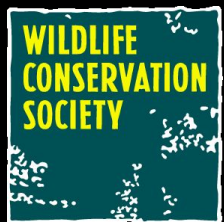


Wildlife Crimes:

An international perspective



Scott Robertson PhD
Wildlife Conservation Society

Wildlife criminals are

Driving species extinct across our planet

Spreading diseases to humans

Weakening the rule of law

**Professional, organised, cooperating
internationally, innovative**



Five species globally

Four of which are Globally threatened species

Being driven to extinction by demand for their horn

Three subspecies declared extinct since 2008

Vietnam's last rhino killed in 2010



Vietnam citizens are a major part of the problem

The law enforcement response of Vietnam to date has been limited:



**19 cases since 2008:
1 person jailed
Some fines
Many cases still open**

African forest elephant populations are also in rapid decline





**2002-2011
Populations
crashed 62%**

**Over 20,000
killed each year
for their ivory**

**Resurgence in
global illegal
ivory trade
since 2009**

**Driven by
increasing
demand for
ivory in China**





21 cases of illegal ivory transport 2009-2011
How many jailed? How many given large fines?

Wildlife is one of the most valuable traded goods

Rhino horn
\$2000-\$6000

Tiger bone balm
\$850

Elephant ivory
\$50-\$700

Golden Turtle
\$300-\$500

Pangolin scales
\$200-400

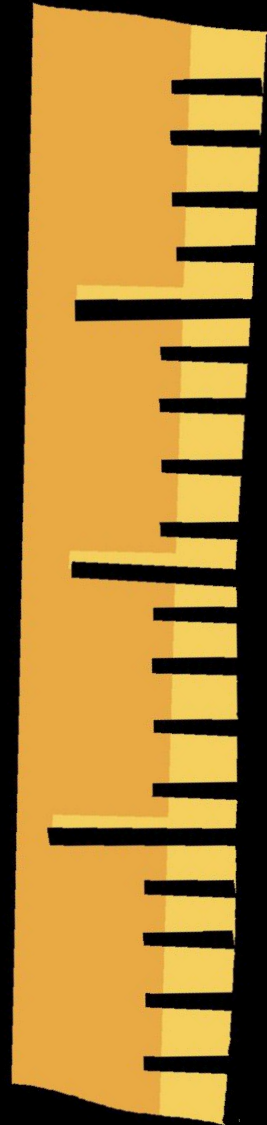
Gold
\$4800

Heroin
\$1500-2000

Amphetamine
\$100

Opium
\$50

Beef
\$0.75 - \$1





**One Golden Turtle (1.5kg):
\$4500-\$7500**



**One set of Elephant tusks (5-15kg/tusk):
\$5000-\$210,000**



**One Adult tiger skeleton:
\$15,000-\$20,000**



**One African rhino horn (2.8-3.7kg):
\$56,000 - \$225,000**

The Viet Nam Penal Code gives low priority to wildlife crimes

Death

Life

20

19

18

17

16

15

14

13

12

11

10

9

8

7

6

Manufacture/trade of fake medicinal products

Rape and murder

Illegal narcotic trade, storage, transport

Cross-border smuggling (non-wildlife)

Participating in illegal motorbike/car racing

Trafficking in women

Procuring prostitutes

Receiving bribe – 500,000 – 10 million

Disseminating debauched cultural products

Tax evasion

Creating computer virus

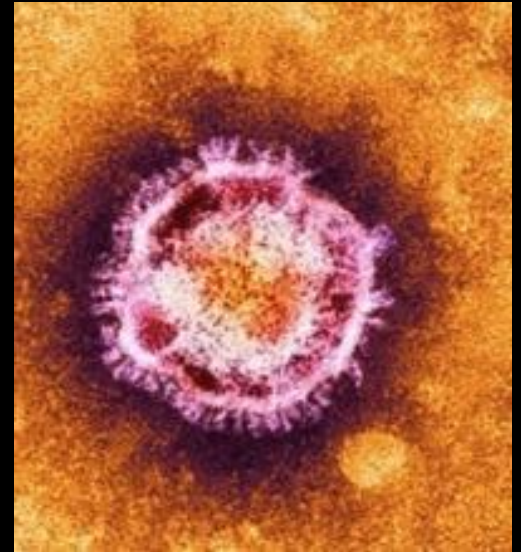
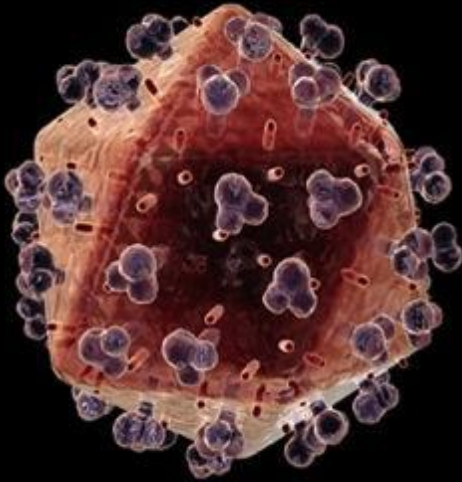
Org. gambling

Bigamy

Gambling

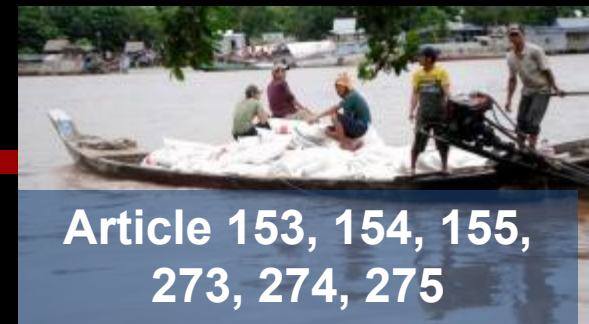
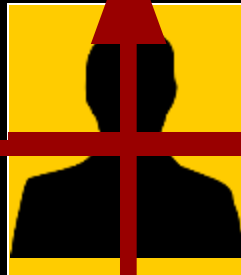
**Why should wildlife crimes
be treated as serious crimes**

Wildlife crimes present a threat to human health



70% of infectious diseases which affect humans are originally sourced from wild animals

Wildlife criminals are organized, professional and often involved in other criminal acts



Viet Nam is facing international criticism and exposure on its response to wildlife crimes



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Group: Last Javan rhino killed for horn

Updated 10/25/2011 1:51 AM

its rare Javan rhinoceros
last animal for its horn, pushing
inction, a conservation group

nal Park has had no sightings,
ve rhinos since the last known
und dead last April, shot
in chopped off, the WWF said.
oes had confirmed in 2004
living in the park, raising
tion might survive.

ew remain in Ujung Kulon
or are the last known

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Asia fuels illegal wildlife parts

2012 Last updated at 08:05 GMT

Affluent Vietnamese driving rhino horn poaching in South Africa, report

Investigations say conspicuous consumption from a growing class is opening a new market in the illegal wildlife trade

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Asia-Pacific

Vietnam ranks 'worst' in wildlife crime

Tiger farms and its wildlife trade
It is at the top of a WWF list
and Myanmar. It is also the only
country to have a tiger farm.

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AN BINH, Vietnam (AP) — Nineteen tigers prowl outdoor cages the size of dormitory rooms, nibbling frayed wire fences and roaring at a caretaker who taunts them with his sandals.

It looks like a zoo, but it's closed to the public. The facility breeds tigers, but has never supplied a conservation program with any animals nor sold any to zoos.

Conservationists allege that Vietnam's 11 registered tiger farms, including this one, are a thriving illegal market in tiger parts, highly prized for purported — if unproven — medicinal uses.

**The response of governments and civil society
has improved in recent years,
but remains insufficient**

**Professional, organised, cooperating
internationally, innovative**

**WCS is committed
to supporting the Vietnamese government
strengthening its response
to wildlife crimes**

**Training programs
On-the-job support
Support for meetings and workshops**