# Combatting Wildlife Trafficking in the Horn of Africa and its Links to the Middle East

EU Strategic Approach to Wildlife Conservation in Africa 9-10<sup>th</sup> February 2015







### The Horn of Africa Region



IGAD Member Nations - established in 1986

# Role of the Horn of Africa in Wildlife Trafficking

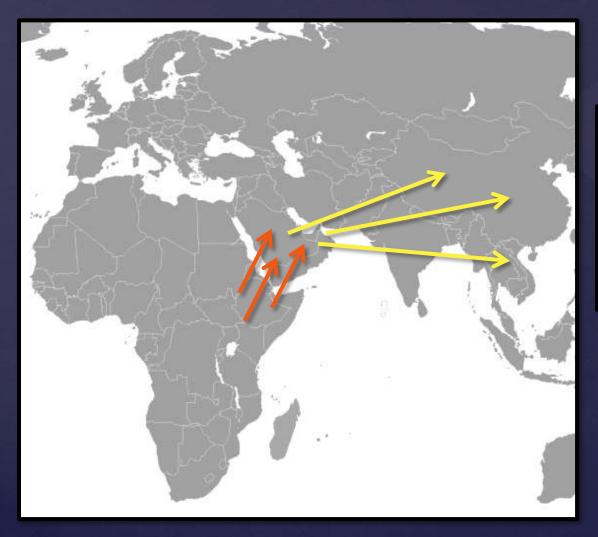






Photo: Daniel Assefa, EWCA



#### Some Trade-Affected Fauna





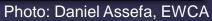


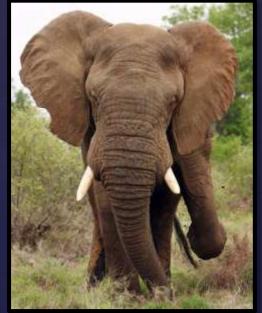


Photo: Daniel Assefa, EWCA



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### Challenges of Wildlife Trafficking in the Horn of Africa

- Inadequate understanding of the significance and role of the Horn of Africa in the international wildlife trade.
- Limited cooperation amongst enforcement officials within and beyond the HoA region.







Photo: Dr. Rima Jabado

### Challenges of Wildlife Trafficking in the Horn of Africa

- Inadequate understanding of the links that exist between wildlife trafficking and other forms of TOC.
- Enforcement officials lack awareness about the scale and significance of wildlife crime, are not fully trained, and are ill-resourced to interdict it.



### The unrest in Yemen and Somalia facilitates the Somalia /Yemen route for wildlife trafficking



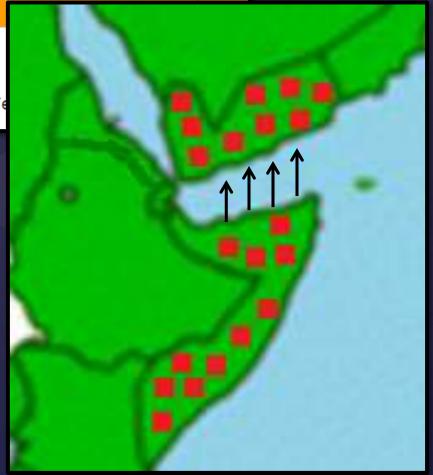
News

In Depth

#### Yemen: Arabia's wildlife supermarket

Joe Sheffer, Tarim Kennedy Last updated: 13 August 2013

Exotic wildlife is often smuggled from the Horn of Africa through Ye



#### Smuggling Connections to the Middle East

#### Illegal shipment of Cheetahs confiscated in Dubai

The Ministry of Environment and Water Thursday confiscated 15 cheetahs that were illegally shipped from Somalia

WAM

Published: 00:00 June 11, 2010





#### Smuggling Connections to the Middle East

### The National UAE

Hundreds of pieces of raw elephant ivory seized in

Dubai

Caline Malek May 21, 2013



# Regional Level Response to Wildlife Trafficking

Horn of Africa Wildlife Enforcement Network (HA-WEN)

#### **Participating countries:**

- Djibouti
- Ethiopia
- Kenya
- Somalia
- Somaliland
- South Sudan
- Sudan
- Uganda



Participants at the workshop to establish HA-WEN

#### **Participating Institutions:**

IFAW, TRAFFIC, Born Free, WCS, Freeland Foundation, HoAREC/N, IGAD, CITES, ICCWC, EU, US.

# NGO Support for Enforcement Capacity Building in the HoA











A partnership to enhance African Wildlife Law Enforcement and Networking

The partnership aim to provide the tools to support a country-led approach to operationalizing HA-WEN.

# Capacity Building Linking HOA with ME - Ethiopia 2014



TOP\_PANEL



Deterring wildlife trafficking by empowering law enforcement capacity

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### The Way Forward

The foundation has been laid by the following partners for engaging key member states and constituents in combatting wildlife trafficking in the Horn of Africa and the Middle East.

- HA-WEN Secretariat
- IGAD
- Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority (EWCA)
- INTERPOL
- Lusaka Agreement Task Force
- Horn of Africa Regional Environmental Center and Network
- African Wildlife Foundation
- Freeland Foundation





#### THANK YOU

