SIZE OF ILLEGAL WILDLIFE TRADE COMPARED TO OTHER ORGANISED CRIMES

Drug Trafficking

Human Trafficking

Illegal Wildlife Trade

More than 35,000 species have restrictions on international trade

Rhino

Chinese Pangolin

African Elephant

50,000-100,000 left in China (provisional)

89-94% less than 29,000 left in the wild

only 470,000 left in the wild

Many species smuggled across Hong Kong borders are at risk of extinction

Drug Trafficking

Human Trafficking

Illegal Wildlife Trade

Drug Trafficking

Human Trafficking

Illegal Wildlife Trade

Annual value of the illegal wildlife trade globally is USD 7-23 billion

HONG KONG IS A MAJOR GLOBAL TRAFFICKING HUB

Number of Cases 2010 to 2014

Value of Seizures 2010 to 2014

Seizure of Ivory over last decade

33 tonnes

WHY WILDLIFE TRAFFICKERS LIKE HONG KONG

• Close proximity to China
• Loopholes in legislation
• Low penalties
• Lack of adequate regulation
• Lack of deterrent sentencing
• Insufficient enforcement

The HKSAR Government Should...

1. Recognise wildlife crime as both a serious and organised crime
2. Increase maximum sentencing for wildlife crimes
3. Ban the domestic ivory trade
4. Actively participate in the global response to wildlife crime
5. Assign additional resources to combating wildlife crime
6. Create an accessible and transparent Wildlife Crime Database to facilitate collaboration
7. Invest forensic capability to aid in wildlife crime investigations

THE VALUE OF IVOIRE OVER LAST DECADE

Price of rhino horn in Hong Kong USD65,000/kg

33 tonnes