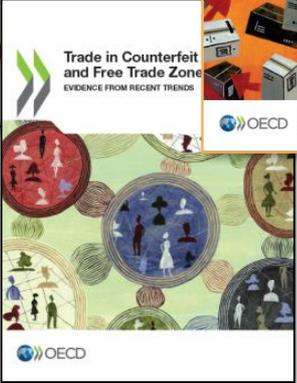
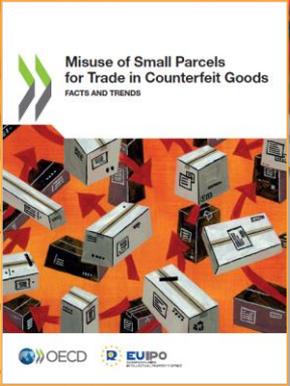
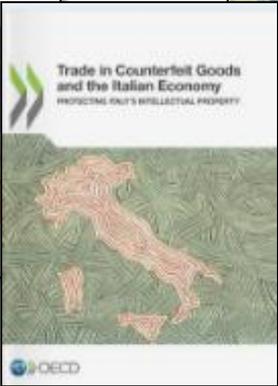
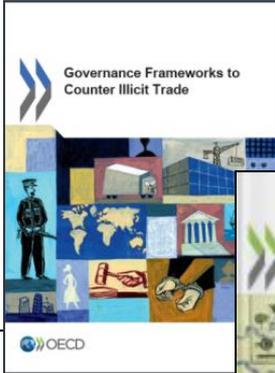
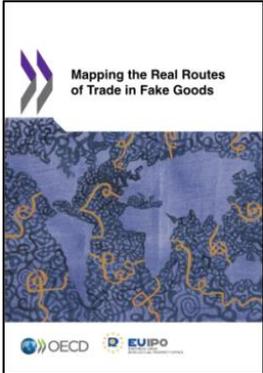
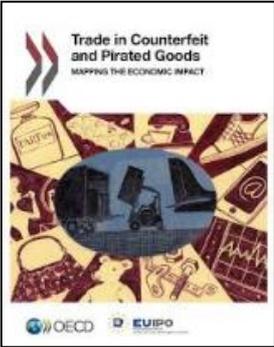




Illegal Wildlife Trade: Southeast Asia

OECD Task Force on Countering Illicit Trade



Why should policymakers focus on Illegal wildlife trade?

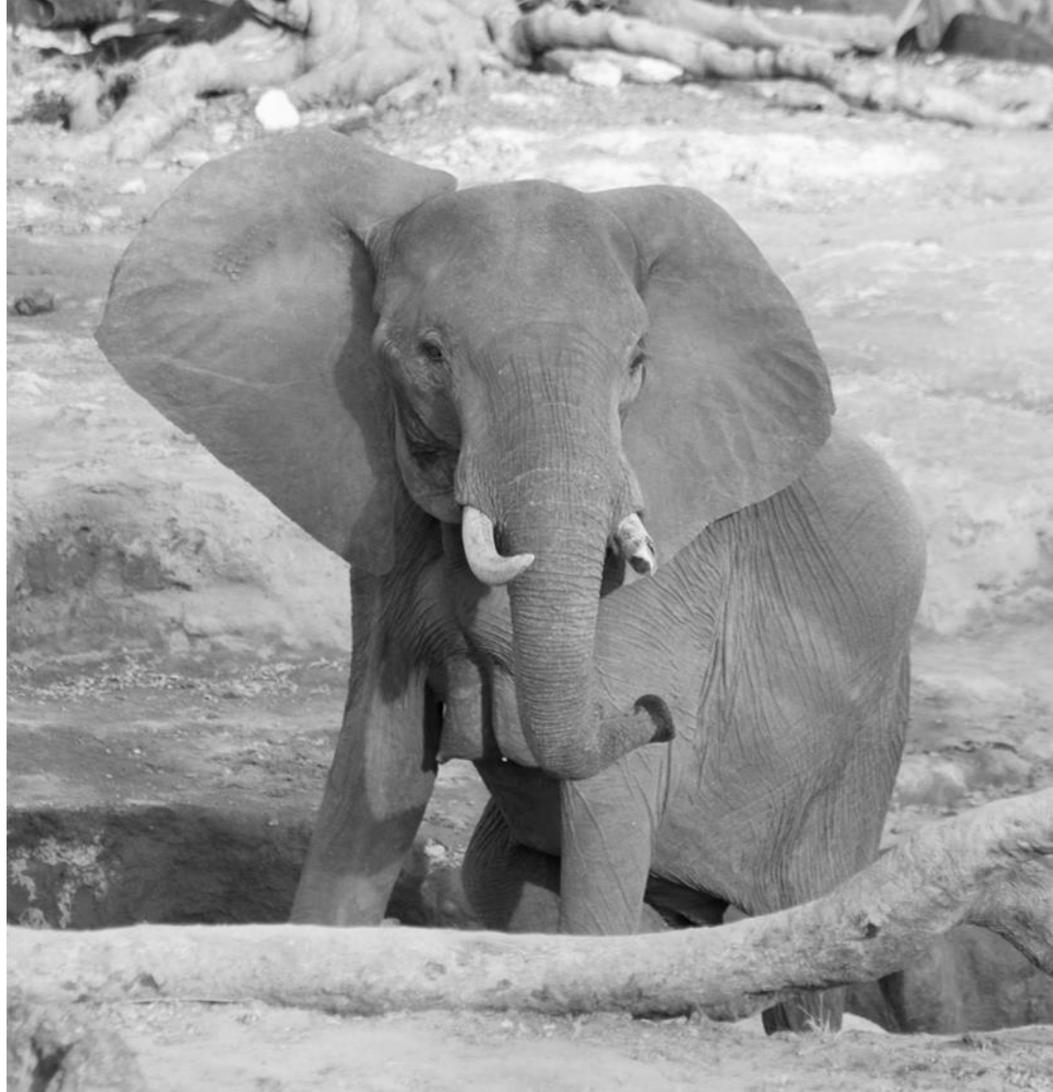
- Worldwide, illegal wildlife trade is one of the most profitable forms of illicit trade.
- It is a transnational organized crime forming a multi-billion dollar industry across national borders.
- Proceeds of crime worth tens of billions annually
- Illegal wildlife trade and related crimes poses a threat to:
 - Rule of law
 - Integrity of borders, institutions
 - Ecological and environmental sustainability

Phase 1: Southern and Central Africa (Published Oct 2018)

- Kenya
- Tanzania
- Uganda
- Zambia

Phase 2: Southeast Asia (current)

- Thailand
- Vietnam
- Indonesia
- Singapore



Data



Data Sources

OECD Narrative Data

- 313 reported incidents of corruption between 2012 - 2017
- Qualitative descriptions of IWT corruption

World Customs Organization (WCO) Seizure Data

- 16,000 rows cleaned to 4,998 IWT seizures between 2011 - 2016
- Grouped by type (provenance, transit, known destination), location type, and conveyance type

Others: CITES, MIKE/PIKE, TRAFFIC, Open source infrastructure and flight data

OECD Corruption Narratives

SPECIES

- ELEPHANT
- RHINO
- OTHER
- PANGOLIN
- TIGER

COUNTRY

Uganda

CITY

Northern Region

DESCRIPTION

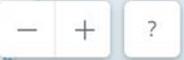
A wildlife ranger stationed in Pakwach, Uganda, was arrested with eight hippo teeth. He allegedly stole the teeth from the Ugandan Wildlife Authority storage and was arrested trying to sell them at a hotel in Northern Uganda.



- KNOWN DESTINATION
- PROVENANCE
- TRANSIT
- REPORTED SEIZURE

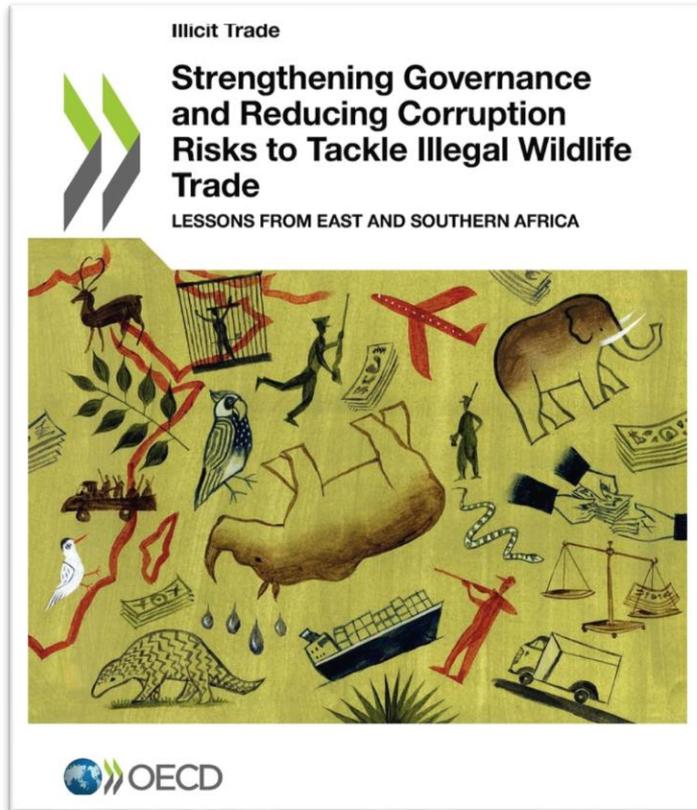


Addis Ababa Bole International Airport
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



CART ●

Phase 1: 2018 Report on Southern and Eastern Africa



Key Findings

- Corruption a major facilitator of Illegal wildlife trade in source and transit countries
- In most countries, no corruption cases related to IWT have taken place
- Successful prosecutions are rare and penalties remain low due to corruption risks and lack of training
- Inter-agency co-ordination is in place but needs to build stronger anti-corruption programming
- No common use of ancillary penalties like money laundering /proceeds of crime laws

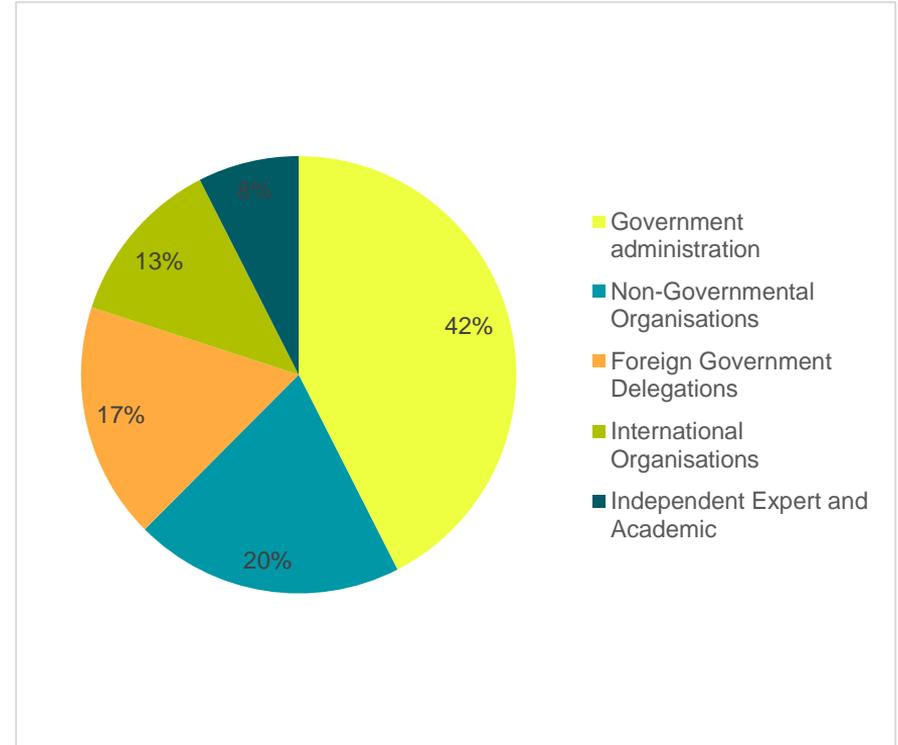
Phase 2: 2019 Report for Southeast Asia

Objectives:

- Provide regional overview of wildlife crime
- Looks at the institutional responses to wildlife crime

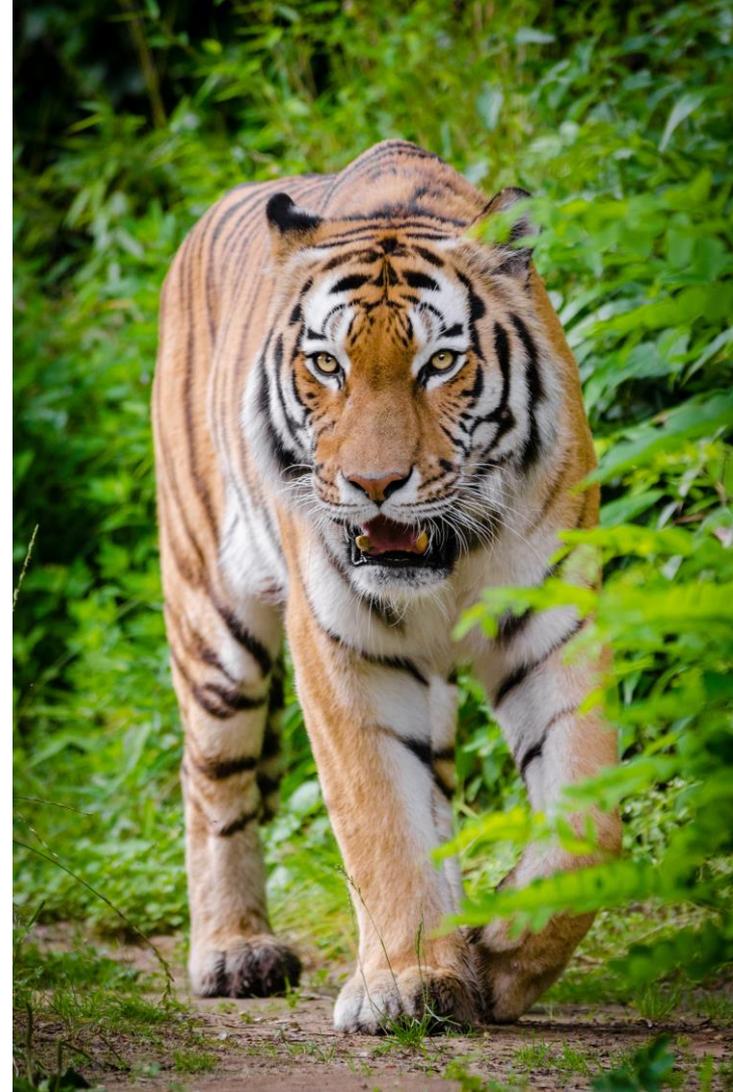
Methodology:

- 40 semi-structured interviews with 94 individuals across the four focus countries
- Desk Research and Open Source Media Mapping



Why focus on Southeast Asia?

- 3% of global land mass, 8% of global population,
- **Up to 25%** of all illegal wildlife trade ends up in this region
- Makeup source, transit and destinations of Illegal killed or taken wildlife
- Ivory and Rhino just one part of the Puzzle: domestically poached IWT is destroying ecosystems
 - Pangolin
 - Rare bird trade
 - Rare reptiles
 - Asian elephants
 - Big cat trade





Key Questions:

- **What measures have these countries taken in recent years to increase enforcement of wildlife crimes?**
- **What are the main policy, legal, institutional gaps that enable the illegal wildlife trade to persist?**
- **Are these policies focused on domestic species only, or all illegally traded fauna?**
- **What are some recent cases and successes in law enforcement co-ordination?**

Key Findings

Multi-Agency Government Co-operation a Challenge

- Several countries have adopted wildlife enforcement networks (WENs) but few of these are operationally active.
- Number of cases involving inter-agency co-operation for illegal wildlife trade investigations and prosecutions remain few.
 - Thailand use of WEN
- Involvement of NGO's and IO's is valuable force-multiplier

Key finding: International Co-operation Gaining Strength

- Numerous forms of international co-operation:
 - legal information sharing treaties (MLAs); extradition agreements
 - International Wildlife Enforcement Networks, task forces
 - Informal exchanges among officers
- Strengthening regional co-operation; but ties between Southeast Asian countries and other regions, like Western Europe and Southern and Eastern Africa (known source/transit regions) remains a challenge.

Key finding: Legal Frameworks and gaps a serious risk

- With the exception of Singapore, 4 years maximum penalties in most countries
- Legal loopholes continue are major impediments to the effective enforcement of relevant wildlife laws.
- These lead to the continuing sale of products that are likely to have been derived from the illegal wildlife trade.
 - Open grey markets in all four countries
 - Online sales (facebook, Instagram, etc.)
 - Zoos, parks, “sanctuaries” that are licensed for domestic species (i.e. bears, tigers)

Key finding: Corruption risks a thorny issue that persists in Southeast Asia

- Corruption risks are facilitators of wildlife trade in several of the countries studied.
- **National border crossings** are hot-spots for corruption risks, particularly in transboundary regions with land borders between key transit countries and destination markets, major airports.
- High corruption risks at borders may be due to the legal markets to which illegal wildlife products have access to once they are within the country.
- Allegations of corruption risks for licensing and permitting, too.
- Anti-corruption agencies are not generally involved: many other competing priorities. Total of **five** corruption prosecutions have been documented in the four countries.

Key Finding: Money Laundering and Proceeds of Crime

- The money laundered from the sale of illegal wildlife products makes its way into the financial system with relative ease.
 - FIUs not actively engaged, many other priorities, even in forestry crimes
- Some successful cases of proceeds of crime investigations.
 - Example of Thailand's AMLO involvement in Proceeds of Crime Investigations
 - Cases are resource intensive but gain significant attention, leading to busting of transnational organized crime rings, seizing properties, bank accounts of family members, millions in proceeds of crime.

Policy considerations:

- Countries studied are also victim of IWT, and need this aspect needs to be addressed more comprehensively in future research and in policy messaging
- More international focus needed on 'Market' countries in Southeast Asia
 - Institutional frameworks also need strong attention
- There are a range of recommendations and capacity increasing measures needed in the areas:
 - Operationalize, empower WENs, and continue to support active NGOs that support IWT investigations.
 - Increase international co-operation with other countries
 - Focus on corruption at borders and locate relevant CITES officials at borders
 - Review and strengthen legal frameworks where there are gaps
 - Conduct money laundering and proceeds of crime investigations.

Next steps and future research

- Publication of Southeast Asia Report in Late Spring 2019
- Dissemination of findings and workshops with law enforcement officials between OECD and non-OECD countries (e.g. European officials and counterparts in SE Asia).
- Continue to use analytical framework and questionnaire for future work. These could include:
 - West Africa
 - Latin America and Caribbean





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