



Illegal Trade in Wildlife: an Environmental, Economic and Security Challenge to be considered by UNEA

Major Groups and Stakeholders Forum,
Sunday 22 June, 2014

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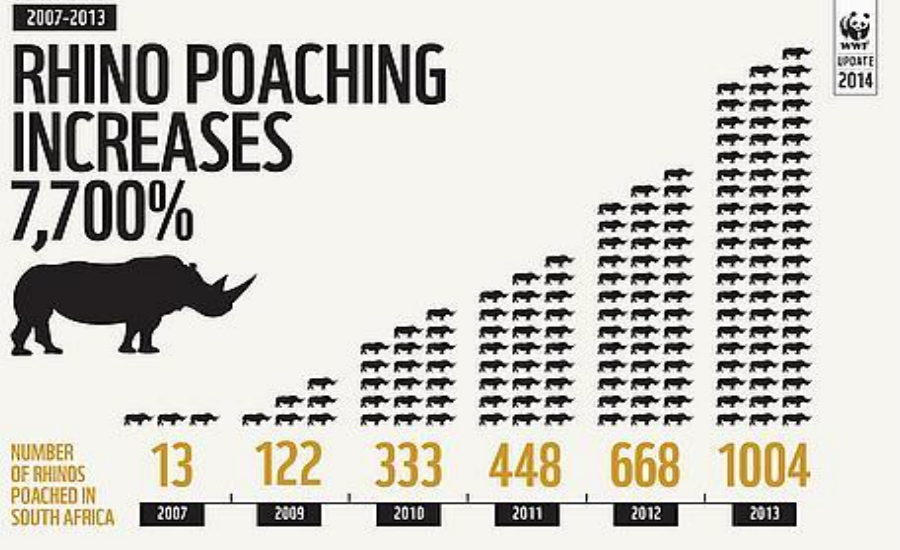
Scale of the crisis



- Rapid and global escalation of illegal trade in some species
 - Involving wide range of flora and fauna
 - The consequences span environmental, social, security and economic implications
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- Estimated **USD 48-153 billion** of resources is lost through illegal trade of wildlife, including timber and fisheries globally each year



Illegal Trade in Fauna



Rhino poaching increased by **7700%** in South Africa between 2007 and 2013

Across Africa, **1 elephant** is killed **every 20-25 minutes**

- Seizures of **great apes** have **doubled** from 2012 to 2013.
- **Illegal fisheries** accounts for an estimated 20% of the world's catch.



Illegal logging and trade in timber



Illegally sourced timber estimated to represent 10-30% of the total global timber trade. Of the illegally sourced wood entering EU and USA, approx 2/3 is as paper/pulp/chips.

- degrades forests
- impedes sustainable development
- promotes corruption
- funds armed conflict
- Impacts on local communities:
eg over 200 rangers in the Virunga NP killed in last decade defending park against militias operating charcoal trade estimated at USD 28million/yr.



Huge economics impacts from theft of natural capital

Environmental crime	Annual loss of resources
Illegal trade and poaching of other fauna and flora	USD 7-23 billion
Illegal fisheries	USD 11-30 billion
Illegal logging and trade	USD 30-100 billion
Total illegal trade in wildlife	USD 48 – 153 billion
Annual ODA	Ca. 135 billion

- Increasing evidence linking wildlife trade to **organized crime** networks and **threat finance**
- The **world's fourth largest** illicit trade
- Priority on the illegal trade and taxing in **charcoal**



Multidimensional Challenge

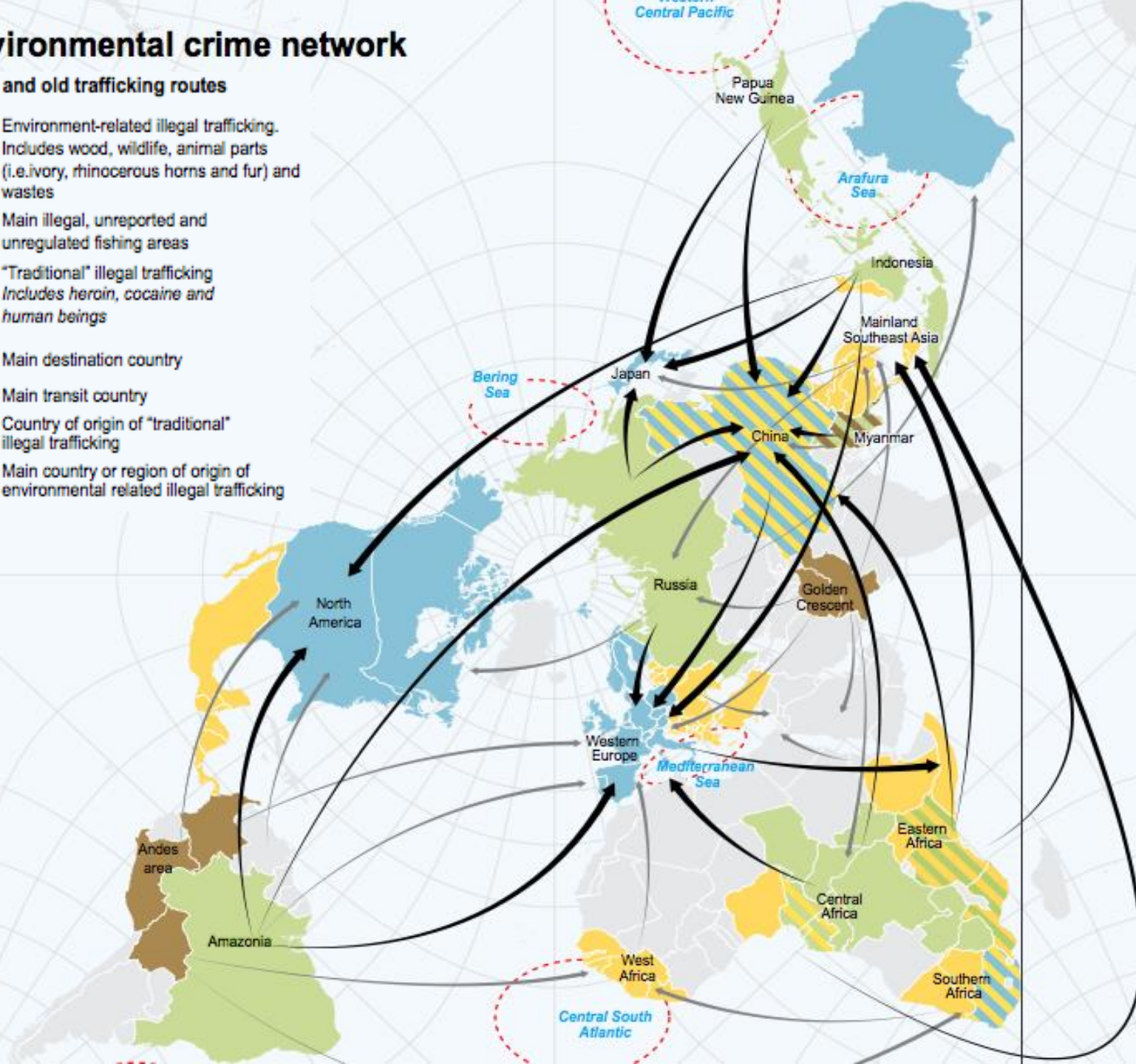
- Barrier to sustainable development
- Complex combination of
 - weak governance
 - unregulated trade
 - loopholes
 - laundering systems
 - sophisticated transnational crime
 - demand
- Undermining government institutions and rule of law



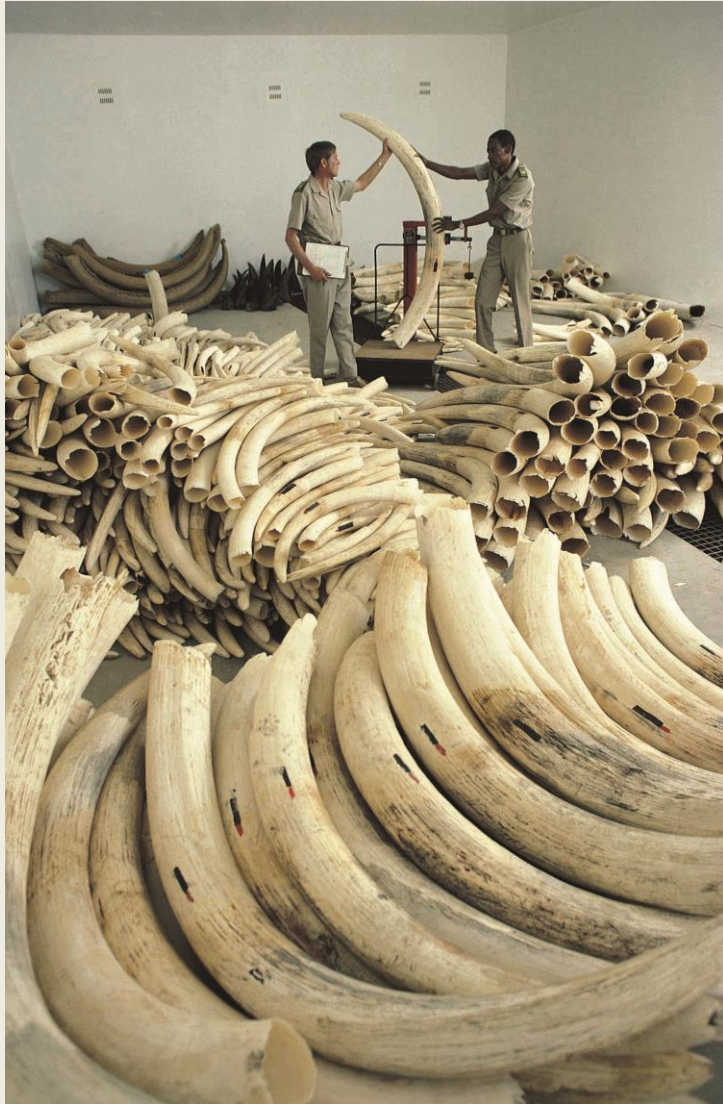
Environmental crime network

New and old trafficking routes

- Environment-related illegal trafficking. Includes wood, wildlife, animal parts (i.e. ivory, rhinoceros horns and fur) and wastes
- Main illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing areas
- "Traditional" illegal trafficking. Includes heroin, cocaine and human beings
- Main destination country
- Main transit country
- Country of origin of "traditional" illegal trafficking
- Main country or region of origin of environmental related illegal trafficking



Responses



Environmental, economic, and social impacts only effectively tackled through:

- Coordinated efforts of the international community, national governments, police, law enforcement agencies, and civil society
- Addressing all elements of the supply chain

Widespread political recognition

The scale and nature of illegal wildlife trade has been recognized in a range of international fora, including eg:

- UNGA Resolution 68/193
- UNSC Resolutions 2134 and 2136 (2014)
- Gabarone and Paris 2013
- London, and Dar Es Salaam 2014
- UNEA

And on the ground implementation.

However, implementation deficit remains...

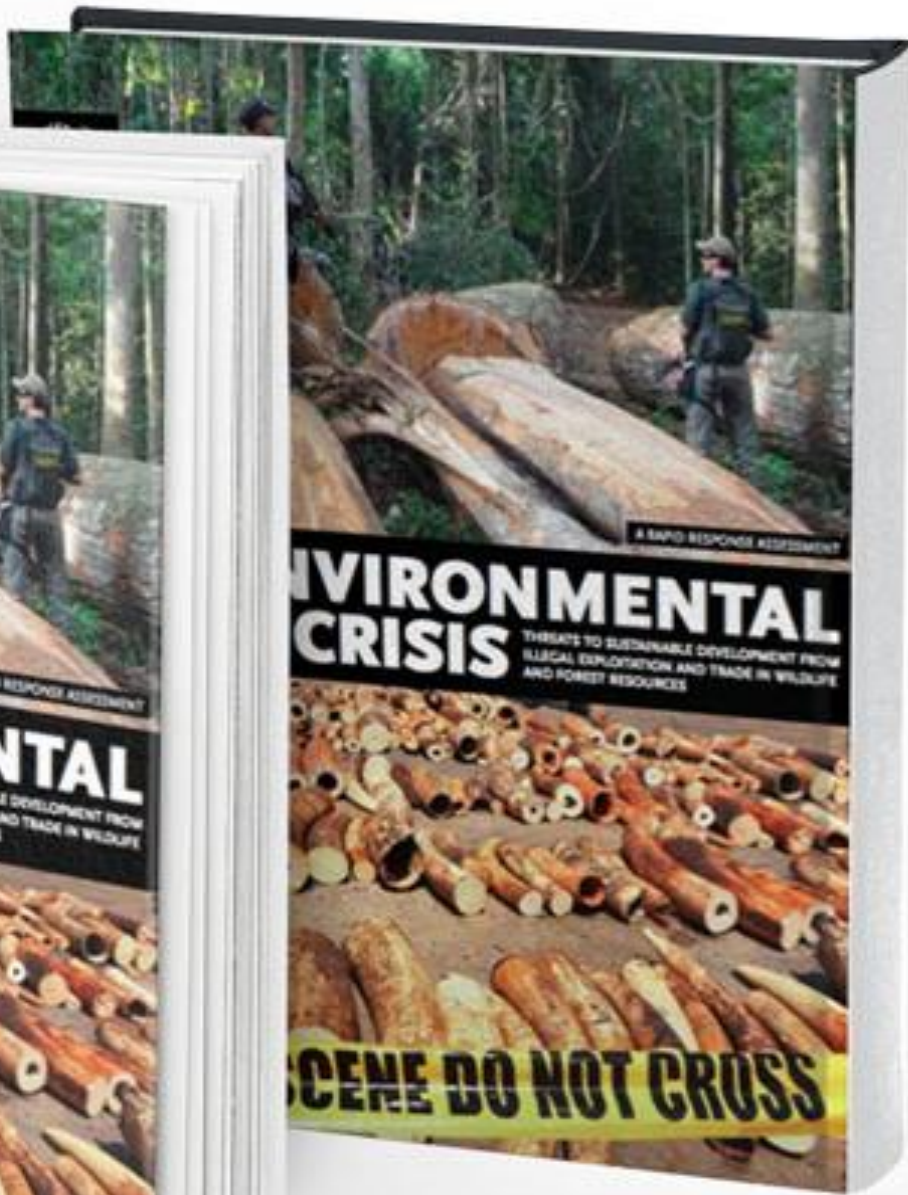
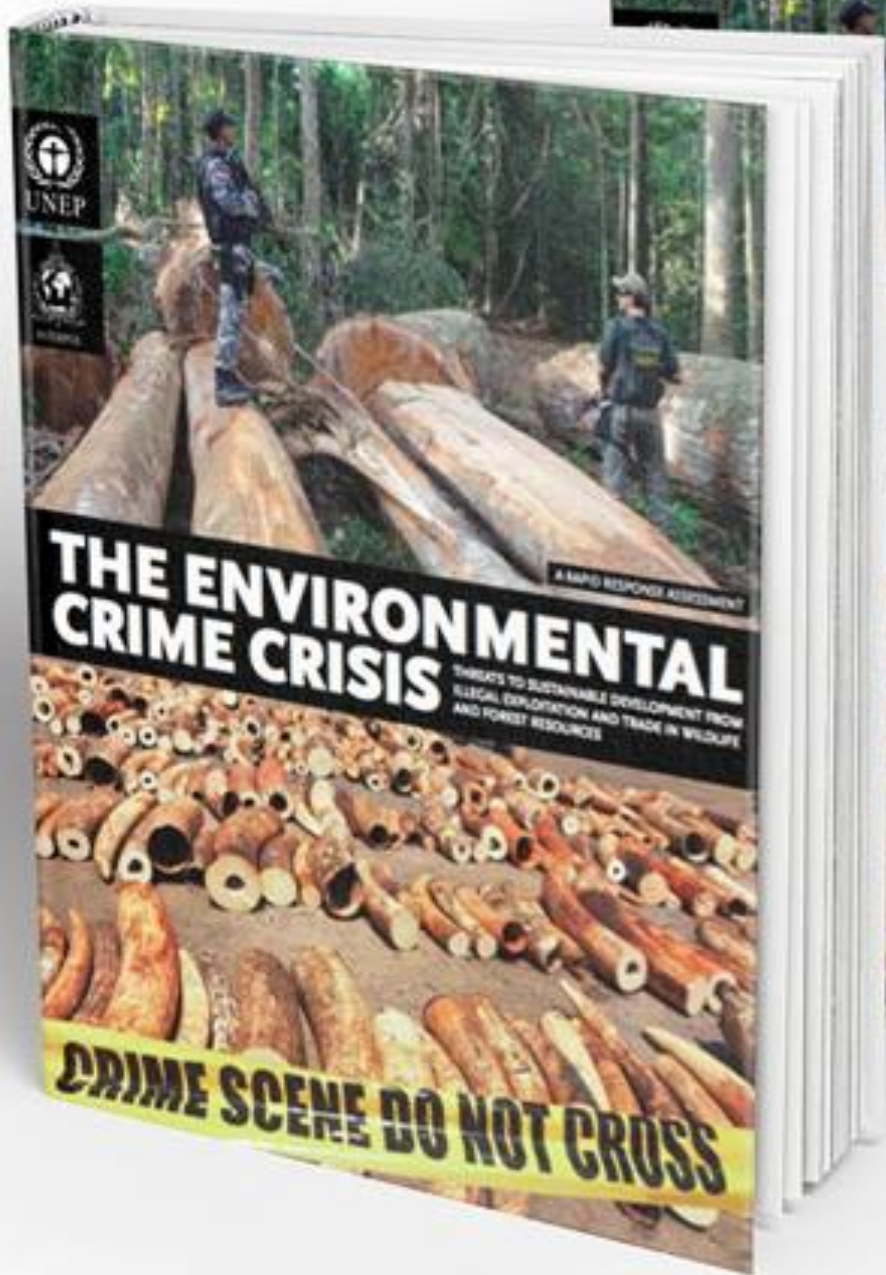


UNEP's Work on Illegal Wildlife Trade

Three inter-related components considered priorities for UNEP collaborative action:

- I. Maintaining political momentum, including through strengthening the evidence base
- II. Providing support to legal, judicial and enforcement measures and promoting capacity development for rule of law
- III. Strengthening international efforts to develop and catalyze demand reduction strategies







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United Nations Environment Assembly
of the United Nations Environment Programme
Towards A Life of Dignity for All



- **Illegal trade in wildlife at the first United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA)**
- Ministerial Dialogue on Illegal Wildlife Trade, June 26th 2014: the largest Ministerial gathering in the current poaching crisis
- The Dialogue will guide the finalizing of a UNEA Resolution on illegal wildlife trade, to be adopted during the UNEA closing session





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Illegal Wildlife Trade events at UNEA

TUESDAY 24 JUNE

10:00 – 17:00 SYMPOSIUM ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL RULE OF LAW

13:15 – 14.45 SIDE EVENT: ILLEGAL TRADE IN WILDLIFE

WEDNESDAY 25 JUNE

13:00 – 13:45 LAUNCH OF RAPID RESPONSE ASSESSMENT ON WILDLIFE TRADE

14:15 – 15:00 MEDIA ROUND TABLE - THE ILLEGAL TRADE IN WILDLIFE

THURSDAY 26 JUNE

8:45 – 10:00 LAUNCH OF INTL PARTNERSHIP TO FIGHT THE ILLEGAL TIMBER TRADE

13:45 – 14:45 BRIEFING ON TWO THEMES OF THE HIGH LEVEL SEGMENT

19:00 – 22:00 MINISTERIAL DIALOGUE ON ILLEGAL WILDLIFE TRADE

ONGOING CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION

