



# ***The EU approach against wildlife trafficking***

*Towards an EU strategic approach to wildlife conservation in Africa*

*Brussels, 9-10 February 2015*

*Gaël de Rotalier – European Commission (DG Environment)*

# EU as a destination for wildlife products of illegal origin



# EU as a destination for wildlife products of illegal origin



# EU as a destination for wildlife products of illegal origin



# EU as a destination for wildlife products of illegal origin





# EU as a destination for wildlife products of illegal origin



# EU as a destination for wildlife products of illegal origin



# EU as a destination for wildlife products of illegal origin

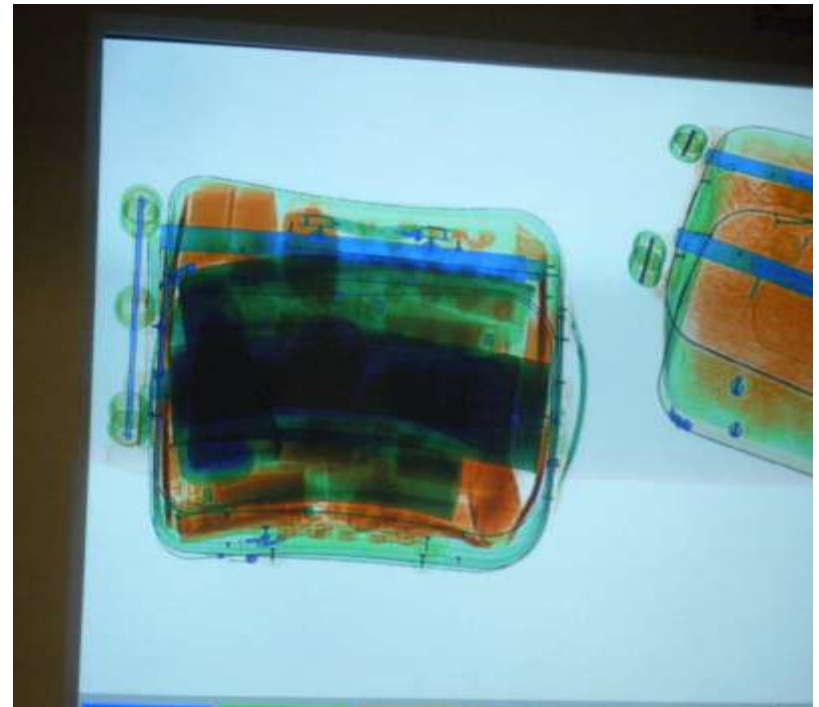




# EU as a transit place for wildlife products of illegal origin



# EU as a transit place for wildlife products of illegal origin



# EU as a transit place for wildlife products of illegal origin







## Illegal export of wildlife products from the EU





# Renewal of EU approach to address the new face of wildlife trafficking

- *New scale: unprecedented poaching levels for elephants, rhinos but also less charismatic animal species (eg pangolins) and flora (timber and non-timber)*
- *New features: rising demand from Asia, links with organised crime and sometimes rebel groups, sophisticated smuggling methods*
- *Wide ranging impact on biodiversity, rule of law, regional stability*



# Stakeholder consultation process

- *Commission **Communication** on the EU approach against wildlife trafficking - 7 February 2014*
- ***Online consultation**: addressing both action within the EU and at international level – closed 10 April 2014*
- ***Expert Conference** 10/11 April: 170 experts from 27 EU Member States, 7 non-EU countries, key international organisations and over 20 NGOs*
- *Summary of contributions to the consultation published in Nov. 2014*



# Main findings from the consultation EU actions at the global level

- ***Raise the profile of wildlife trafficking on the EU diplomatic agenda*** (notably at high level Summits, in negotiations for Free Trade Agreements or through actions by EU Delegations in 3<sup>rd</sup> countries)
- ***Work towards ambitious commitments in multilateral agreements (CITES) and focus on their implementation***, including through compliance measures in case of repeated deficiencies by some Parties



# Main findings from the consultation EU actions at the global level

- ***Foster better international coordination in the field of enforcement**, through support to ICCWC and its Members, participation to joint operations, cooperation with Wildlife Enforcement Networks and bilateral MoUs*
- ***Support new initiatives at the UN** when they have an added value compared to existing commitments (UNGA Resolution, targeted sanctions by UN Security Council, inclusion of wildlife conservation as a target in future SDG)*



# Main findings from the consultation EU actions at the global level

- *Better **integrate wildlife conservation and the fight against wildlife trafficking into the EU development cooperation** (through programming in the various funding mechanisms and the use of the ICCWC Toolkit)*
- *Addressing the **demand for wildlife products** of illegal origin (through diplomatic action and support to targeted campaigns)*
- ***Involving local communities and addressing poverty** as necessary condition for successful, long term strategy against wildlife trafficking*



# **Main findings from the consultation EU actions at the domestic level**

- *Need to ensure a more even enforcement level throughout the EU*
- *Importance of awareness raising and stronger political commitment*
- *Call for stricter sanctions*
- *Need to strengthen cross-agency cooperation*
- *Need for more training*

## Options for next steps?

- Possible proposals for appropriate action to be prepared by the new Commission, such as an EU Action Plan***
  
- Integration of elements put forward during the consultation into current policies without new overarching initiative***



# Thank You!

***More information at***

***[http://ec.europa.eu/environment/cites/trafficking\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/cites/trafficking_en.htm)***