

Asia's Wildlife Trade

What do we know about the movement of wild animals?



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Regional Director
TRAFFIC East Asia

One World, One Health

Beijing, 15-17 November 2005

TRAFFIC:
The wildlife trade program of WWF and IUCN



Summary

- **Live wild animal markets ...**
 - Large scale, broad scope
 - Bring global biodiversity to Asia
 - Mix wild & domestic animals
 - Conservation managers overwhelmed
- **Conservation and health ...**
 - Proper regulation a common need



'Source' Markets of Southeast Asia

- Jakarta
 - Largest in Southeast Asia
 - 80% birds, wild & domestic
- Medan
 - Birds, monkeys, turtles
 - Some species with 50% mortality/day
- Indochina
 - More markets, but smaller
 - Birds, turtles, pangolins



End Markets Consolidating in China

Turtles in a Beijing market. M. Gunther, WWF-Canon.



- **Guangzhou / Shenzhen**
 - 677 species (39 mammals, 453 birds)
 - Both wild-caught & captive bred
- **Viet Nam / China border**
 - 200+ vertebrate species
 - More than 50% are protected species
- **Massive scale**
 - 90000 snakes, 24000 turtles per visit
 - 600 pangolins/day



End Markets Consolidating in China

- Available in Guangzhou ...

- Masked palm civet

- Ferret badger

- Barking deer

- Wild boar

- Hedgehog

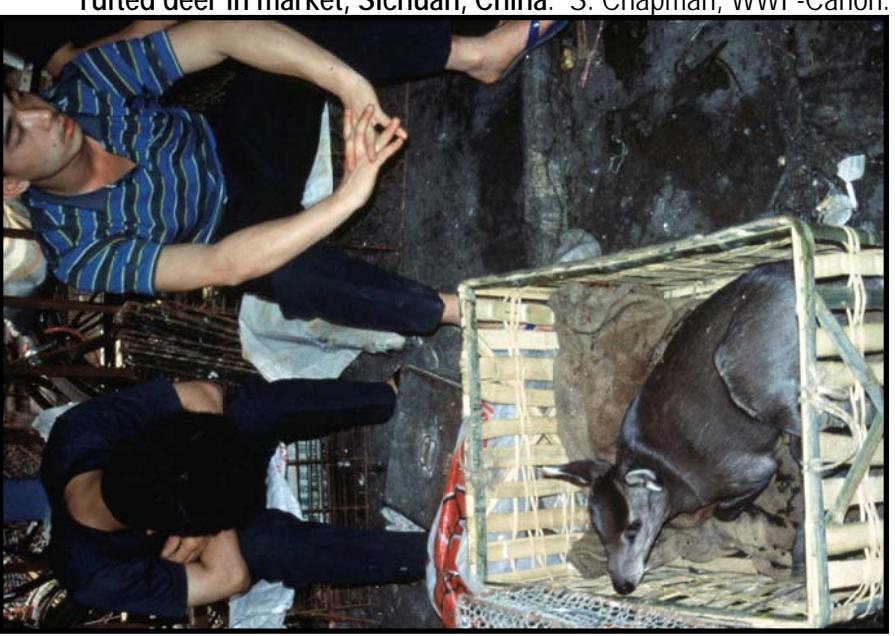
- Fox

- Squirrel

- Bamboo rat

- Snake

- Leopard cat



Wildlife Trade: A Complex, Growing Business

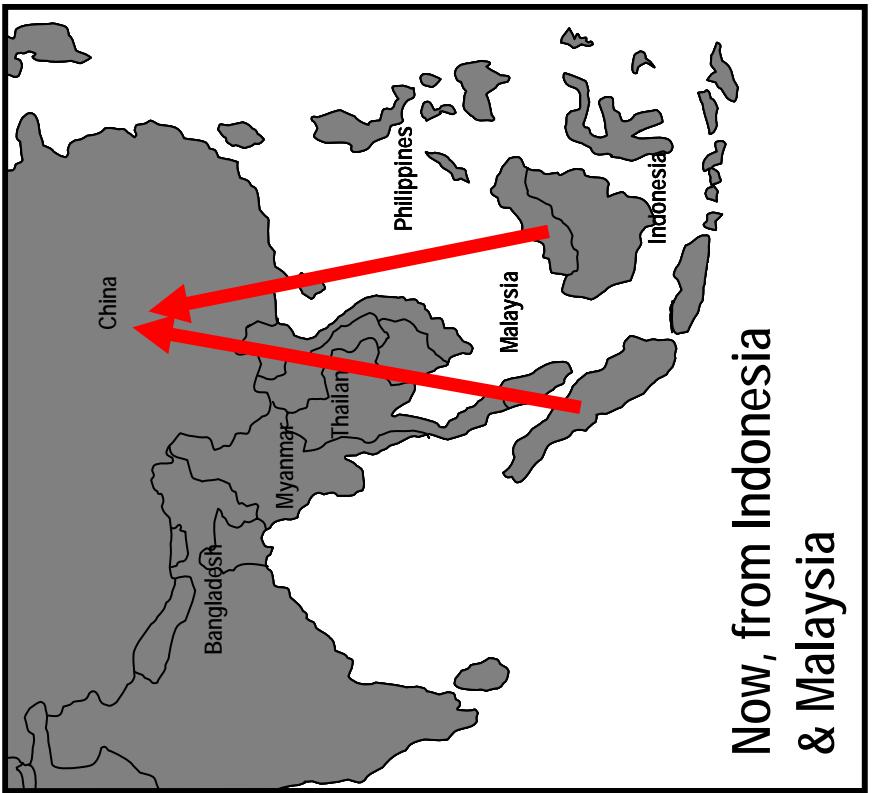
- Asian freshwater turtle example

- Trade is both legal and illegal
- "Farmed" animals likely from wild

- Sources change over time

- Wild populations depleted
- Traders move to other countries

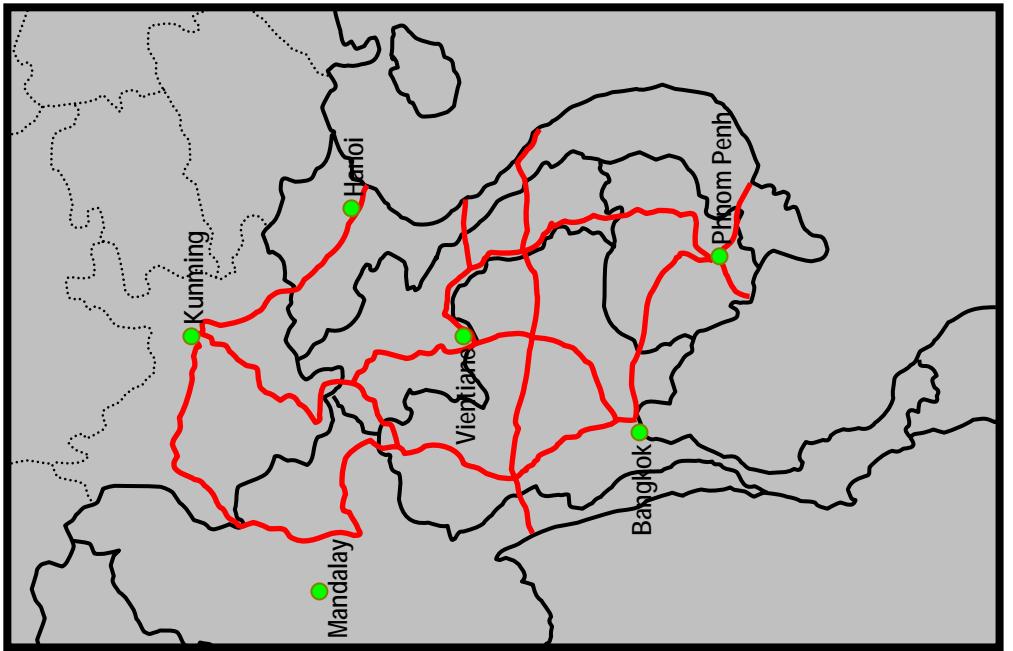
Trade routes for
Asian freshwater turtles



Now, from Indonesia
& Malaysia



Wildlife Trade: A Complex, Growing Business



- Pangolin example
 - Trade is illegal
- Routes are ever-changing
 - Mainly by land
 - Recent seizure of 120 pangolins, Myanmar -> Laos -> Viet Nam -> China
- New infrastructure
 - Reduces transport 'costs'
 - Useful for strengthened enforcement?

Trade routes: from Supradit Kanwanich 2002.



General Lessons

- **Massive scale**
 - Lots of animals
 - Wild mixed with domestic
 - Stressful & unsanitary conditions

- **Broad scope**

- Animals & diseases from around world
- Cross-species exposure in markets

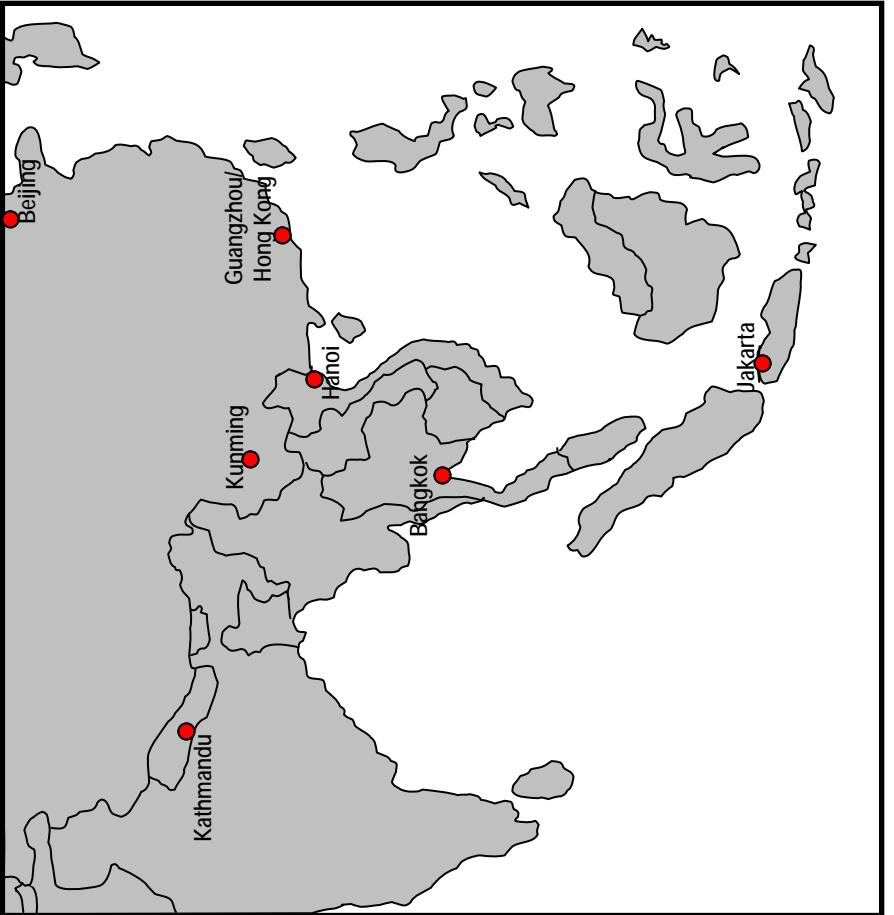
- **Regulators overwhelmed**

- Trade networks: wide & complex
- Many competing priorities



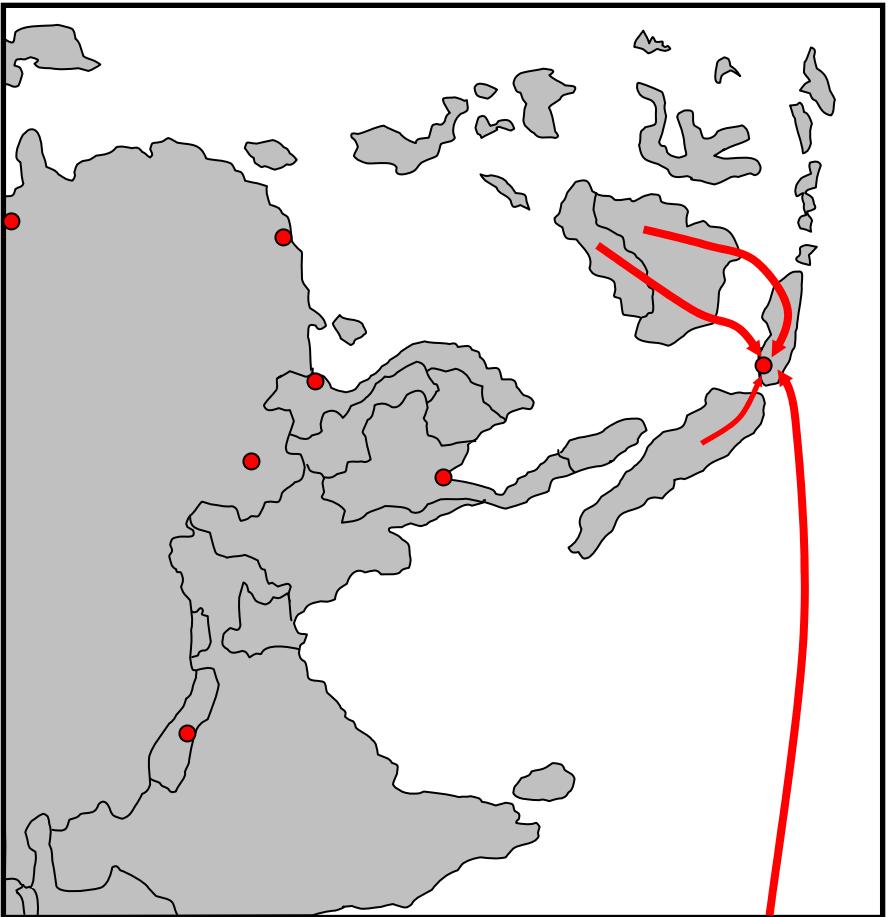
Wildlife Markets Are Hubs

- Trade hubs
 - Key to Asia's wildlife trade
 - Mix mammal, bird & reptile
 - *Key points for intervention*
- Bangkok example
 - Only 1/3 birds native



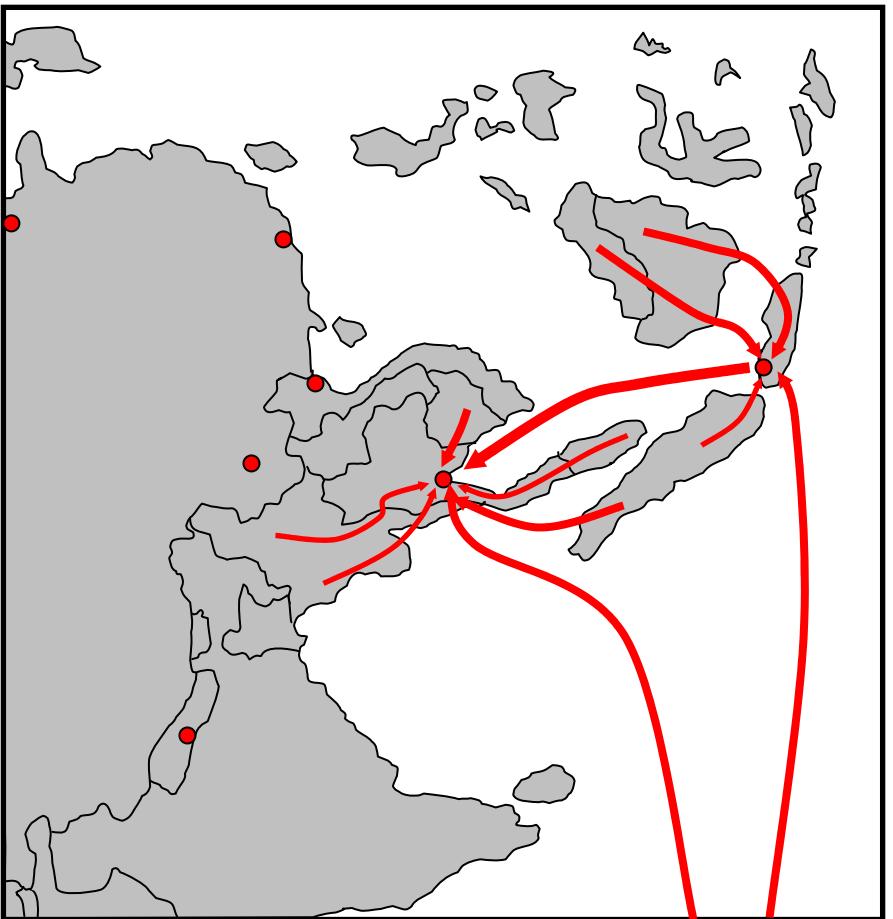
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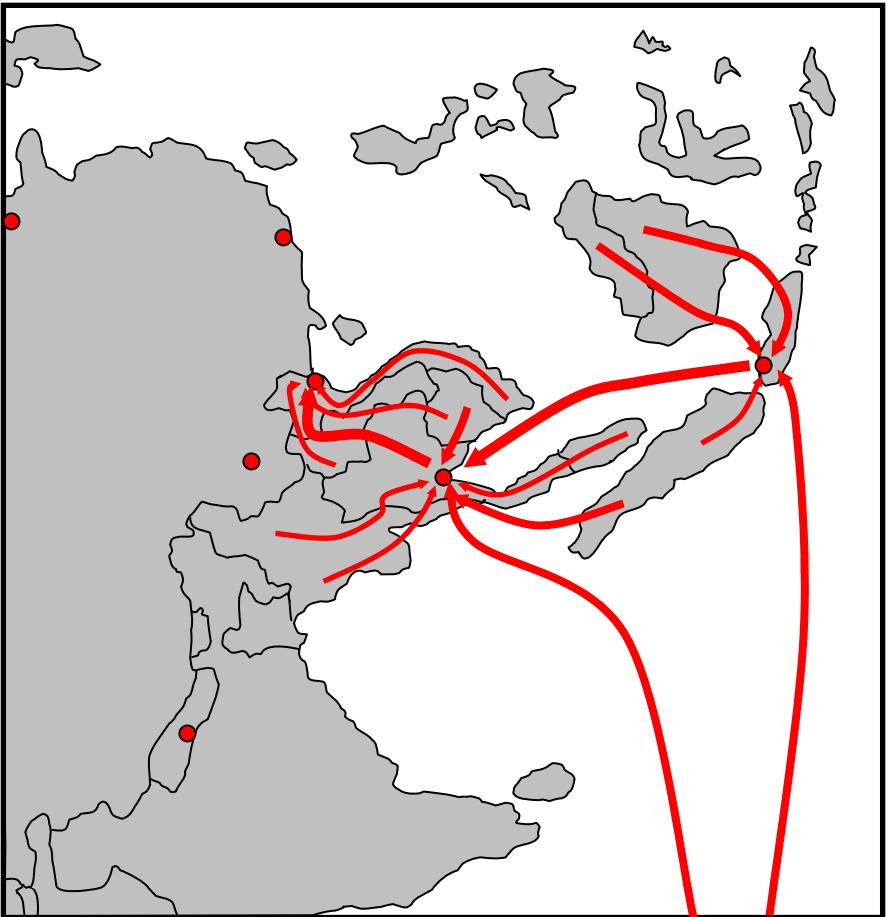
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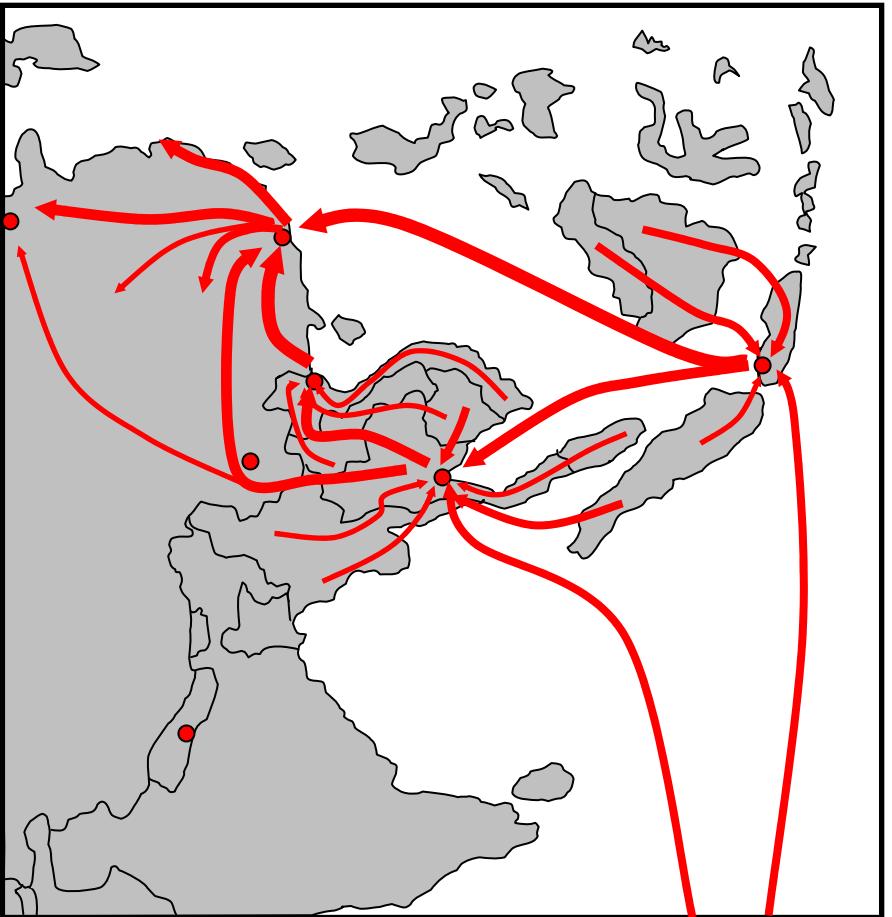
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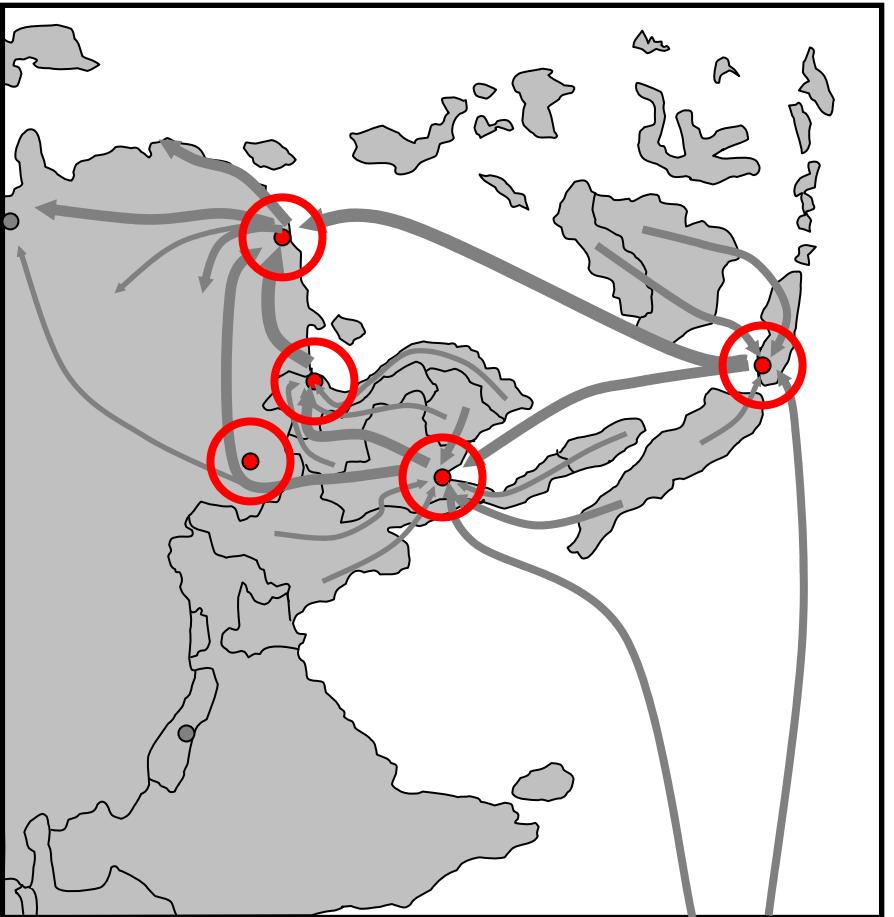
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Common Issues for Conservation and Health

- Common needs
 - Legal trade managed
 - Illegal trade eliminated
 - Monitoring & surveillance
 - Timely response to issues

- Possible next steps

- Resolve conflicts (e.g., Moluccan Cockatoo)
- Collaborate on trade control
- Tie to new infrastructure development
(e.g., ASEAN Action Plan for Fauna & Flora, 2005-2010)



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