market data analysis drives onward communication of actionable information and is used to advocate necessary legislative reforms and increase the effectiveness of law enforcement interventions. The following is a selection of TRAFFIC reports involving the wildlife trade in Thailand:

- Krishnasamy, K., Milliken, T. and Savini, C. (2016). In Transition: Bangkok’s Ivory Market – An 18-month survey of Bangkok’s ivory market. TRAFFIC, Southeast Asia Regional Office, Petaling Jaya, Selangor, Malaysia.
- Doak, N. (2014). Polishing off the Ivory Trade: Surveys of Thailand's Ivory Market. TRAFFIC International, Cambridge, UK.
- Stoner, S., Krishnasamy, K., Wittmann, T., Delean, S. and Cassey, P. (2016). Reduced to skin and bones re-examined: Full analysis. An analysis of Tiger seizures from 13 range countries from 2000-2015. TRAFFIC, Southeast Asia Regional Office, Petaling Jaya, Selangor, Malaysia.

Working closely with WWF, TRAFFIC has been providing technical guidance on the implementation of the new legislation that regulates the Thai domestic ivory trade, including efforts to reduce demand for ivory products.

TRAFFIC has been partnering with TRACE, the Wildlife Forensic Network, to support increased capacity and expertise exchange among and between wildlife forensic experts in South East Asia, (including Thailand) and Africa.

TRAFFIC, through the Wildlife TRAPS project, is supporting the participation of Asian customs officials, including from Thailand, in the World Customs Organization’s project INAMA trainings to build capacity on enforcement planning with customs officials from sub-Saharan African countries.

#### **UNITED FOR WILDLIFE (UfW)**

UfW is working with the transportation sector through the UfW Transport Taskforce to encourage increased action regarding the transport of illegal wildlife products. One of the focus activities is to enable the sharing of NGO information on wildlife trafficking with the transportation industry – see below section on private sector commitment building.

In 2014 and 2015 the global law firm, DLA Piper, undertook reviews of wildlife legislation in several countries involved in illegal wildlife trade as either predominantly supply, transit and consumer locations. This work was undertaken pro bono in support of UfW. These reports provide a snapshot of the wildlife legislation as well as identifying any ancillary legislation that can be used in the prosecution of wildlife crimes. Thailand was included in the first phase of reports under this work and subsequently DLA Piper reviewed the Elephant Ivory Act introduced in Thailand.

#### **UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP)**

The UNDP-supported, GEF-financed project titled “Combating Illegal Wildlife Trade, focusing on Ivory, Rhino Horn, Tiger and Pangolins in Thailand” is part of the Global Wildlife Program. It has

Thailand's DNP as the implementing partner, and also involves Royal Thai Police, Customs Department, Administrative Court, Office of the Attorney General, IUCN and WWF. The project is due to commence implementation in early 2018. The project aims to strengthen the capacity of and enhance collaboration between enforcement agencies, and reduce the demand for illegal wildlife products. The law enforcement assistance focuses on two components: improved cooperation, coordination, and information exchange; and enhanced enforcement and prosecution capacity. The first component includes the establishment of a central joint-agency task force under the Thai-WEN to be provided with tools and support to conduct intelligence-led operations against trafficking networks. This will also include information and intelligence exchanges with regional and international governments and NGOs, and improved cooperation between wildlife forensics laboratories in ASEAN, China and African countries. The second component of the project will focus on the increased coherence and capacity of the enforcement agencies to be able to address and deter illegal trafficking of wildlife (elephants, rhinos, tigers and pangolins) as a result of strengthening of cross-sectoral enforcement/persecution framework. This includes revising the trainers curriculum at prosecutor, police and customs training academies to include wildlife; increase capacity of police, prosecutors, judges and customs to implement relevant legislation; increase capacity and equipment, particularly at key check points (land and sea) across the country, for policing officers (police, customs, border security, market control agencies) to identify, report and arrest suspects involved in illegal trade of rhinos, tigers and pangolins; and increasing the capacity of the wildlife forensics laboratory to deliver robust prosecution evidence.

UNDP is developing a GEF-financed regional project across tiger range states titled "South-South Cooperation for Sustainability of the Global Tiger Recovery Programme" that will be implemented with the Global Tiger Forum. The project's goal is to promote the long-term survival of the tiger in ecologically intact landscapes across its range. The project will develop and test a simplified and harmonized monitoring and reporting protocol in close consultation with the 13 tiger range countries, tiger researchers and other relevant scientists, conservation practitioners and managers of tiger areas. The project will also address the financial sustainability of tiger conservation by making the business case for tiger conservation, developing new streams of domestic finance for tigers and targeting private finance at the regional level. Finally, the project will ensure that tiger range countries have sufficient capacity, tools and mechanisms for effective implementation, monitoring and updating of their respective National Tiger Recovery Plans, including collaboration and joint action in thematic areas that transcend national boundaries.

UNDP has initiated a GEF-financed global project under the Global Wildlife Program titled "Reducing Maritime Trafficking between Africa and Asia" to reduce trafficking of illegal wildlife and their parts. The project is due to commence implementation in mid-2017. The project seeks to tackle such maritime trafficking by strengthening capacity at priority seaports in Africa and Asia to detect and investigate wildlife trafficking, and by improving South-South cooperation between relevant agencies - to move beyond the status quo of making seizures as an enforcement measure, and increase opportunities for intelligence-led investigations and prosecutions. The project will support the establishment of a best practice scheme to combat maritime trafficking in sea ports (global sea ports to be determined) in response to commitment #10 of the Buckingham Palace Declaration, and will be implemented in partnership with members of the United for Wildlife Transportation Task Force and International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC) partners. This project further will increase South-South and interagency cooperation through joint training and strengthening of communication mechanisms to increase detection of wildlife contraband, as well as to strengthen capacity to conduct controlled deliveries between ports, in collaboration with ICWC partners. The project will also include awareness-raising activities including a workshop for maritime stakeholders, in partnership with TRAFFIC's Wildlife-TRAPS and ROUTES, currently planned for late 2017.

### UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME (UNEP)

UNEP, in partnership with UNDP and others, will convene an Africa-Asia Symposium on Strengthening Legal Frameworks to Combat Wildlife Crime on July 4-5, 2017, in Bangkok – see reference below in commitment building section.

### UNITED NATIONS OFFICE ON DRUGS AND CRIME (UNODC)

UNODC has supported the establishment of a network of more than 70 Border Liaison Offices (BLOs) through its Border Management Programme throughout the Greater Mekong Sub-region, including in Cambodia, China, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam. UNODC provides regular training and capacity building support to BLOs to ensure that border law enforcement agencies have standardized knowledge, skills and communication mechanisms to collect and share information and intelligence, and can better respond to the growing threat of cross-border crimes in the region.

UNODC and WCO partner in the Global Container Control Programme (CCP), which operates in ASEAN countries including Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam. The CCP aims to secure the global containerized supply chain and minimize the risk of shipping containers being exploited for illicit trafficking, transnational organized crime, and other forms of black market activity. The CCP works with Governments to establish inter-agency container profiling units, and strengthen the capacity of Customs and law enforcement authorities through the delivery of training, mentoring, equipment, standard operating procedures, and access to tools and databases.

UNODC organizes the Wildlife Inter-Regional Enforcement Meetings (WIRE), which offer specialized platforms for law enforcement officials to develop ties with their direct counterparts in African and Asian countries:

- A WIRE-Police meeting was held in November 2016 in Bangkok for police and wildlife investigators from India, Kenya, South Africa, and ASEAN countries including Thailand, as well as INTERPOL, Lusaka Agreement Task Force, UNODC and WCO, to exchange criminal intelligence for the identification of wildlife trafficking routes, groups and trends.
- A WIRE-Prosecutors meeting was held in March 2017 in Bangkok for prosecutors with experience in wildlife crime cases and for Central Authorities responsible for sending and receiving mutual legal assistance requests, from Botswana, Kenya, Uganda, and six key ASEAN countries including Thailand. This meeting focused on effective use of MLA, and authorization for the use of specialized investigative techniques for wildlife crime cases.
- A WIRE-Customs meeting will also be organized in the third quarter of 2017 on identifying CITES-risk indicators to assist the detection of containers and cargoes potentially carrying illegal wildlife products.

UNODC provided and intends to provide the following training to law enforcement agencies in Thailand:

- Training course for prosecutors held July 2016, focusing on best practices for gathering and handling evidence for wildlife crime cases, case management, communication channels to request information and mutual legal assistance, and preparing and presenting wildlife crime cases in court.
- Training course on controlled deliveries, electronic surveillance, and intelligence analysis held in September 2016 in Chiang Rai.

- Training for selected police intelligence analysts on the use of Sentinel Visualizer software to analyze data and intelligence – held in August 2016.
- Regional workshop on “*Strengthening regional cooperation to mitigate corruption risks in wildlife and forest crimes*” in November 2016, which included the participation of anti-corruption authorities from Laos and Thailand, as well as other ASEAN countries. The workshop promoted multi-agency, multi-disciplinary law enforcement cooperation in combating wildlife and forest crime, including an active role for anti-corruption authorities.
- Training course for law enforcement officials on online platforms commonly used for illegal wildlife trade, and undercover operations and investigation techniques to address it – held in March 2017.
- Two cross-border cooperation courses on anti-smuggling and advanced investigative techniques for frontline law enforcement officials will be held in 2017 at BLOs between Thailand-Myanmar and Thailand-Cambodia.
- In 2017 UNODC will work in cooperation with the UN-REDD Programme and Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam to draft a set of SOPs to combat wildlife and timber trafficking, based on the BLO mechanism. The SOPs will aim to enable law enforcement authorities to take an agreed standardized approach to respond to cross-border wildlife and timber trafficking cases and efficiently engage in international cooperation.

#### USAID WILDLIFE ASIA

USAID Wildlife Asia will strengthen regional law enforcement capacity and coordination by institutionalizing capacity building efforts in Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, and Vietnam. This will occur through the establishment of a working group tasked with developing and delivering competency standards for key positions within judicial and law enforcement agencies responsible for addressing wildlife crime and trafficking in the region. In addition, USAID Wildlife Asia will strengthen regional and international cooperation and coordination through training and networking workshops, including convening targeted Asia/Africa Special Investigation Group (SIG) meetings designed to allow sharing of information and building collaborative efforts across agencies and borders of both source, transit and demand countries. The USAID Wildlife Asia Activity is implemented by the International Resources Group (IRG) – which is owned by RTI International – with a consortium of organizations and companies including FHI 360, International Fund for Animal Welfare, Freeland and Integra. Specific law enforcement capacity building and coordination activities in FY2017 include:

- Conduct CWT Institutionalization Needs Assessment, Establish and CWT Institutionalization Working Group, and convene a CWT Institutionalization Needs Workshop.
- Conduct a SIG Asia – Africa “back tracking the seizures” in Bangkok, to include police, wildlife authorities, customs and prosecutors from Cambodia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Thailand and Vietnam, as well as officers and specialists from the Tanzania, South Africa, Uganda and Zambia, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The event will be jointly funded and coordinated with INL’s strengthening cross border wildlife enforcement program in Africa. [February 2017]
- Conduct a Counter-Transnational Organized Crime Training Course and SIG, in Lusaka Zambia, involving wildlife authorities, police, customs and prosecutors from Cambodia, Thailand, Malaysia, Vietnam, Zambia, Malawi and Kenya. The event will be jointly funded and coordinated with INL’s strengthening cross border wildlife enforcement program in Africa. [June 2017]

- Conduct a Detection of Environmental Crime Training Course (DETECT) for wildlife authorities in Cambodia and Thailand, to include a “Twinning and Surviving Together” exercise between the Cambodia-WEN and the Thai-WEN. [August 2017]
- Collaborate with the UNODC on a series of capacity building events focusing on strengthening customs authorities’ ability to detect, investigate and develop wildlife trafficking cases for successful prosecution. Conduct three, 3 to 5 day workshops, with relevant customs authorities in air and sea ports in Cambodia, Lao and Vietnam. [September 2017]
- Develop country specific Rapid Reference Guides (RRG) for both investigators and prosecutors that will encompass all relevant offenses and what is required to build an evidential case against those accused of wildlife and related crimes. The RRG will include standard operating procedures and is geared towards fostering cooperation and collaboration between all agencies involved in the fight against wildlife crime and trafficking.
- Develop a law enforcement field guide to pangolin species identification. The pangolin species identification products will be broadly disseminated in printed and digital formats to improve methods and capacity for customs, border, and investigative personnel to detect and identify illegally traded pangolins and pangolin products.

USAID Wildlife Asia will identify priorities in laws, policies and jurisprudence on which to focus in Cambodia, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam. USAID Wildlife Asia will host capacity-building events for parliaments; present and develop conservation fund models; showcase forfeiture best practices in prosecution and sentencing; and develop and propose sentencing guidelines for the judiciary. During year 1, the project will prioritize Cambodia and Laos since these countries have ongoing formal CWT-related legislative reform initiatives both in the legislative and judicial arms of the government. USAID Wildlife Asia further will support the Supreme Court of Thailand in enhancing awareness and developing innovative judicial policies to support CWT enforcement and prosecutions. Support includes facilitation of judicial twinning activities (e.g. with Supreme Court of the Philippines), and research and field missions.

USAID Wildlife Asia will support USAID RDMA activities to enhance coordination amongst US Government (USG) agencies. This will include logistic, technical and financial support for coordination activities; compilation, synthesis and provision of information to USG agencies on CWT efforts of different actors in the region; and emergence of a community of practice and learning agenda for enhanced CWT efforts. USAID Wildlife Asia also will link with relevant bodies such as UNEP and International Conservation Caucus Foundation (ICCF) to capitalize on increased attention to CWT as a priority development agenda for ASEAN and the UN.

#### **WILDLIFE CONSERVATION SOCIETY (WCS)**

The WCO project INAMA focuses on wildlife trafficking in sub-Saharan Africa mainly, though some initiatives have also included Asian countries. For example, under INAMA, WCO conducted a training in Bangkok in January 2015 concerning controlled delivery of illegally traded wildlife goods. This training was attended, amongst others, by China and Thailand (customs, wildlife agency, and police). Moreover, WCO project INAMA hosted a significant training to build capacity on enforcement planning in Namibia from May 8-12, 2017, for customs officials from sub-Saharan African countries, and customs officials also joined from Hong Kong, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam due to funding from the TRAFFIC TRAPS project.

UNODC and WCO partner in the Global Container Control Programme (CCP), which operates in ASEAN countries including Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand and

Vietnam. The CCP aims to secure the global containerized supply chain and minimize the risk of shipping containers being exploited for illicit trafficking, transnational organized crime, and other forms of black market activity. The CCP works with Governments to establish inter-agency container profiling units, and strengthen the capacity of Customs and law enforcement authorities through the delivery of training, mentoring, equipment, standard operating procedures, and access to tools and databases. CCP information also cited in UNODC section on national level law enforcement support.

#### **4. THAILAND POLITICAL COMMITMENT BUILDING**

##### **ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATION AGENCY (EIA), UK**

EIA published a report in the lead up to the Hanoi Conference on Illegal Wildlife Trade in November 2016 examining how 15 countries including China, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam – had implemented their commitments under the London Declaration of February 2014. This report utilized specific indicators developed by EIA to assess the countries' actions. EIA continues to review progress made in implementation of the London Declaration particularly by China, Laos and Vietnam.

EIA investigative products are used by several stakeholders to push for greater commitment by consumer countries to enforce wildlife crime laws pertaining to the trade in Asian big cats and ivory – see above description in the law enforcement support section.

##### **FREELAND**

Freeland has a Memorandum of Understanding with the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) that commits the two organizations to collaborate to strengthen and harmonize legislation across the 10 ASEAN Member States on combating wildlife crime. Using the Freeland-produced ASEAN Handbook on Combating Wildlife Crime, a Freeland-led Legal Support Task Force (that also includes National University of Singapore and ASEAN-WEN) provides technical training and support to parliamentarians and their staff who are responsible for writing laws and policies. Freeland also provides technical support to the AIPA Secretariat to mobilize interest among politicians and media across ASEAN to suppress wildlife trafficking.

##### **INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL POLICE ORGANIZATION (INTERPOL)**

INTERPOL's Environmental Security Sub-Directorate seeks to promote the prioritization of work by national police services on environmental crime issues. See also the above INTERPOL reference in the section concerning support of law enforcement (national level).

##### **TRAFFIC**

TRAFFIC research based on seizure and market data analysis drives onward communication of actionable information and is used to advocate necessary legislative reforms and increase the effectiveness of law enforcement interventions – see the national level law enforcement support section above for additional information.



### **UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP)**

The UNDP-supported, GEF-financed project “Combating Illegal Wildlife Trade, focusing on Ivory, Rhino Horn, Tiger and Pangolins in Thailand” being implemented by the Department of National Parks, will assist in building high level political commitment. This is in part through law enforcement assistance improving cooperation, coordination, and information exchange, and enhancing enforcement and prosecution capacity through the Thai Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation, the Royal Thai Police, Customs Department, Administrative Court, and the Office of the Attorney General – see above section on law enforcement support for additional information.

UNEP and UNDP, in partnership with other UN agencies such as UNODC and the CITES Secretariat, along with the Global Wildlife Program, will convene an Africa-Asia Symposium on Strengthening Legal Frameworks to Combat Wildlife Crime in Bangkok in July 2017. The symposium is expected to bring together up to 10 countries from Africa and 10 from Asia to discuss criteria for effective legal frameworks and priority issues to strengthen application of national laws to wildlife crime.

### **UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME (UNEP)**

UNEP, in partnership with UNDP and others, will convene an Africa-Asia Symposium on Strengthening Legal Frameworks to Combat Wildlife Crime in Bangkok on July 4-5, 2017. The key objective of the Symposium is to advance efforts in Africa and Asia Pacific to strengthen and harmonize legal frameworks to combat wildlife crime. Participants will discuss their countries’ experience with developing and enacting laws that address wildlife crime, and debate proposed criteria and recommended minimum requirements for strengthening legislation that governs the multiple aspects of wildlife crime. Opportunities to strengthen political will to combat wildlife crime through the strategic engagement of parliamentarians from Africa and Asia Pacific will also be explored as a secondary objective. The Symposium will support the participation of 20 representatives from Africa and Asia Pacific, and more if additional resources can be mobilized. Target participants will be senior government officials who are responsible for developing or strengthening laws and regulations relevant to combating wildlife crime. Thailand is proposed for inclusion in the Symposium.

### **UNITED NATIONS OFFICE ON DRUGS AND CRIME (UNODC)**

UNODC, through its Global Programme for Combating Wildlife and Forest Crime, works with national legal systems and law enforcement agencies of Member States (which in ASEAN includes Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Thailand, Philippines and Vietnam) to strengthen legislative frameworks, shape policy, enhance knowledge and capacities, and increase regional cooperation to combat wildlife and forest crime. In October 2015, the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime agreed to include “wildlife and timber trafficking” as a priority crime under the purview of the Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC). In June 2016, UNODC worked in cooperation with Thailand and the Royal Thai Police to convene a regional conference to bring the SOMTC focal points on wildlife and timber trafficking together to agree on a work programme. The Work Programme to Combat Wildlife and Timber Trafficking will be integrated with the existing SOMTC 2016-18 Work Programme to implement the ASEAN Plan of Action to Combat Transnational Crime. In parallel, UNODC is also encouraging the establishment

of a SOMTC working group on wildlife and timber trafficking to coordinate implementation of the Work Programme.

UNODC conducted a rapid assessment in February 2017 of all relevant stakeholders in the criminal justice system of Thailand to identify the strengths and challenges in the national response to wildlife and forest crime. The findings of the assessment were presented to the Government of Thailand at a national roundtable meeting held in April 2017. Key findings highlighted that although Thailand is a regional leader in combating wildlife crime and its law enforcement authorities are some of the most experienced and well-equipped in the region; some serious deficiencies in the legal frameworks for wildlife protection and for combating corruption are undermining these efforts.

UNODC and the Office of the Attorney General of Thailand (AGO) convened a national seminar in March 2017 for prosecutors, judges and law enforcement agencies to discuss the extent of wildlife trafficking through Thailand and to explore the possibility of establishing a specialized team of prosecutors for environmental crimes within the AGO.

#### **USAID WILDLIFE ASIA**

USAID Wildlife Asia will seek to build commitment by engaging high levels of the judiciary in the region. See above section on law enforcement support (national level) for additional information on support to the Supreme Court of Thailand.

#### **WILDAID**

The WildAid consumer demand campaign targeting ivory is also assisting in building commitment by the Government of Thailand – see section below concerning consumer demand.

## **5. THAILAND PRIVATE SECTOR COMMITMENT BUILDING**

#### **TRAFFIC**

TRAFFIC, through the Wildlife TRAPS project and ROUTES initiative, works to enhance transport and logistics sector ability to prevent exploitation by wildlife traffickers through increased awareness of staff and customers, as well as improved Standard Operating Procedures and trainings – see national level law enforcement support section above for additional information.

TRAFFIC in collaboration with the World Customs Organization (WCO) convened the first international workshop for the transportation and logistics sector in Bangkok in January 2015 that catalyzed industry-driven initiatives to address wildlife crime.

#### **UNITED FOR WILDLIFE (UfW)**

UfW is working with the transportation sector through the UfW Transport Taskforce, which developed and is working to implement the commitments in the UfW Buckingham Palace Declaration. This work is being done in recognition that international freight and passenger transportation is vital to the movement of illegal wildlife products from source through transit and into markets, and that the private sector can assist in reducing such shipments. UfW, through The Royal Foundation of The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and Prince Harry, provides the

secretariat for the Transport Taskforce, which includes 75 representatives from across the transport sector covering aviation, maritime, freight forwarders and enforcement. To support action from the transportation sector the Transport Taskforce is providing a mechanism for the collection and analysis of NGO information regarding wildlife trafficking, and sharing of verified information with signatories to the Buckingham Palace Declaration, including through regular alerts pertaining to illicit trafficking methods as well as details of specific trafficking cases. Several Thai transport companies are signatories to the United for Wildlife Buckingham Palace Declaration.

#### **WILDAID**

WildAid works with corporate entities and business leaders in advancing efforts to reduce the illegal wildlife trade – see section below concerning consumer demand.

## **6. THAILAND CONSUMER DEMAND REDUCTION**

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATION AGENCY (EIA), UK**

EIA investigative products on the trade in tigers and their parts and derivatives, profiling individuals and networks involved in this trade, combined with EIA's analysis of open source information, assists stakeholders to identify relevant consumer groups and to further target their campaigns to reduce consumer demand – see above description in the law enforcement support section.

#### **FREELAND**

Freeland teams up with Thai government agencies, NGOs and private companies (media, marketing and hospitality) to conduct social behavior change campaigns in Thailand to reduce consumption of shark fin, elephant ivory, pangolin, rhino horn, big cats, exotic pets, and rosewood. Campaigns are usually conducted with the use of KOLs (Key Opinion Leaders) and with the support of local advertising and social media marketing companies to achieve maximum reach and impact. “Fin Free” and “iTHINK” have been run in the region since 2011. iTHINK is a campaign support platform that provides financial and technical assistance to partner campaigns that strategically engage the audience to join and grow the conversation about wildlife crime, building social pressure on and around the consumer.

#### **TRAFFIC**

TRAFFIC has been helping improve policies and legislation at the national level, engage public-private partnerships, and drive a suite of interventions to catalyze behavior change efforts with partners to reduce demand in major consumer markets in Southeast Asia and China. TRAFFIC hosts the Wildlife Consumer Behaviour Change Toolkit [www.changewildlifeconsumers.org](http://www.changewildlifeconsumers.org) and provides a suite of services for the ‘Demand Reduction Community of Practice’ that uses the Toolkit as an information and coordination hub – services include an element of webinars, learning and experience exchange events, expert roundtables on key topics and Good Practice Guidelines on measuring the impact of behavioral change.

Working closely with WWF, TRAFFIC has been providing technical guidance on the implementation of the new legislation that regulates the Thai domestic ivory trade, including efforts to reduce

demand for ivory products – additional citation of this initiative in the national level law enforcement support section above.

#### **UNITED FOR WILDLIFE (UfW)**

UfW has grown a large and engaged social media community through a variety of digital campaigns and activities aimed at young people across the world. With a growing online community to share news with and raise awareness of illegal wildlife trade, UfW shares unique content and activities enabling young people to engage with the issue of illegal wildlife trade while learning more about conservation in general.

UfW has also developed a platform for the delivery of online learning material and provides online courses that enable self-paced learning on a number of general and specialized topics relevant to conservation, including a short course focusing on illegal wildlife trade. At the end of 2016 over 8,500 people from 196 countries had registered on the platform and more than 170,000 people follow the course and its content on social media with marketing focused on the priority countries identified by UfW in regards to consumer markets. The platform won a highly-regarded Learning Technologies award in 2016.

UfW further works with the online gaming sector to expand the audience of conservation messaging, with 100,000 downloads of the UfW “We Are the Rangers” Minecraft map, and over 2.6 million YouTube play-throughs. This included content created by popular Minecraft YouTubers in Thailand and initial player generated map events submitted from Vietnam.

#### **UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP)**

The UNDP-supported, GEF-financed project “Combating Illegal Wildlife Trade, focusing on Ivory, Rhino Horn, Tiger and Pangolins in Thailand” being implemented by the Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plants Conservation will focus on consumer demand reduction as a third component of the project, with a specific focus on changing public attitude and perception regarding ivory. The project is currently in project development phase and expected to will be likely to conduct campaigns to reduce demand for both illegal ivory and tiger products.

#### **USAID WILDLIFE ASIA**

USAID Wildlife Asia will reduce consumer demand for wildlife parts and products by communicating, mobilizing and advocating ways to change behaviors and build new social norms around the use of wildlife. Planned activities include communication campaigns using proven social and behavior change communication (SBCC) approaches and technical assistance to strengthen capacity of organizations to use SBCC in planning and implementing demand reduction campaigns. Year 1 activities include conduct of a situational analysis to identify priority consumer segments, demand drivers and influencing factors underlying the purchase and use of wildlife products in China, Thailand and Vietnam; development and preparation for implementation of new campaigns in these three countries; as well as providing support to align existing campaigns with USAID Wildlife Asia messages, and SBCC capacity building of organizations involved in wildlife communication. The USAID Wildlife Asia Activity is implemented by the International Resources Group (IRG) – which is owned by RTI International – with a consortium of organizations and companies including FHI 360, International Fund for Animal Welfare, Freeland and Integra.

### **WILDAID**

WildAid conducts a consumer demand campaigns targeting ivory (commenced 2016) to address the lack of awareness of Thailand as a destination and transit hub for the illegal ivory trade and poaching crisis, build more pro-conservation attitudes, persuade consumers not to buy ivory and support government efforts to end the ivory trade. The campaign uses a combination of strategies including press/media outreach/education, celebrity-driven media campaigns (TV PSAs, billboards, print), online and social media campaigns including social media influencers, business leaders pledge, government officials and policy makers, media influencers, and briefings and consultations with relevant government agencies. The target audience includes medium to high income consumers, business leaders, government officials and policy makers, media influencers. Over the past year, the campaign has included sub-campaigns involving a wide range of international and Thai celebrities, and has expanded the Business Leader Ivory Free pledge with top CEOs. In 2017, the campaign continues to communicate the importance of ending the consumption of ivory, strengthening enforcement and the urgency of ending the poaching crisis. Ongoing efforts include awareness raising and new demand reduction TV PSAs, media reports on poaching/reduced demand, social media, etc. It will also assist enforcement agencies as they communicate seizures, arrests, prosecutions and sentences to highlight the wildlife crime aspect of the ivory trade and government enforcement efforts.

### **WORLD WILDLIFE FUND (WWF)**

WWF has conducted public outreach campaigns, e.g., the Chor Chang campaign, to inform Thai citizens about the link between the ivory trade in Thailand and the poaching of elephants in Africa.

# VIETNAM

## I. SUMMARY OF INITIATIVES IN VIETNAM

SUMMARY OF INITIATIVES IN CAMBODIA					
ORGANIZATION	LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT (LANDSCAPE LEVEL)	LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT (NATIONAL LEVEL)	POLITICAL COMMITMENT BUILDING	PRIVATE SECTOR COMMITMENT BUILDING	CONSUMER DEMAND REDUCTION
ENV		X	X		X
EIA		X	X		X
Freeland	X	X	X		X
HSI		X	X		X
INTERPOL		X	X		
TRAFFIC		X	X	X	X
UfW		X	X	X	X
UNDP	X	X	X		X
UNEP		X	X		X
UNODC		X	X		
USAID Wildlife Asia		X	X		X
WCS	X	X			
WCO		X			
WWF	X				X

Note: An “X” denotes an initiative by the organization in the above listed types of engagement.



## 2. VIETNAM LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT (LANDSCAPE LEVEL)

### FREELAND

Freeland provides capacity building to rangers, protected area managers, and military through the PROTECT program that combines assessments, strategy design, and training to implement strategies. This program has training programs for front line rangers right up to protected area managers, and is tailored to each audience and their threats, and has a mentoring element that Freeland refers to as “OJT” (On-the-Job Training). The OJTs can include digital forensics training and analytical support. It has been accredited by the American Council on Education. Freeland also developed FIST-PROTECT (Field Information Support Tool) with Kestrel Technologies to help rangers and their supervisors track, prevent and record poaching.

Freeland developed WildScan, a mobile phone application to facilitate species identification. It is locally produced in Vietnam in Vietnamese language, covering species in Vietnam, and is free for government officers or the public to download to record and report sightings of wildlife or wildlife crime.

### UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP)

The UNDP-supported, GEF-financed project titled “Conservation of Critical Wetland Protected Areas and Linked Landscapes” partners with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment. The project seeks to develop systemic, institutional and operational capacity for effective wetlands biodiversity management nationally and at a provincial level at selected sites. As such, site-based law enforcement activities could be included as necessary.

UNDP is developing a GEF-financed regional project across tiger range states titled “South-South Cooperation for Sustainability of the Global Tiger Recovery Programme” that will be implemented with the Global Tiger Forum. See section below on national level law enforcement support for details.

### WILDLIFE CONSERVATION SOCIETY (WCS)

WCS Vietnam works on anti-poaching and international wildlife trade along the Cambodia-Vietnam border and the adjacent protected areas (e.g. Bu Gia Map National Park). The organization has supported annual meetings at central and provincial levels and negotiated MoUs to enhance cooperation.

WCS provides targeted capacity building and on-the-job support to investigations, enforcement actions and judicial processes of local law enforcement agencies in key localities along wildlife supply chains in Vietnam including the following provinces: Hanoi, Lang Son, Quang Ninh, Ha Tinh, Nghe An, Ho Chi Minh, Dak Nong, Binh Phuoc, Binh Duong, and Dong Nai.

### WORLD WILDLIFE FUND (WWF)

WWF is involved in an initiative to reduce poaching in the Mekong transboundary protected areas in Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam. WWF provides assistance to enhance government capacities to conduct enforcement work in those areas, which includes working with local law enforcement, mainly wildlife authorities. WWF supports the government to develop law enforcement strategies for protected areas, develop law enforcement guide books for rangers, support signing of MoUs for the border provinces between Vietnam and Laos and between Vietnam

and Cambodia to strengthen law enforcement, forest protection and wildlife conservation. WWF also provides technical capacity to assess the level of illegal wildlife trade in this landscape and carries out activities on the ground that focus on the landscape between Laos and Vietnam and support the government counterparts to apply law enforcement monitoring tools (SMART, informant networks, online law enforcement update). The project prioritizes stopping the poaching and reducing demand, mainly for the bush meat trade (see consumer demand reduction section). The first phase of the Laos-Vietnam border landscape has ended, and the second phase will begin soon to provide capacity to the governments of Laos and Vietnam. The second phase also will focus more on the Vietnam side of the border where much of the wildlife products are going.

WWF notes that there is a high level of interest in cross border work between Vietnam and Cambodia, and the organization is exploring potential activities to support national governments, local authorities, National Park directors and rangers to improve landscape management and reduce poaching and trading of wildlife.

### **3. VIETNAM LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT (NATIONAL LEVEL)**

#### **EDUCATION FOR NATURE VIETNAM (ENV)**

ENV's Wildlife Crime Unit (WCU) was established in 2005 to facilitate and motivate public involvement in efforts to combat wildlife trade, and to improve the effectiveness of front line law enforcement agencies. The WCU runs a growing national network of more than 6,778 volunteers in 59 provinces (2017) who assist with monitoring consumer wildlife trade hotspots in urban centers throughout Vietnam. As of March 2017, the WCU has documented more than 10,800 wildlife crime cases. The unit administers a national toll-free hotline for reporting of wildlife crimes, and information reported to ENV through the hotline is passed on to the appropriate authorities. ENV then works closely with law enforcement agencies, tracking each case through to conclusion, and documenting the results on ENV's secure web-based Wildlife Crime Database. The WCU strives to achieve a successful outcome for each case, helping coordinate placement of animals, providing advice to the authorities, and encouraging bold action that would serve to deter future crime. On average, 2.8 new cases are received from the public each day, and ENV's current success rate on cases reported to the Wildlife Crime Hotline is 47 percent. Since 2005, thousands of animals have been confiscated as a direct result of ENV's cooperation with law enforcement, along with fines administered to violators, advertisements and menus removed, businesses sanctioned, and markets closed. ENV's efforts are widely credited as having helped transform the quality of wildlife protection enforcement in Vietnam through promoting greater transparency in enforcement and a sustained level of support and attention on wildlife crime for more than 11 years. The following video shows a day in the life of ENV's Wildlife Crime Unit: <https://youtu.be/3qte-wLbFv0>.

ENV maintains a team that works exclusively on investigations, providing valuable information and support to law enforcement agencies and profiling major criminal networks behind the wildlife trade. Current investigations focus on criminal networks and their leadership behind the illegal transnational trade of tigers, bears, rhino horn, elephant ivory, pangolins, and marine turtles. Other ENV investigations are also examining such complex issues as wildlife farming. The ENV investigations team conducts its work both independently and in partnership with police agencies, providing actionable intelligence to law enforcement that has resulted in arrests and prosecutions, and major seizures of ivory, tigers, and other high value wildlife products. ENV's best known investigation success targeted Vietnam's marine turtle trade kingpin: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xoY8xHMxYSk>.

## ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATION AGENCY (EIA), UK

EIA conducts research and investigations on the trade in tigers and their parts and derivatives, profiling individuals, businesses and networks involved in this trade in China and Laos, and with partners, maps those networks as they extend between Thailand and Vietnam. EIA publishes reports of their research and investigation findings, and provides more sensitive information to relevant national government agencies such as police, customs and CITES authorities, and to relevant IGOs such as INTERPOL and enforcement contacts in the CITES Secretariat. EIA has also shared such information with US Fish and Wildlife Service (US FWS) and US Drug Enforcement Agency (US DEA) agents based in Asia. Where appropriate, EIA also shares such sensitive information with certain NGOs with the relevant expertise based in China, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam. This also includes mapping the scale and trends in the illicit trade of Asian big cats in the region. EIA's reports as well as more detailed confidential information help to mobilize action by organizations involved in law enforcement as well as consumer demand reduction. These campaign tools can also be used to pressure relevant government agencies, including in China, Laos and Vietnam, to ensure there are adequate resources to improve regional and international enforcement co-operation. EIA is also examining wildlife protection laws in China and Laos, with a specific reference to tiger farming, to assist in strengthening wildlife protection and the implementation of the relevant CITES Resolution and associated Decisions. This follows on previous work of EIA on the tiger trade including a report and film in 2015 concerning this trade in China and by Chinese nationals and businesses in Laos.

EIA conducts research and investigations on the trafficking of ivory between Africa and Asia, particularly China, Laos and Vietnam, with some linkages to Thailand. These investigations examine the composition of criminal networks and their methods to traffic ivory, and other wildlife contraband, on an inter-regional level between source countries in Africa and destination countries in Asia. EIA publishes reports of this research and investigations findings, and provides more sensitive information to relevant national government agencies such as police, Customs and CITES authorities, and to relevant IGOs such as INTERPOL, WCO and enforcement contacts in the CITES Secretariat. EIA has also shared such information with US FWS and US DEA agents based in Africa and Asia. Where appropriate, EIA shares such sensitive information with certain NGOs with the relevant expertise based in China, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam. This also includes mapping the scale and trends in the illicit trade of ivory. The information can then be provided to assist organizations conducting law enforcement support, and also can be used to pressure relevant governments, including in China, Laos and Vietnam, to take action to investigate the individuals and companies identified by EIA as likely being involved in ivory trafficking, and to improve regional and international enforcement co-operation.

EIA is producing a field guide for law enforcement officers on the Asian big cat trade in partnership with CITES. This guide will assist front line officers in identifying products made or derived from these species and understand the methods of operation of the criminal networks involved in such trade. The guide will be distributed by the CITES Secretariat to all CITES Parties including to the CITES authorities in Cambodia, China, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam.

EIA is finalizing a short film and seventeen modules to be used for wildlife law enforcement training. This project has been formally endorsed by the CITES Secretariat, INTERPOL, WCO and several governments. Relevant enforcement agencies in Hong Kong, Thailand and Vietnam have participated in the film. The modules cover different areas such as crime scene management, controlled deliveries, DNA analysis of ivory, financial investigations and best practice for successful prosecutions. The film and the modules will be distributed physically through USB sticks/DVDs and via a password-protected secure website. This will be distributed widely to various national government agencies, including in Cambodia, China, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam.

## **FREELAND**

Freeland provides national and regional level capacity building to police, customs, financial intelligence units, prosecutors, through its DETECT and LEGAL programs that combine assessments, strategy design, and training to implement strategies. Each of the programs outlined below is tailored to each audience and their threats, and has a mentoring element that Freeland refers to as “On-the-Job Training” (OJT). The OJTs can include digital forensics training and analytical support. The LEGAL program is for prosecutors and judiciary, while the DETECT program is for counter-trafficking and is designed mainly for police, customs, financial intelligence units, and prosecutors, and includes basic and advanced courses. DETECT cross-border courses led to the formation of the ASEAN-WEN “SIG” (Special Investigation Group). Recently, Freeland produced a highly-advanced course under DETECT named “CTOC” (Counter-Transnational Organized Crime), which empowers officers to identify and disrupt illicit supply chains involved in wildlife trafficking and other forms of transnational crime.

Freeland runs a project titled “Trafficking Free Enterprises” that includes training programs for airport-based personnel; bank compliance officers; and hospitality staff. These “eyes and ears” awareness trainings are half day and have been held in Cambodia, China, Thailand, Vietnam, as well as two African countries.

Freeland developed WildScan, a mobile phone application to facilitate species identification. See above section on landscape level law enforcement support for additional details.

## **HUMANE SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL (HSI)**

Beginning in 2017, HSI will be providing assistance to the Vietnam CITES Management Authority (VN CITES MA) in the Forest Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and other relevant agencies to conduct wildlife law enforcement training of personnel at Viet Nam border gates with China that are at risk for wildlife trafficking, especially by Chinese tourists who purchase wildlife products, such as ivory, in Viet Nam and bring them home as tourist souvenirs. Also, beginning in late 2017, HSI will be providing assistance to the VN CITES MA and other relevant agencies to conduct wildlife law enforcement training on Vietnam’s new penal code, which will significantly increase penalties for wildlife trafficking, expected to be promulgated before the end of 2017.

## **INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL POLICE ORGANIZATION (INTERPOL)**

INTERPOL assists its 190 Member Countries, which include Cambodia, China, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam share criminal intelligence, including for issues of environmental crime, through National Central Bureaus (NCBs) in each country. INTERPOL can, upon the request of member countries, deploy an Investigative Support Team (IST) pertaining to investigative pursuits. INTERPOL’s Environmental Security Sub-Directorate provides analysis of information submitted by member countries covering investigations of major cases, including both domestic transnational cases. INTERPOL also hosts Regional Investigative and Analytical Case Meetings (RIACMs) to bring two or more countries together to exchange information and work together on specific investigations. In the first half of 2017, INTERPOL is planning three RIACMs that involve the countries of the region:

- Yangon – March 2017 – China
- Singapore – May 2017 – Cambodia, Vietnam
- Singapore – May 2017 – Thailand

Other RIACMs are planned for later in the year. The dates and venues are yet to be confirmed. Cambodia, China, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam, will be invited based on the investigation covered by the meeting.

INTERPOL hosts National Environmental Security Seminars (NESS) to encourage national multi-agency communication and cooperation on environmental crime. Member countries are then encouraged to form a National Environmental Security Taskforce (NEST). A NESS will be held in May 2017, and a follow up NESS is planned for the second half of 2017.

INTERPOL provides specialized training to member countries, primarily to their police services, and regularly bringing together representatives from multiple countries simultaneously. The following training has been planned for the first half of 2017 (including subject, member countries invited, and venue):

- Fundamentals of Intelligence Analysis – Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam (Nairobi, April 2017); and Advanced Intelligence Analysis – Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam (Lyon, May 2017);
- Crime Scene Investigation Training – Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, Vietnam (date and venue to be confirmed);
- Online trade investigation training – Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, Vietnam (Singapore, June 2017);
- Digital forensics: data extraction and analysis – Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, Vietnam (Singapore, June 2017).

INTERPOL Project Waylay, funded by the U.K. Department for Environment, Food, and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), has been focusing on building control delivery capacity and interest in member countries since 2014. So far, the work has been on capacity building and developing a common guideline. Currently INTERPOL is working with countries that have expressed an interest in Asia and Africa to identify potential cases in which a controlled delivery can be organized. Discussions are ongoing with China, Laos, Thailand, and Vietnam on this issue. Equipment may be provided as needed.

INTERPOL conducts annual operations targeting environmental crime. The most recent, Thunderbird, finalized in February 2017, included 43 countries. While Vietnam did not participate in Operation Thunderbird, the country actively participated in past INTERPOL Operations including Operation CONNEXUS, Operation PAWS, and Operation PREY.

## **TRAFFIC**

TRAFFIC has expertise and credibility in tackling wildlife trafficking and acts through its regional and country-based teams across Asia as well as in Africa, Europe and Americas. Using primary research and contextual understanding to analyze information on wildlife trade dynamics, TRAFFIC's evidence-based outputs assist government law enforcement agencies to disrupt and dismantle trafficking syndicates and increase deterrents through sentencing and prosecution. The Wildlife Trafficking, Response, Assessment, and Priority Setting (Wildlife TRAPS) Project, financed by USAID and implemented by TRAFFIC, in collaboration with the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), is designed to develop and deliver a suite of ground-breaking partnerships and pioneering approaches to tackle wildlife crime between Africa and Asia. The Wildlife TRAPS Project delivers activities through 6 key thematic work streams including: 1) Engaging the Transportation Sector, 2) Enforcement Capacity and Inter-Agency Collaboration, 3) Financial Investigation and Asset Recovery, 4) Wildlife Forensics, 5) Consumer Behaviour Change and Demand Reduction and 6) Community Engagement. The project is building a collective

understanding of the true character and scale of the response required through targeted assessments, setting priorities through collaborative action planning, identifying interventions points, and testing non-traditional approaches. This project commenced in 2013 and will run through February 2020. Reducing Opportunities for Unlawful Transport of Endangered Species (ROUTES) is an innovative and transformational partnership, supported by USAID and implemented by TRAFFIC, that brings together international conservation organizations, donors, government, and the transportation and logistics industry for a multi-year collaborative program to disrupt wildlife trafficking by reducing the use of legal transportation supply chains.

TRAFFIC conducts routine monitoring of indicator markets in Vietnam, including online availability through Facebook and other social media that are found selling illegal wildlife products. Research based on seizure, market and intelligence data analysis drives onward communication of actionable information and is used to advocate necessary legislative reforms and increase the effectiveness of law enforcement interventions. The following is a selection of TRAFFIC reports involving the wildlife trade in Vietnam:

- Stoner, S., Krishnasamy, K., Wittmann, T., Delean, S. and Cassey, P. (2016). Reduced to skin and bones re-examined: Full analysis. An analysis of Tiger seizures from 13 range countries from 2000-2015. TRAFFIC, Southeast Asia Regional Office, Petaling Jaya, Selangor, Malaysia.
- Burgess, E. A., Stoner, S.S., and Foley, K.E. (2014). Brought to Bear: An Analysis of Seizures across Asia (2000–2011). TRAFFIC, Petaling Jaya, Selangor, Malaysia.
- Willcox, D., Nguyen, M.D. T., and Gomez, L. (2016). An assessment of trade in bear bile and gall bladder in Viet Nam. TRAFFIC. Petaling Jaya, Selangor, Malaysia
- Nguyen & Willemsen 2016 Viet Nam e-commerce trade paper

TRAFFIC has been partnering with TRACE, the Wildlife Forensic Network, to support increased capacity and expertise exchange among and between wildlife forensic experts in South East Asia, (including Vietnam) and Africa.

TRAFFIC, through the Wildlife TRAPS project, is supporting the participation of Asian customs officials, including from Vietnam, in the World Custom's Organization's project INAMA trainings to build capacity on enforcement planning with customs officials from sub-Saharan African countries.

### **UNITED FOR WILDLIFE (UfW)**

UfW is working with the transportation sector through the UfW Transport Taskforce to encourage increased action regarding the transport of illegal wildlife products. One of the focus activities is to enable the sharing of NGO information on wildlife trafficking with the transportation industry – see below section on private sector commitment building.

In 2014 and 2015 the global law firm, DLA Piper, undertook reviews of wildlife legislation in a number of countries involved in illegal wildlife trade as either predominantly supply, transit and consumer locations. This work was undertaken pro bono in support of UfW. These reports provide a snap shot of the wildlife legislation as well as identifying any ancillary legislation that can be used in the prosecution of wildlife crimes. Vietnam was included in the first phase of reports under this work and subsequently DLA Piper provided additional pro bono support to work undertaken by WCS in regards to the wildlife law in Vietnam.



### **UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP)**

UNDP is developing a GEF-financed regional project across tiger range states titled “South-South Cooperation for Sustainability of the Global Tiger Recovery Programme” that will be implemented with the Global Tiger Forum. The project’s goal is to promote the long-term survival of the tiger in ecologically intact landscapes across its range. The project will develop and test a simplified and harmonized monitoring and reporting protocol in close consultation with the 13 tiger range countries, tiger researchers and other relevant scientists, conservation practitioners and managers of tiger areas. The project will also address the financial sustainability of tiger conservation by making the business case for tiger conservation, developing new streams of domestic finance for tigers and targeting private finance at the regional level. Finally, the project will ensure that tiger range countries have sufficient capacity, tools and mechanisms for effective implementation, monitoring and updating of their respective National Tiger Recovery Plans, including collaboration and joint action in thematic areas that transcend national boundaries.

### **UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME (UNEP)**

UNEP, in partnership with the UNDP and others, will convene an Africa-Asia Symposium on Strengthening Legal Frameworks to Combat Wildlife Crime on July 4-5, 2017, in Bangkok – see reference below in commitment building section.

### **UNITED NATIONS ON DRUGS AND CRIME (UNODC)**

UNODC has supported the establishment of a network of more than 70 Border Liaison Offices (BLOs) through its Border Management Programme throughout the Greater Mekong Sub-region, including in Cambodia, China, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam. UNODC provides regular training and capacity building support to BLOs to ensure that border law enforcement agencies have standardized knowledge, skills and communication mechanisms to collect and share information and intelligence, and can better respond to the growing threat of cross-border crimes in the region.

UNODC and WCO partner in the Global Container Control Programme (CCP), which operates in ASEAN countries including Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam. The CCP aims to secure the global containerized supply chain and minimize the risk of shipping containers being exploited for illicit trafficking, transnational organized crime, and other forms of black market activity. The CCP works with governments to establish inter-agency container profiling units, and strengthen the capacity of customs and law enforcement authorities through the delivery of training, mentoring, equipment, standard operating procedures, and access to tools and databases.

UNODC organizes the Wildlife Inter-Regional Enforcement Meetings (WIRE), which offer specialized platforms for law enforcement officials to develop ties with their direct counterparts in African and Asian countries:

- A WIRE-Police meeting was held in November 2016 in Bangkok for police and wildlife investigators from India, Kenya, South Africa, and ASEAN countries including Vietnam, as well as INTERPOL, Lusaka Agreement Task Force, UNODC and WCO, to exchange criminal intelligence for the identification of wildlife trafficking routes, groups and trends.
- A WIRE-Prosecutors meeting was held in March 2017 in Bangkok for prosecutors with experience in wildlife crime cases and for Central Authorities responsible for sending and receiving mutual legal assistance requests, from Botswana, Kenya, Uganda, and six key ASEAN countries including Vietnam. This meeting focused on effective use of MLA, and authorization for the use of specialized investigative techniques for wildlife crime cases.

- A WIRE-Customs meeting will also be organized in third quarter 2017 on identifying CITES-risk indicators to assist the detection of containers and cargoes potentially carrying illegal wildlife products. This meeting will be held in Vietnam.

UNODC provided and intends to provide the following training to law enforcement agencies in Vietnam:

- Provided support from 2014-2016 to review and revise the Environmental Chapter of the Penal Code. The Penal Code approval has been delayed until May 2017, but after it is approved, UNODC will provide support to develop a handbook and organize workshops to disseminate key changes and new provisions to law enforcement agencies.
- Tried the first cross-border surveillance and controlled delivery training course with Laos and Vietnam in April 2016, for police, border army, forestry, and customs officers in both countries.
- Training course for prosecutors held June 2016, focusing on best practices for gathering and handling evidence for wildlife crime cases, case management, communication channels to request information and mutual legal assistance, and preparing and presenting wildlife crime cases in court.
- A training course on anti-smuggling and advanced investigation techniques for frontline law enforcement officers in An Giang province in July 2016, as a synergy between the Border Management Programme and the Combating Wildlife and Forest Crime Programme. Two additional training courses will be held in Lang Son province in July 2017 and September 2017 in Son La province.
- Training for selected police intelligence analysts on the use of Sentinel Visualizer software to analyze data and intelligence – held in August 2016.
- Training course for police (environmental police, anti-smuggling police, high-tech crime police) on online platforms commonly used for illegal wildlife trade, and undercover operations and investigation techniques to address it – held in April 2017.
- Technical support and three consultative workshops in May 2017 to strengthen implementation of new legislation (Decree 155) relating to administration penalties for environmental violations.
- Training for customs officers in October 2017 on wildlife risk profiling to enhance capacity to detect illegal wildlife consignments- through synergy between UNODC's Global Programme on Wildlife and Forest Crime (WLFC) and the UNODC-WCO CCP.
- In 2017 UNODC will work in cooperation with the UN-REDD Programme and Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam to draft a set of SOPs to combat wildlife and timber trafficking, based on the BLO mechanism. The SOPs will aim to enable law enforcement authorities to take an agreed standardized approach to respond to cross-border wildlife and timber trafficking cases and efficiently engage in international cooperation.

#### USAID WILDLIFE ASIA

USAID Wildlife Asia will strengthen regional law enforcement capacity and coordination by institutionalizing capacity building efforts in Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, and Vietnam. This will occur through the establishment of a working group tasked with developing and delivering competency standards for key positions within judicial and law enforcement agencies responsible for addressing

wildlife crime and trafficking in the region. In addition, USAID Wildlife Asia will strengthen regional and international cooperation and coordination through training and networking workshops, including convening targeted Asia/Africa Special Investigation Group (SIG) meetings designed to allow sharing of information and building collaborative efforts across agencies and borders of both source, transit and demand countries. The USAID Wildlife Asia Activity is implemented by the International Resources Group (IRG) – which is owned by RTI International – with a consortium of organizations and companies including FHI 360, International Fund for Animal Welfare, Freeland and Integra. Specific law enforcement capacity building and coordination activities in FY2017 include:

- Conduct CWT Institutionalization Needs Assessment, Establish and CWT Institutionalization Working Group, and convene a CWT Institutionalization Needs Workshop.
- Conduct a SIG Asia – Africa “back tracking the seizures” in Bangkok, to include police, wildlife authorities, customs and prosecutors from Cambodia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Thailand and Vietnam, as well as officers and specialists from the Tanzania, South Africa, Uganda and Zambia, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The event will be jointly funded and coordinated with INL’s strengthening cross border wildlife enforcement program in Africa. [February 2017]
- Conduct a Counter-Transnational Organized Crime Training Course and SIG, in Lusaka Zambia, involving wildlife authorities, police, customs and prosecutors from Cambodia, Thailand, Malaysia, Vietnam, Zambia, Malawi and Kenya. The event will be jointly funded and coordinated with INL’s strengthening cross border wildlife enforcement program in Africa. [June 2017]
- Conduct a Detection of Environmental Crime Training Course (DETECT) for wildlife authorities in Cambodia and Thailand, to include a “Twinning and Surviving Together” exercise between the Cambodia-WEN and the Thai-WEN. [August 2017]
- Collaborate with the UNODC on a series of capacity building events focusing on strengthening customs authorities’ ability to detect, investigate and develop wildlife trafficking cases for successful prosecution. Conduct three, 3 to 5 day workshops, with relevant customs authorities in air and sea ports in Cambodia, Lao and Vietnam. [September 2017]
- Develop country specific Rapid Reference Guides (RRG) for both investigators and prosecutors that will encompass all relevant offenses and what is required to build an evidential case against those accused of wildlife and related crimes. The RRG will include standard operating procedures and is geared towards fostering cooperation and collaboration between all agencies involved in the fight against wildlife crime and trafficking.
- Develop a law enforcement field guide to pangolin species identification. The pangolin species identification products will be broadly disseminated in printed and digital formats to improve methods and capacity for customs, border, and investigative personnel to detect and identify illegally traded pangolins and pangolin products.

USAID Wildlife Asia will identify priorities in laws, policies and jurisprudence on which to focus in Cambodia, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam. USAID Wildlife Asia will host capacity-building events for parliaments; present and develop conservation fund models; showcase forfeiture best practices in prosecution and sentencing; and develop and propose sentencing guidelines for the judiciary. During year 1, the project will prioritize Cambodia and Laos since these countries have ongoing formal CWT-related legislative reform initiatives both in the legislative and judicial arms of the government.

USAID Wildlife Asia will support USAID RDMA activities to enhance coordination amongst US Government (USG) agencies. This will include logistic, technical and financial support for coordination activities; compilation, synthesis and provision of information to USG agencies on

CWT efforts of different actors in the region; and emergence of a community of practice and learning agenda for enhanced CWT efforts. USAID Wildlife Asia also will link with relevant bodies such as UNEP and International Conservation Caucus Foundation (ICCF) to capitalize on increased attention to CWT as a priority development agenda for ASEAN and the UN.

### WILDAID

WildAid's pangolin campaign trains government enforcement officers with Save Vietnam's Wildlife through workshops. See also reference to this project below in the consumer demand section.

### WILDLIFE CONSERVATION SOCIETY (WCS)

WCS is gathering information on rhino horn, turtle, ivory, wild meat, tiger and pangolin trafficking in Vietnam and its connections to Southeast Asia and Africa. WCS provides intelligence briefings on this trafficking to trusted law enforcement partners using IBM i2 Analyst's Notebook. WCS provides technical and logistical support to the Vietnam Wildlife Enforcement Network including hosting meetings, field missions, and joint-activities to foster stronger inter-agency cooperation and coordination.

WCS facilitates cross-border cooperation between Vietnam and Laos, Cambodia, China and Indonesia and Mozambique providing support to meetings, joint-trainings and serving as a communications bridge to share intelligence that has led to enforcement actions.

WCS is working with Vietnamese and Mozambique diplomatic missions, State-owned Enterprises, and law enforcement agencies on a crime prevention program targeting Vietnamese travelers to Mozambique who trade wildlife products. This includes developing government and corporate policies and supporting transnational enforcement cooperation including developing a Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty and piloting a police attaché program at the Vietnamese embassy in Maputo. WCS is seeking to train a cadre of investigators who could be used in African investigations. WCS notes there is a lack of Chinese or Vietnamese undercover investigators for international wildlife crime cases.

WCS partners with training academies and central level agencies to provide CWT capacity-building events to more than 1,000 officers from customs, police (Anti-smuggling, Environment, Economic investigations) prosecutors and judges at a central level and in the key focal provinces of Hanoi, Lang Son, Quang Ninh, Ha Tinh, Nghe An, Ho Chi Minh, Dak Nong, Binh Phuoc, Binh Duong, and Dong Nai. WCS is developing capacity-building strategies for the Vietnamese police (Anti-smuggling and Environment departments) in partnership with the police academy, and under the USAID Saving Species program will expand this to prosecutors and possibly customs. Under the Saving Species program – for which WCS is the implementing partner for the law enforcement component (capacity building and legal reform) – the organization will work with the Hanoi police academy and Ho Chi Minh City Police University and Procuracy University to develop a complementary set of modules to their existing curricula for in-service and pre-service police and judicial officers. WCS has developed a strategy of capacity building away from classroom training, and looking at the competencies and systems they need. The organization determines whether technology is needed and how such technology can be of use to government agencies. WCS further examines interagency cooperation and agreements such as between forestry, customs and police.

WCS (under the USAID Governance for Inclusive Growth Program) in partnership with DLA Piper is completing an analysis of the legal framework for CWT in Vietnam and trying to build consensus

on the priority legal reform agenda amongst civil society and government that will inform the Saving Species program and the upcoming World Bank/MoNRE GEF project.

#### **WORLD CUSTOMS ORGANIZATION (WCO)**

WCO project INAMA focuses on wildlife trafficking in sub-Saharan Africa mainly, though some initiatives have also included Asian countries. For example, INAMA hosted a significant training to build capacity on enforcement planning in Namibia from May 8-12, 2017, for customs officials from sub-Saharan African countries, and customs officials also joined from Hong Kong, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam due to funding from the TRAFFIC TRAPS project.

UNODC and WCO partner in the Global Container Control Programme (CCP), which operates in ASEAN countries including Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam. The CCP aims to secure the global containerized supply chain and minimize the risk of shipping containers being exploited for illicit trafficking, transnational organized crime, and other forms of black market activity. The CCP works with governments to establish inter-agency container profiling units, and strengthen the capacity of customs and law enforcement authorities through the delivery of training, mentoring, equipment, standard operating procedures, and access to tools and databases. CCP information also cited in UNODC section on national level law enforcement support.

## **4. VIETNAM POLITICAL COMMITMENT BUILDING**

#### **EDUCATION FOR NATURE VIETNAM (ENV)**

ENV's policy and legislative team was established in 2008 and works to build support amongst key government decision-makers in the National Assembly, relevant Ministries and amongst provincial leaders to help formulate policy and strengthen legislation and enforcement aimed at protecting wildlife. These efforts have resulted in significant impacts on critical national wildlife policy and legislation such as strengthening of wildlife protection laws and closing loopholes, advocating favorable decisions by the government on major policy issues presented by ENV, and established important precedents on key aspects of enforcement policy at the national and provincial level.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATION AGENCY (EIA), UK**

EIA published a report in the lead up to the Hanoi Conference on Illegal Wildlife Trade in November 2016 examining how 15 countries including China, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam – had implemented their commitments under the London Declaration of February 2014. This report utilized specific indicators developed by EIA to assess the countries' actions. EIA continues to review progress made in implementation of the London Declaration particularly by China, Laos and Vietnam.

EIA investigative products are used by several stakeholders to push for greater commitment by consumer countries to enforce wildlife crime laws pertaining to the trade in Asian big cats and ivory – see above description in the law enforcement support section.

## **FREELAND**

Freeland has a Memorandum of Understanding with the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) that commits the two organizations to collaborate to strengthen and harmonize legislation across the 10 ASEAN Member States on combating wildlife crime. Using the Freeland-produced ASEAN Handbook on Combating Wildlife Crime, a Freeland-led Legal Support Task Force (that also includes National University of Singapore and ASEAN-WEN) provides technical training and support to parliamentarians and their staff who are responsible for writing laws and policies. Freeland also provides technical support to the AIPA Secretariat to mobilize interest among politicians and media across ASEAN to suppress wildlife trafficking.

## **HUMANE SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL (HSI)**

HSI has been helping the Vietnam CITES Management Authority (VN CITES MA) to meet Vietnam's commitments to implementing CITES since 2013. In addition to the activities described above and below, HSI has provided assistance to the VN CITES MA to: attend CITES meetings and to hold side events at those meetings, to visit their counterparts in other countries and to sign bi-lateral MOUs on cooperation on combatting wildlife trafficking and implementation of CITES, and to host international meetings such as the first pangolin range States meeting in 2015 which was key to achieving CITES Appendix I protection for all eight species of pangolins at the 2016 CITES meeting of the Conference of the Parties. HSI also partnered with the VN CITES MA on Vietnam's first public destruction of ivory and rhino horn in 2016; the event served both to demonstrate Vietnam's commitment to ending wildlife trafficking and to educate the public about this problem via the dozens of press stories surrounding the event. Because of this event, for the first time, ivory seized in Vietnam was sampled for DNA testing by the world's leading authority on documenting the origin of trafficked ivory, adding valuable information to the international database that allows enforcement authorities in Africa to uncover wildlife trafficking networks.

## **INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL POLICE ORGANIZATION (INTERPOL)**

INTERPOL's Environmental Security Sub-Directorate seeks to promote the prioritization of work by national police services on environmental crime issues. See also the above INTERPOL reference in the section concerning support of law enforcement (national level).

## **TRAFFIC**

TRAFFIC research based on seizure, market and intelligence data analysis drives onward communication of actionable information and is used to advocate necessary legislative reforms and increase the effectiveness of law enforcement interventions – see reference in the national level law enforcement support section above.

## **UNITED FOR WILDLIFE (UfW)**

UfW strives to build political commitment to end wildlife trafficking, and The Duke of Cambridge has raised this issue with national governments in source, transit and consumer nations. For example, The Duke of Cambridge attended the Hanoi Illegal Wildlife Trade conference in November 2016 – see below section on consumer demand reduction for additional details. The Duke of Cambridge participated in the initial Illegal Wildlife Trade Conference in London in 2014, which resulted in the London Declaration. The 2014 conference was attended by representatives from China, Laos and Vietnam.



#### **UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP)**

UNEP and UNDP, in partnership with other UN agencies such as UNODC and the CITES Secretariat, along with the Global Wildlife Program, will convene an Africa-Asia Symposium on Strengthening Legal Frameworks to Combat Wildlife Crime in Bangkok in July 2017. The symposium is expected to bring together up to 10 countries from Africa and 10 from Asia to discuss criteria for effective legal frameworks and priority issues to strengthen application of national laws to wildlife crime.

#### **UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME (UNEP)**

UNEP, in partnership with UNDP and others, will convene an Africa-Asia Symposium on Strengthening Legal Frameworks to Combat Wildlife Crime in Bangkok on July 4-5, 2017. The key objective of the Symposium is to advance efforts in Africa and Asia Pacific to strengthen and harmonize legal frameworks to combat wildlife crime. Participants will discuss their countries' experience with developing and enacting laws that address wildlife crime, and debate proposed criteria and recommended minimum requirements for strengthening legislation that governs the multiple aspects of wildlife crime. Opportunities to strengthen political will to combat wildlife crime through the strategic engagement of parliamentarians from Africa and Asia Pacific will also be explored as a secondary objective. The Symposium will support the participation of 20 representatives from Africa and Asia Pacific, and more if additional resources can be mobilized. Target participants will be senior government officials who are responsible for developing or strengthening laws and regulations relevant to combating wildlife crime. Vietnam is proposed for inclusion in the Symposium.

UN Environment supports the Ministry of National Resources and Environment (MONRE) in reviewing and strengthening of legislation and policy frameworks on forestry and biodiversity in Vietnam. UN Environment is in discussions with the Ministry on the scope of the review, and proposals and alignment with other initiatives.

#### **UNITED NATIONS OFFICE ON DRUGS AND CRIME (UNODC)**

UNODC, through its Global Programme for Combating Wildlife and Forest Crime, works with national legal systems and law enforcement agencies of Member States (which in ASEAN includes Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Thailand, Philippines and Vietnam) to strengthen legislative frameworks, shape policy, enhance knowledge and capacities, and increase regional cooperation to combat wildlife and forest crime. In October 2015, the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime agreed to include "wildlife and timber trafficking" as a priority crime under the purview of the Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC). In June 2016, UNODC worked in cooperation with Thailand and the Royal Thai Police to convene a regional conference to bring the SOMTC focal points on wildlife and timber trafficking together to agree on a work programme. The Work Programme to Combat Wildlife and Timber Trafficking will be integrated with the existing SOMTC 2016-2018 Work Programme to implement the ASEAN Plan of Action to Combat Transnational Crime. In parallel, UNODC is also encouraging the establishment of a SOMTC working group on wildlife and timber trafficking to coordinate implementation of the Work Programme.

UNODC implemented the ICCWC Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit in Vietnam in 2015, with the participation of relevant Government stakeholders across the country. The findings of the report reflected the strengths and challenges of Vietnam's capacity to respond to wildlife and forest



crime, and a set of 50 recommendations provide a basis for the design of capacity building and technical assistance programs in Vietnam.

UNODC hosted a Laos-Vietnam policy dialogue in April 2016 to improve the response of trafficking of natural resources across land borders. It was the first policy dialogue meeting on this issue between the two countries. Participants identified a framework of challenges and solutions to improve international cooperation, focusing on trade and regulations, and law enforcement and corruption.

UNODC organized a press conference in Vietnam to highlight World Environment Day in 2016, in cooperation with representatives from the Ministry of Public Security, Supreme People's Procuracy, the General Department of Vietnam Customs, and the United Nations Resident Coordinator, to call for an end to wildlife trafficking.

#### **USAID WILDLIFE ASIA**

USAID Wildlife Asia will seek to build commitment by engaging high levels of the judiciary in the region. See above section on law enforcement support (national level) for additional information.

#### **WILDAID**

WildAid's consumer demand campaign targeting ivory is also assisting in building commitment by the Government of Thailand – see section below concerning consumer demand.

## **5. VIETNAM PRIVATE SECTOR COMMITMENT BUILDING**

#### **TRAFFIC**

TRAFFIC, through the Wildlife TRAPS project and ROUTES initiative, works to enhance transport and logistics sector ability to prevent exploitation by wildlife traffickers through increased awareness of staff and customers, as well as improved Standard Operating Procedures and trainings. TRAFFIC also works with a variety of private sector partners in Vietnam, including the Traditional Medicine and religious community, e-commerce and the Vietnam Chamber of Commerce to diffuse corporate social responsibility around zero tolerance for wildlife trafficking.

#### **UNITED FOR WILDLIFE (UfW)**

UfW is working with the transportation sector through the UfW Transport Taskforce, which developed and is working to implement the commitments in the UfW Buckingham Palace Declaration. This work is being done in recognition that international freight and passenger transportation is vital to the movement of illegal wildlife products from source through transit and into markets, and that the private sector can assist in reducing such shipments. UfW, through The Royal Foundation of The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and Prince Harry, provides the secretariat for the Transport Taskforce, which includes 75 representatives from across the transport sector covering aviation, maritime, freight forwarders and enforcement. To support action from the transportation sector the Transport Taskforce is providing a mechanism for the collection and analysis of NGO information regarding wildlife trafficking, and sharing of verified information with

signatories to the Buckingham Palace Declaration, including through regular alerts pertaining to illicit trafficking methods as well as details of specific trafficking cases.

### **WILDAID**

WildAid works with corporate entities and business leaders in advancing efforts to reduce the illegal wildlife trade – see section below concerning consumer demand.

## **6. VIETNAM CONSUMER DEMAND REDUCTION**

### **EDUCATION FOR NATURE VIETNAM (ENV)**

ENV's public awareness campaigns aim to reduce consumption of wildlife by influencing public attitudes and encouraging the public to become actively involved in wildlife protection. ENV also administered species-specific demand reduction programs targeting consumers of bears, tigers, rhinos, pangolins, marine turtles, and endangered primates. For example, one consumer crime campaign initiated in late 2013 (ongoing in 2017) has reduced the advertising and sale of wildlife by an average of 62 percent at restaurants, traditional medicine shops, bars, and other retail establishments in six major cities of Vietnam. ENV uses a variety of tools to reach the public including producing and airing more than 50 public service announcements for television and radio, hosting high profile events, and working in partnership with our network of more than 638 journalists to get our message out through TV, radio, newspaper, and viral news channels. An ENV Mobile Wildlife Awareness team tours the country undertaking awareness activities to deliver messages directly to stakeholder groups, ranging from university students and urban residents and communities bordering protected areas, to customs officers, police and provincial government leaders. Examples of ENV public service announcements starring celebrities or promoting the reporting of wildlife crime are the following:

- rhino horn – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hsw3ED4M4Nk>
- bear bile – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FJocBCycWwU>
- pangolin crime – [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UW9RKV\\_uFTM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UW9RKV_uFTM)

### **ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATION AGENCY (EIA), UK**

EIA investigative products on the trade in tigers and their parts and derivatives, profiling individuals and networks involved in this trade, combined with EIA's analysis of open source information, assists stakeholders to identify relevant consumer groups and to further target their campaigns to reduce consumer demand – see above description in the law enforcement support section.

### **FREELAND**

Freeland teams up with Vietnamese government organizations, NGOs, and media companies to conduct social behavior change campaigns to reduce consumption of elephant ivory, pangolin, rhino horn, and big cats in Vietnam. Campaigns are usually conducted with the use of KOLs (Key Opinion Leaders) and with the support of local advertising and social media marketing companies to achieve maximum reach and impact. “Fin Free” and “iTHINK” have been run in Vietnam since 2013. iTHINK is a campaign support platform that provides financial and technical assistance to local partner campaigns that strategically engage the audience to join and grow the conversation about wildlife crime, building social pressure on and around the consumer.

### HUMANE SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL (HSI)

HSI has supported the Vietnam CITES Management Authority (VN CITES MA) since 2013 on a government-led rhino horn demand reduction campaign which has reached nearly 35 million people in Vietnam with targeted outreach and engagement efforts in six major cities. In the first three years, the campaign focused on five stakeholder groups: primary school students, university students, the Vietnam Women's Union, the business community, and the Vietnam Union of Science and Technology Associations. The project is now in its second phase with a focus on high school-aged students. HSI also partnered with the VN CITES MA on producing a series of children's books and animated cartoon videos that were aimed at reducing demand for parts and products of rhinoceros, elephant, tiger and pangolin in Vietnam. A 16-page book entitled *I'm a Little Rhino* was written for school children and distributed to 1.5 million school children through cooperation with provincial Departments of Education and Training. Three additional books were created: *I'm a Little Pangolin*, *I'm a Little Elephant*, and *I'm a Little Tiger*. This child-focused element of the campaign takes advantage of the fact that 67.1% of Vietnam households contain a child. The concept is that by educating one child other people in that child's life will be touched by the campaign messages, and by educating children we ensure that future Vietnamese adults will reject rhino horn trade and use. Cartoon video versions of these books were created and aired on national Vietnamese television at least 100 times each over a four-month period reaching at least 2.6 million people (or approximately 2.74% of the national population), according to the results of a Nielsen survey. In the survey, 100 percent of those who saw one or more of the videos said that they have no intention of purchasing products derived from the species focused on in the video. Finally, in 2017, HSI, the VN CITES MA, and the Ministry of Education and Training have begun a three-year project to develop and implement a national primary school program on conservation education focused on threatened species, with the goal of reducing demand for illegally traded wild animals.

### TRAFFIC

TRAFFIC has been helping improve policies and legislation at the national level, engage public-private partnerships, and drive a suite of interventions to catalyze behavior change efforts with partners to reduce demand in major consumer markets in Southeast Asia and China. TRAFFIC hosts the Wildlife Consumer Behaviour Change Toolkit [www.changewildlifeconsumers.org](http://www.changewildlifeconsumers.org) and provides a suite of services for the 'Demand Reduction Community of Practice' that uses the Toolkit as an information and coordination hub – services include an element of webinars, learning and experience exchange events, Expert Roundtables on key topics and Good Practice Guidelines on measuring the impact of behavioral change.

TRAFFIC leads the delivery of the 'Chi initiative', a social marketing campaign aimed at reducing demand for rhino horn in Vietnam.

TRAFFIC is an implementing partner of the USAID Saving Species initiative in Vietnam, and will work to reduce consumer demand for and consumption of illegal wildlife and wildlife products.

### UNITED FOR WILDLIFE (UfW)

UfW has grown a large and engaged social media community through a variety of digital campaigns and activities aimed at young people across the world. With a growing online community to share news with and raise awareness of illegal wildlife trade, UfW shares unique content and activities enabling young people to engage with the issue of illegal wildlife trade while learning more about conservation in general.

UfW has also developed a platform for the delivery of online learning material and provides online courses that enable self-paced learning on several general and specialized topics relevant to conservation, including a short course focusing on illegal wildlife trade. At the end of 2016 over 8,500 people from 196 countries had registered on the platform and more than 170,000 people follow the course and its content on social media with marketing focused on the priority countries identified by UfW in regards to consumer markets. The platform won a highly-regarded Learning Technologies award in 2016. This course now has Vietnamese translations for the content on illegal wildlife trade.

UfW further works with the online gaming sector to expand the audience of conservation messaging, with 100,000 downloads of the UfW “We Are the Rangers” Minecraft map, and over 2.6 million YouTube play-throughs. This included content created by popular Minecraft YouTubers in Thailand and initial player generated map events submitted from Vietnam.

UfW also focused specifically on raising awareness of the consequences of the illegal trade in rhino horn amongst consumers in Vietnam. The Duke of Cambridge attended the Hanoi Illegal Wildlife Trade conference in November 2016 and visited the traditional medicine street to engage with practitioners and stakeholders.

#### **UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP)**

The UNDP-supported, GEF-financed project titled “Mainstreaming Natural Resource Management and Biodiversity Conservation objectives into socio-economic development planning and management of Biosphere Reserve in Viet Nam” will include a component on consumer demand reduction. This project will develop and implement awareness raising campaigns on behalf of Biosphere Reserves (BRs), including campaigns at the national level and at the pilot BRs focused on the benefits provided by Biosphere Reserves and their biodiversity and ecosystem services values, and the importance of indigenous knowledge and cultural heritage in natural resource management and socio-economic development; as well as a campaign targeting local communities, the tourism sector, and local decision makers and institutional authorities, on the need for changes in consumption behavior to reduce pressures on biodiversity and ecosystem functions, including the exploitation, use, trade, and transport of wild plants and animals and their products.

#### **UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME (UNEP)**

UNEP is helping to coordinate the global ‘Wild For Life Campaign’, including with partners in Vietnam.

#### **USAID WILDLIFE ASIA**

USAID Wildlife Asia will reduce consumer demand for wildlife parts and products by communicating, mobilizing and advocating ways to change behaviors and build new social norms around the use of wildlife. Planned activities include communication campaigns using proven SBCC approaches and technical assistance to strengthen capacity of organizations to use SBCC in planning and implementing demand reduction campaigns. Year I activities include conduct of a situational analysis to identify priority consumer segments, demand drivers and influencing factors underlying the purchase and use of wildlife products in China, Thailand and Vietnam; development and preparation for implementation of new campaigns in these three countries; as well as providing support to align existing campaigns with USAID Wildlife Asia messages, and SBCC capacity building of organizations involved in wildlife communication. The USAID Wildlife Asia Activity is

implemented by the International Resources Group (IRG) – which is owned by RTI International – with a consortium of organizations and companies including FHI 360, International Fund for Animal Welfare, Freeland and Integra.

### **WILDAID**

WildAid conducts consumer demand campaigns targeting rhino horn (commenced 2013) and pangolins (commenced 2016), and will commence an ivory campaign in 2017. The target audience for the campaigns includes medium to high income consumers, business leaders, government officials and policy makers, media influencers. The existing campaigns address the lack of awareness on the trade in rhino horn and pangolins, and the associated poaching crisis; build more pro-conservation attitudes; persuade consumers not to buy the wildlife products, and to support government enforcement efforts. These campaigns use a combination of strategies including press/media outreach/education, celebrity-driven media campaigns (TV PSAs, billboards, print), online and social media campaigns, and briefings and consultations with relevant government agencies. The rhino horn and pangolin campaigns include sub-campaigns involving a wide range of international and Vietnamese celebrities; and the rhino horn initiative has also included prominent doctors and traditional medicine practitioners, and with a substantive communications partnership with the Ho Chi Minh City Health Department. These campaigns will continue their messaging in 2017 and their ongoing activities include for rhino horn a documentary film with national broadcaster VTV featuring popular TV host Phan Anh, and new TV PSAs covering media reports on poaching/ reduced demand, as well as the anticipated new wildlife crime article/ regulations/ offenses/ sentences in the new penal code. This campaign will also assist law enforcement agencies as they communicate seizures, arrests, prosecutions and sentences to highlight the wildlife crime aspect of the rhino horn trade and government enforcement efforts. The pangolin campaign will include a TV PSA and billboard campaign with Jackie Chan, new TV PSAs, billboards/print, media reports on poaching/reduced demand, online and social media, and cooperation with government agencies to strengthen enforcement efforts through increased media exposure and case tracking. The ivory campaign will be initiated in 2017 with new TV PSAs, billboards/print, a documentary film on VTV, online and social media campaigns, and briefings and consultations with relevant government agencies. It will also assist law enforcement agencies as they communicate seizures, arrests, prosecutions and sentences to highlight the wildlife crime aspect of the ivory trade and government enforcement efforts.

### **WORLD WILDLIFE FUND (WWF)**

WWF Vietnam is leading behavior change efforts in central Vietnam to reduce the consumption of wild meat and other wildlife products. Collaborative work with TRAFFIC has focused on engaging corporates and transportation logistic companies in activities to endorse a culture of zero-tolerance to wildlife consumption, particularly for rhino horn in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City.