Globalization of crime

*Environmental resources*

Jakarta, 23/06/2010
Globalization of crime: chapter 7

- Wildlife from Africa and South-East Asia to Asia
- Timber from South-East Asia to the European Union and Asia

Available at:
- www.unodc.org
- www.unodc.org/eastasiaandpacific
Wildlife from Africa and South-East Asia to Asia
## Wildlife from Africa and South-East Asia to Asia

| Source                        | • Elephants from Central Africa  
|                              | • Rhinos from South Africa, Zimbabwe and north-east India  
|                              | • Various wildlife from Myanmar, Cambodia and Lao PDR  |
| Vector                       | • By sea and air from Africa  
|                              | • By land and sea within Asia  |
| Destination                  | China, Viet Nam, Japan and other parts of Asia  |
Wildlife from Africa and South-East Asia to Asia

| Traffickers | • Asian expatriate communities in Africa and Asia  
  • Elephant ivory: militias, rural africans, business people in Asia and Africa  
  • Rhino horns: organized poaching gangs  
  • Poachers are not necessarily traffickers |
| Threat      | • Highly likely that tigers will become extinct in the wild  
  • Fairly likely that black rhinos will become extinct in the wild  
  • Unclear impact on SEA wildlife  
  • Increased corruption and organized crime |
## Wildlife from Africa and South-East Asia to Asia

| Annual market volume | • Elephant ivory: 75 tons  
• Rhino horns: 800 Kgs  
• Tiger parts: 150 tiger skins and 1,500 kgs of tiger bones |
|----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| Annual value at destination | • Elephant ivory: US$ 62 million  
• Rhino horn: US$ 8 million  
• Tiger parts: US$ 5 million |
Trafficking in rhino horns
Trafficking in elephant ivory
Wildlife trafficking in SEA
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Timber from South-East Asia to European Union and Asia
## Timber from South-East Asia to European Union and Asia

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>• Indonesia, Malaysia, Lao PDR, Cambodia, Papua New Guinea</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vector</td>
<td>• By sea and by land</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Destination</td>
<td>China, Viet Nam, Europe</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Timber from South-East Asia to European Union and Asia

| Traffickers                  | • Brokers in Singapore, Hong Kong, China and Taiwan  
|                             | • Timber trading firms in China, Indonesia, Viet Nam  
|                             | • Local military police officials and business people  
|                             | • Rebel groups  
| Threat                      | • Deforestation, biodiversity loss, climate change, flooding, soil erosion  
|                             | • Poverty, migration  

## Timber from South-East Asia to European Union and Asia

| Dimension       | Perhaps 10 million cubic meters  
|                 | US$ 3.5 billion                  |
| Purpose         | Exclusively economic (unlike wildlife trafficking) |
| Challenges      | Organized networks capable of circumventing laws, bans and regulations through sophisticated techniques |
Trafficking of environmental resources and corruption
Definition of corrupt behaviour

• In the United Nations Convention Against Corruption
  – Bribery of national public officials, foreign public officials, officials of public international organizations
  – Embezzlement, misappropriation by public official
  – Abuse of functions and trading in influence
  – Illicit enrichment
  – Bribery in the private sector
  – Laundering of proceeds of crime
One definition of Wildlife Crime

Wildlife and forest crime includes the

– taking,

– trading (supplying, selling, trafficking), importing, exporting,

– processing,

– possessing, obtaining,

– and consumption

– of wild flora and fauna in contravention of national or international law


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Corruption opportunities

Wildlife and forest crime includes the – taking,

• Forest rangers
• Environmental police and specialized law enforcement
• Management of parks and protected areas
• Policy makers establishing quotas, permits, regulations, etc
• National and foreign businesses holding hunting permits
• Etc.
Corruption opportunities

Wildlife and forest crime includes the

- taking,
- trading (supplying, selling, trafficking), importing, exporting,
  - Public officials (customs, revenues, specialized agencies, etc) in ports of entry/exit from origin to final destination
  - Couriers
  - Shipping companies
  - CITES Authorities
  - Etc.
Corruption opportunities

Wildlife and forest crime includes the

- taking,
- trading (supplying, selling, trafficking), importing, exporting,
- processing,
  - Micro, small and medium enterprises (e.g. restaurants and wildlife farms)
  - Law enforcement
  - Etc.
Corruption opportunities

Wildlife and forest crime includes the
– taking,
– trading (supplying, selling, trafficking), importing, exporting,
– processing,
– possessing, obtaining,
  • Wholesale distributors
  • Retailers (e.g. restaurants, pet shops, small markets)
  • Wildlife farms
  • Private collectors
  • Etc.
Corruption opportunities

Wildlife and forest crime includes the
- taking,
- trading (supplying, selling, trafficking), importing, exporting,
- processing,
- possessing, obtaining,
- and consumption
  - Retailers (i.e. restaurants)
  - Private citizens (including high income citizens)
  - Law enforcement (including prosecution and judiciary in case of interdiction of any of the steps above)
  - Etc.
Why?

– Wildlife and forest protection is a low priority for law enforcement
– Risk of detection and punishment is low
– Complexity of the specimen and existence of a legal trade
– Low capacity and training for law enforcers
– High demand, especially in Asia
– Finite supply – controlled also by ad-hoc quotas/permits
– High revenues
  • Price of raw ivory in Tanzania: USD 15 per Kg
  • Price of raw ivory in destination countries. USD 850 per Kg
  • Retail value of ivory hankos in Japan: USD 7,000 per Kg
Forms of corruption

– Bribery
  • Example: A border officer accepting a payment to turn a blind eye on a cargo of protected turtles with no CITES certificate

– Fraud
  • Example: A border officer requesting a payment to expedite the licit movement of wildlife or timber
Forms of corruption

– Favouritisms and cronyism
  • Example: Issuing logging permits to companies owned by relatives of influential political individuals

– Kickbacks
  • Example: Issuing logging permits at lower costs to a private company in return for an illegal payment
Main players

– Legislative bodies (policy makers, politicians, etc.)
– Lobbyists (private and public sector)
– Administrative bodies (regulators for national and local authorities, monitoring authorities, management authorities for protected areas, etc.)
– Law enforcement agencies (police, specialized agencies, etc.)
– Border authorities (border police, customs, etc.)
– Judiciary and prosecution
– Private sector (shipping companies, retailers, wholesalers, restaurants, wildlife farms, etc.)
– Individuals (poachers, couriers, buyers, witnesses, communities)
– Media
Conclusions

– There cannot be wildlife and timber trafficking without corruption

– A criminal justice response to wildlife and timber trafficking requires comprehensive and innovative anti-corruption approaches
Thank you