The ivory trade
The wildlife trade

• Value legally traded wildlife products US$160 billion per annum

• current estimates of illegal trade value it at US$10 and US$20 billion per year
More than ivory
How is the ivory trade regulated?
• Created 1973 in response to rhino poaching
• Appendix 1 – total ban on trade
• Appendix 2 - restricted legal trade
• Appendix 3 - monitored legal grade
Why was the ivory trade banned in 1989?
Rapid declines

- Elephant numbers plummeted from 1.3 million to 600,000
- Stabilisation and recovery in some areas since the ban – now possibly 415,000
- The Great Elephant Census - current
Doesn’t everyone agree ivory trading is bad?
Kenya
Southern Africa

- Complain they have too many elephants – possibly up to 315,000
- Loss of potential revenue
- Lobbied for one off stock pile sales – last one in 2008
Why did poaching rise again after 2009?
Poaching rates

• Monitoring Illegal Killing of Elephants (MIKE) database: rose from 0.6 - 2.1 % of the total population in 2005, to 3.5 -11.7% in 2011
• Rising incomes in China/East Asia
• But don’t forget continuing markets Europe/America
Is there a link to organised crime and terrorism?
Funding

• Caught attention of global funders
• $80 million Clinton global Initiative
• $25 million Howard G. Buffett Foundation
• £15 million DfID/DEFRA
• 2016 EU Action Plan on trafficking – cites wildlife trade as a security threat
High profile claims, poorly evidenced

Terrorism, human rights abuses, orphans, widows, child soldiers.

This is the **Ivory Trade**

If you are an ivory consumer you are directly responsible for all this. You fund all this.

*If You Buy Ivory, You Kill People*

#YouBuyIvoryYouKillPeople
www.elephantleague.org
Why do poachers poach?
Different types

We don’t know much about poacher motivations

Greed, poverty, coercion, military funding?
Is anti poaching effective?
MAISHA is an innovative security and risk management consultancy with a focus on environment and counter-trafficking of contraband and natural resources.

MISSION STATEMENT Maisha provides strategic security solutions based on innovative, cost effective technology, socio-cultural and geo-political competence, and personal commitment to the client.
Shift to militarised conservation

Veterans redeployed

Eg IAPF, VETPAW

Military technologies redeployed

Counter productive approach
Conclusion, Demand Reduction

BIOSEC

Biodiversity and Security
Thanks