

How it all began

BY DAVE CURREY



■ DAVE CURREY, ALLANTHORNTON
AND JENNIFER LONSDALE FOUNDED
EIA AFTER DOCUMENTING WHALE
HUNTING IN THE FAROES.

he idea came during a storm-tossed boat trip across the North Sea. Jennifer Lonsdale, Allan Thornton and myself were three unknown environmental activists; part of a crew on a converted trawler called the Balaenoptera on a mission to save the whale. We were coming back from Norway, where we had gathered unique undercover film of a whaling factory.

The graphic images we brought back ignited outrage and a year later, Jennifer and I went back into battle, taking an old camper van to the Faroe Islands to observe a Pilot Whale hunt. The evidence we gathered led to an international outcry and what started out as a means to fight whaling in the Faroe Islands became a powerful new tool for effective campaigning — on-the-ground documentary investigation.

Then of course there was the wild bird trade, then the ivory trade... that's the problem with good ideas: no sooner have you sorted out one problem and moved onto the next than twenty-five years have passed.

It is a beguiling thought that while Allan was registering EIA and Jennifer and I were photographing hundreds of whales being killed in the Faroe Islands, Duffy and Gareth Gates were uttering their first sounds. Tommy Cooper his last.

I hope this snapshot of our work will remind some, and educate others, of the extraordinary successes of EIA. Such as that brave summer's day when a Zodiac inflatable dinghy was launched in the Faroe Islands in the first non-violent direct action against the whaling. There was no ship to escape back to – only the shore, the police and thousands of angry islanders. The action may never have been filmed and brought to millions of television screens if our Citroen 2CV had not managed to leap a ditch to avoid the islanders' cars blocking the road.

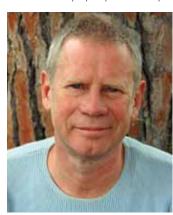
Personal memories punctuate some of those moments. The Tanzanian anti-poaching warden staring at the opulence on display in Lausanne, Switzerland as we fought for the ivory ban in 1989: "This is where our stolen wealth is spent," he whispered to me, only his eyes exposing his anger. Or the prime time BBC TV show beamed live from the Netherlands with me reporting on how the UK delegation had supported a vital resolution to save tens of thousands of Dall's porpoises. In my pocket was the hand-written note that was pushed under my hotel room door late the night before, reversing the UK's previously declared opposition, only hours after they had learned of my appearance on the live show.

I have had the privilege to meet and work with some of the finest people on this planet and I thank EIA for those opportunities. The line up of staff and partner organisations is as impressive today as it has ever been. EIA has often voiced what larger groups are afraid to say and we have broken down

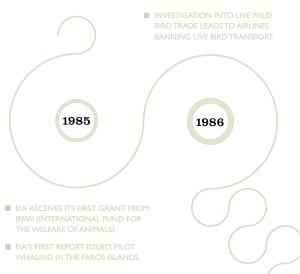
the barriers of opposition with irrefutable, groundbreaking filmed, photographed or written evidence. As a small organisation, we are able to mobilise in ways that bigger organisations cannot.

Many great changes in society have come about because of small groups of people and the path ahead for EIA is as vital and dangerous as it has ever been. It was not just pop singers born twenty-five years ago, but also those willing to take up the fight against environmental crime. The next twenty-five years promise to be as crucial and exciting as the last and I for one, look forward to the inevitable battles – and successes.

Today, after 25 years, EIA goes from strength to strength. What began as a late night conversation in the cabin of a boat has turned into a campaigning organisation working globally and renowned for its achievements protecting wildlife and the environment. The Balaenoptera may long ago have sunk beneath the waves, but EIA continues to sail into new territory, taking forward the outstanding vision of investigation, documentation and bearing witness first dreamed up by its pioneers 25 years ago.







WITNESS: FAROE ISLANDS AUGUST 1984

ILLEGAL TRADE IN WILDLIFE IS CORE TO EIA'S WORK. WHAT BEGAN AS AN EXPOSÉ OF THE PILOT WHALE HUNT IN THE FAROE ISLANDS HAS DEVELOPED INTO A RANGE OF CAMPAIGNS TO INCREASE PROTECTION FOR THREATENED WILDLIFE EVERYWHERE.

Whales, dolphins & porpoises

THE THREATS FACING CETACEANS

he world's oceans are under siege; and cetaceans (whales, dolphins and porpoises) face a myriad of threats at least as deadly as the harpoon, including climate change, pollution, over-fishing, ship strikes and entanglement. Many think the whale has been saved. Unfortunately, this is far from being the case.

As they gradually recover from the decimation of decades of commercial slaughter, whales need continued long-term protection and EIA has been leading the way. Operating actively within the International Whaling Commission (IWC), we concentrate on developing effective conservation strategies to protect whales, dolphins and porpoises. Despite relentless pressure from those wishing to resume commercial whaling, EIA works hard to ensure that IWC members resolve the divide between the pro and anti-whaling lobbies.

EIA also focuses on species not covered by the whaling ban and we exposed the annual unregulated killing of 20,000 small cetaceans a year in Japan's coastal waters. These hunts threaten the survival of several dolphin and porpoise populations and put consumers at risk from eating the polluted meat of the animals killed. Negotiations with Japanese supermarkets have resulted in over 2,500 supermarkets withdrawing cetacean products from their shelves.

The international trade in ivory

FIGHTING THE POACHERS & THE TRADERS

In the late 1980s EIA carried out a two and a half year undercover investigation into the ivory trade exposing why 2,000 elephants a week were being killed in Africa. We identified who was paying the poachers, and traced the route from Africa to the Far East where the ivory was fed into the legal ivory market. These daring investigations led us to believe that the only way to save elephants from extinction was an international ban on ivory trading.

■ TIP-OFF IN A LONDON PUB LEADS ■ EIA EVIDENCE SWINGS THE 1988 1989 ■ FIRST UNDERCOVER FILM

EIA was the first organisation to call for the ban and worked with Tanzania to win the Appendix I listing for all elephants at the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) in 1989. This remains one of the greatest conservation successes of the 20th Century.

A handful of countries opposed the ban and since 1989 we have seen a slow chipping away at the conditions on trade: these African elephant range states want a full resumption of ivory trade. The majority do not. Nevertheless, there have been a number of compromises since 1989 and we have now seen two 'one-off' sales of ivory to China and Japan.

With over 25 years of experience under our belts, we continue to expose and combat poaching and illegal trade. Our investigations provide governments with irrefutable evidence about what is actually happening on the ground. But we face a constant battle to maintain the international ban on ivory trade.



Tigers

WORKING TO SAVE A GLOBAL ICON

he wild tiger is perhaps the most powerful symbol of the natural environment that EIA seeks to protect for future generations. After all, if we cannot save the tiger, what can we save?

EIA threw its weight behind beleaguered efforts to save the tiger in 1993, when our investigations into illegal trade contributed to President Clinton's Interagency Task Force, set up to manage the US sanctions against China and Taiwan over illegal trade in tiger bone and rhino horn.

Since then, we have gone on to tell it how it is, with hard-hitting exposés of the corruption, negligence and complacency at the root of poaching and trafficking. We have exposed the destruction of tiger forests at the hands of industry and business masquerading as "development".

With allies in governments and civil society we have ensured that better laws have been passed, emergency aid has gone to forest officers on the frontline, illegal tiger parts and products seized, illegal mines closed and emerging threats like the skin trade have moved swiftly to centre stage.

EIA and the Wildlife Protection Society of India (WPSI) were the first to document the true scale and nature of the illegal trade in tiger, leopard and otter skins and the demand across the Tibetan plateau. Following the release of our shocking images and information in 2005, there was a dramatic response from governments, NGOs and religious leaders. Subsequent appeals by His Holiness the Dalai Lama had a profound impact, with Tibetans burning skins and we have subsequently documented a marked decline in demand and use of skins to decorate traditional costumes.

All our investigations and exposés have illustrated how wildlife crime is increasingly run by organised criminal networks, and why we need a 21st century response to a 21st century crime













A glimpse through the archives

SOME OF OUR SUCCESSES

hilst it would be impossible to list all of our successes and achievements here, looking back is what inspires us to move forward. EIA's cutting edge investigations venture into terrain that is off-limits to the fainthearted and we accomplish what many other organisations are unable to do. Our small size belies the impact we have had over the last two decades.

Daring investigations in the early nineties exposed the world's largest rhino poaching operation. In 1992, EIA led a campaign to ban the trade of rhino horn used for traditional Chinese medicine. Four days after we launched a boycott of Taiwanese goods, the Taiwan government announced a ban on domestic rhino horn trade. Further undercover footage of one tonne of rhino horn in China – at least 330 dead rhino – prompted China to take enforcement action on domestic rhino horn trade.

Some investigations are merely the start of a very long journey. EIA's probe into the plight of the Orang-utan in Indonesia in the late nineties, for example, provided the catalyst for EIA's massive – and ongoing - international campaign on illegal logging.

Identifying the right pressure point is key to any campaign success. In 1986, at least 20 million birds were being taken from the wild in Senegal alone. Four out of every five birds died on the journey to the end markets so we persuaded international airlines like British Airways to stop carrying wild caught birds for the pet trade. Over 150 airlines eventually signed up and the wild bird trade collapsed.

Similarly, in the mid-nineties we exposed the extent of the illegal trade in turtle shells in Sri Lanka. A British television documentary highlighting our findings resulted in the governments of Sri Lanka and the Maldives cracking down on the illegal trade in tortoiseshell souvenirs.

Focussing on the end markets also found us looking at the plight of the Grizzly bear in 2004. Working with other organisations, EIA helped secure an EU import ban on Grizzly bear parts (usually hunting trophies) from British Columbia (BC), Canada. EIA managed to persuade the government of BC to establish a temporary moratorium on Grizzly hunting.

The EU was also key to EIA's recent work in Botswana. After several years of behind the scenes negotiation, EIA successfully lobbied the Government of Botswana to reconsider its decision to fence off an environmentally sensitive area adjacent to the world famous Okavango Delta in order to create a European Union export zone for beef. We also persuaded the Department of Wildlife to install water access in the fragile Makgadikgadi National Park, home to the last great zebra migration in Africa.

But whilst we have many things to be proud of, plenty of unknown challenges lie ahead, with lots of work still to do.











Forests

TACKLING THE RUTHLESS TRADERS

orests provide clean water, soil stability, biodiversity, and livelihoods for millions of local communities worldwide. EIA's work to stem the loss of precious rainforests is focused on combating the systematic looting of forests for valuable timber species by international criminal syndicates.

EIA first became involved when our investigators travelled to a remote part of Kalimantan to document illegal logging in a vital haven for Orang-utans. Working with activists from the Indonesian NGO, Telapak, it became apparent that the park was under siege from logging gangs targeting a valuable timber species called ramin.

Together with Telapak we set out to discover who was behind the logging. One name that kept cropping up was Abdul Rasyid and his company Tanjung Lingga. Posing as investors the team of investigators managed to visit one of the firm's huge sawmills and obtained covert footage of illegal ramin logs inside the factory. Armed with this evidence EIA and Telapak released our findings in a report called *The Final Cut*, launched at a packed press conference in Jakarta in August 1999. The struggle against illegal logging in Indonesia had begun.

The scale of the task was underlined in early 2000 when an EIA investigator and a colleague from Telapak were kidnapped and assaulted by staff from Tanjung Lingga whilst on a follow-up trip to obtain new evidence. A tense stand-off ensued, until the pair were able to escape on a specially chartered aircraft.

Over the next few years EIA and Telapak continued to pressure the Indonesian government and our efforts resulted in a series of enforcement operations and a ban on felling ramin trees. At the same time a series of field investigations exposed how the neighbouring countries of Malaysia and Singapore were laundering timber stolen from Indonesia and selling it onto the international market. EIA's revelations forced the Malaysian government to ban the import of Indonesian logs in 2002.

THE THREAT OF ILLEGAL LOGGING

- Illegal logging takes place wher timber is harvested, transporte bought or sold in violation of national laws.
- It impacts on local livelihoods, biodiversity and ecological security and fosters corruption.
- The crime of illegal logging costs developing countries \$15 billion through the theft of public assets and non-payment of rayes.
- The EU imports around \$3 billion worth of illegally-sourced wood every year.
- Globally around 1.6 billion of the world's poorest people rely on forests for their livelihoods.
- Deforestation is responsible for up to 20 per cent of glob greenhouse gas emissions.

- ITV BROADCASTS ANIMAL DETECTIVES SERIES ABOUT EIA.
- WITHIN WEEKS SRI LANKA ENDS TRADE IN TURTLE SHELLS.
 - 1995

■ EIA DUMMY COMPANY, TR

WORLDWIDE.

TRADING, TRAPS CFC SMUGGLER

■ EIA REVEALS ALARMING EVIDENCE OF

AN INTERNATIONAL SALES BAN.

CFC GAS SMUGGLING. EU PROPOSES

- EIA LAUNCHES TIGER CAMPAIGN LOOKING AT THE POLITICS OF TIGER CONSERVATION IN INDIA.
- EIA LAUNCHES CAMPAIGN ON ILLEGAL LOGGING.
- EIA BUYS VEHICLES FOR THE MAPUTO ELEPHANT RESERVE, MOZAMBIQUE.
- EIA AND TELEGRAPH LAUNCH APPEAL TO SAVE KAZIRANGA NATIONAL PARK IN INDIA.

Persistent rumours indicated that attention had shifted to the province of West Papua, home of the last substantial intact forests in the Asia-Pacific Region. Acting on a tip-off we sent a team to the remote home of the Knasaimos people and found a community intimidated by the theft of valuable merbau trees from its lands, orchestrated by a powerful military officer.

Over the next year, EIA and Telapak set out to track the destination of merbau timber stolen from West Papua. This challenging case culminated in a trip to Shanghai in late 2004 where our investigators discovered that around 300,000 cubic metres (which could fill the Royal Albert Hall more than three times) of merbau were being smuggled out of West Papua every month, with most of the consignments destined for China. This crime, worth a staggering billion dollars a year, was being perpetrated by a well-organised international smuggling syndicate, backed by corrupt police and military officials.

In February 2005 EIA and Telapak released their findings in Jakarta. The next day the Indonesian President called an emergency meeting which led to 1,500 enforcement officers being sent to West Papua to combat the logging. Soon afterwards EIA heard that the logging gang had left the lands of the Knasaimos, and that the military officer had fled fearing arrest.

Over the last decade EIA has made strenuous efforts to reform the global timber trade to exclude illegally-logged timber. In May 2008 the US government amended an existing Act to make it an offence to import or sell illegally-logged timber. Now we are campaigning for similar legislation in the EU.





Leaving a legacy

SHARING SKILLS & BUILDING CAPACITY

IA's work takes us to many countries around the world, but we have never sought to open offices overseas, preferring instead to work in partnership with local NGOs or community organisations. It is self evident that local people possess a far deeper knowledge of the threats they face: they are on the frontline when it comes to tackling environmental crimes like illegal logging.

Although dedicated and knowledgeable, they often lack the skills and resources to conduct effective campaigns. In response EIA has been delivering comprehensive training in key countries where we work including China, India, Indonesia, Malawi, Tanzania and Zambia.

The training we provide is based on 25 years of successful campaigning. We demonstrate how detailed documentation, the use of visual materials and creative advocacy can be powerful tools, even in the face of overwhelming odds. The skills we share are designed to empower local groups: to provide them with a strong voice and enable them to engage effectively with key decision-makers.

Working in partnership with the group Telapak, EIA's capacity building began in Indonesia in 1999. Since then EIA and Telapak have travelled all over Indonesia, delivering training to hundreds of groups and individuals working on forest issues. Basic documentation and video editing training has been provided along with cameras and editing equipment which have been left in a series of hubs hosted by one of the local NGOs for access to all. In some places conditions for NGOs are challenging and training was extended to include advocacy techniques and security in the field.

The results from the training programmes have been impressive and include a series of locally produced, and extremely powerful, films as well as effective investigations and campaigning at a local level. Two groups have gone on to create their own television channels focussing on environmental issues.

The training materials have now been adapted for NGOs in Tanzania, but the basic principle remains the same: environmental NGOs from different parts of the world coming together to share skills and experience. It is a principle we hope to take to other countries in the years ahead.



WITNESS: NANANG SUJANA, TELAPAK MEMBER, BOGOR, INDONESIA APRIL 2008

NEVER DREAMT OF BEING A FILMMAKER, EVER IN MY LIFE UNTIL 2002. THEN ITA AND TELAPAK HELD A TRAINING VORKSHOP IN BOGOR. I WAS NOT A PARTICIPANT AT THAT TIME, JUST AN INTRUDER. I SAT IN THE CORNER VATCHING THE TRAINING THEN AT NIGHT WOULD TRY TO DO SOME VIDEO EDITING WHILE THE PARTICIPANTS HAD THEIR BEAUTY SLEEP. SINCE THEN I HAVE BEAUTY SLEEP. SINCE THEN I HAVE BEAUTY SLEEP. SINCE THEN I HAVE BEAUTH HONEY HUNTERS IN SOUTHEAST FILM FOR TELAPAK, "FOREST ON THE EDGE" IS BOUT HONEY HUNTERS IN SOUTHEAST FULWES. SINCE THEN I HAVE CONTINUED TO USE VIDEO TO CAMPAIGN AND I HAVE ALSO HELPED TRAIN ENVIRONMENTAL IN MONTANA, U.S., AND HAVE MADE FILMS ON MANY ISSUES, SUCH AS THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLE LIVING IN THE FORESTS OF AMBI, SUMATRA, I WILL KEEP MAKING TILMS FOR CHANGE AND FOR A BETTER INVIRONMENT IN INDONESIA.

EIA working globally



PERSUADED OVER 150 AIRLINES TO STOP TRANSPORTING WILD CAUGHT BIRDS

WORKING TO SECURE AND MAINTAIN THE INTERNATIONAL BAN ON IVORY TRADING

UNDERCOVER INVESTIGATIONS INTO THE ILLEGAL IVORYTRADE

WORLD'S BIGGEST RHINO HORN SMUGGLING OPERATIONS EXPOSED

FIRST INVESTIGATION INTO THE ILLEGAL TRADE IN OZONE DEPLETING SUBSTANCES

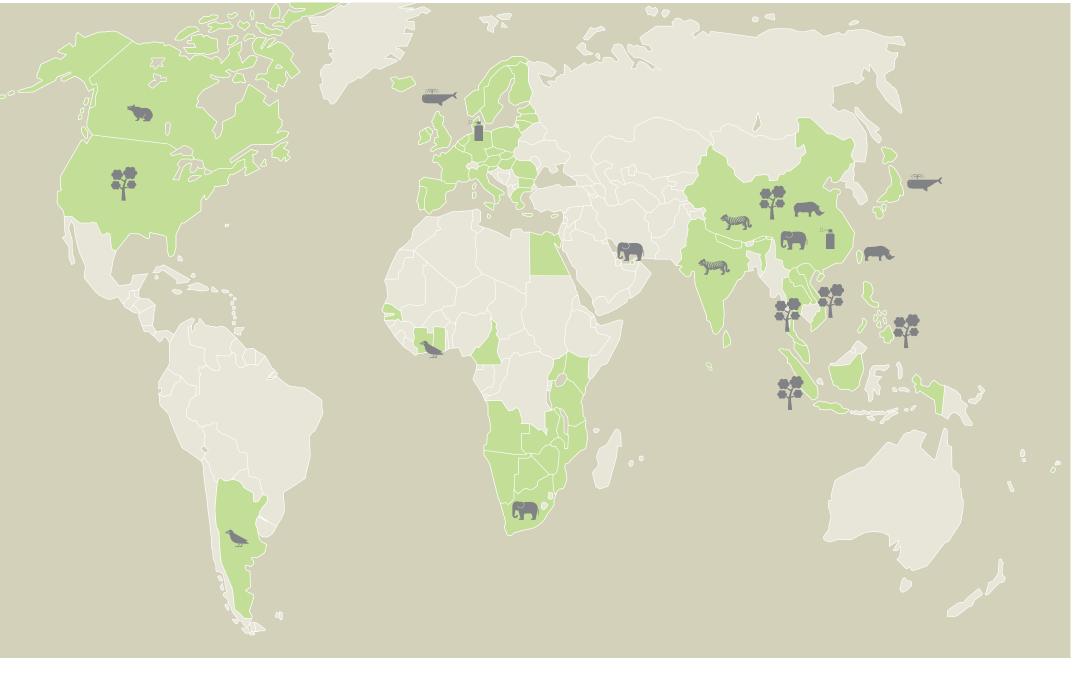
WORKING TO EXPOSE ILLEGAL TIMBER BARONS AND BUILD CAPACITY AT GRASS ROOTS LEVEL

PERSUADED JAPANESE SUPERMARKETS TO WITHDRAW
WHALE AND DOLPHIN MEAT FROM THEIR SHELVES

INVESTIGATIONS INTO THE IMPACTS OF MINING OPERATIONS IN PROTECTED TIGER HABITATS

REVEALED THE SHOCKING EXTENT OF THE TRADE IN TIGER AND OTHER ASIAN BIG CAT SKINS

EXTENSIVE LOBBYING RESULTED IN GROUND-BREAKING LEGISLATION BANNING THE IMPORT AND TRADE OF ILLEGAL TIMBER



■ SIX TONNES OF ILLEGAL IVORY SEIZED IN SINGAPORE FOLLOWING A TIP-OFF BY EIA. ■ JOINT WORK WITH BBC TO EXPOSE INDONESIAN TIMBER TRADE. MALAYSIA BANS IMPORT OF INDONESIAN LOGS. ■ EIA EVIDENCE PREVENTS ZAMBIA FROM BEING GRANTED LEGAL IVORY SALES BY CITES. ■ EU BANS THE SALE AND USE OF INDONESIAN GOVERNMENT AGREES TO ADD RAMIN WOOD TO CITES PROTECTED SPECIES LIST.

How EIA works

TACKLING ISSUES STRATEGICALLY

ne of EIA's trademarks is its investigative work, but we operate in a number of different ways. Consequently, over the last 25 years EIA has developed innovative and effective methods for defending the natural world and tackling environmental crime.

Investigations:

Investigation is at the core of EIA's work and we have built a reputation for producing detailed and credible intelligence through research and covert techniques. The power of such information is vital to achieving results.

Investigations are planned on the back of intensive desk research: locations are selected, logistics drawn up, targets identified and risks assessed. Investigations are vital for EIA to ground-truth the findings of our research or from tip-offs in the field.

Field investigations can vary greatly, but the main aim is to gather compelling evidence, including video footage and photographs. The most complex investigations can involve the establishment of fake companies and personal identities in order to engage in business meetings with individuals believed to be involved in the issue. These investigations are high risk and can be dangerous.

Campaigning:

ElA's campaigning is geared towards using the evidence from our investigations to raise awareness of specific environmental problems so that we can advocate for innovative policy reforms or positive change.

enforcement agencies worldwide.

EIA'S CUTTING EDO INVESTIGATIONS I

Using our in-house film unit EIA produces compelling and irrefutable reports and short films to illustrate these problems. But we also try to identify the solutions and these include clear, actionable recommendations.

A central focus of our work is the role of consumer demand for products that harm the environment, an example of which is the problem of illegal logging. EIA has consistently targeted the role played by Europe and the US as consumers of wood products made from illegally-logged timber. Our efforts recently resulted in the introduction of ground breaking legislation in the US making it a criminal offence to import or trade illegally logged timber and is a fine example of how EIA promotes innovative policy responses.

Cooperation:

EIA develops partnerships with local NGOs to help them protect their environments. In Indonesia we have worked with Telapak for a decade and we have formed an alliance with the Wildlife Protection Society of India. We have worked closely with the South Luangwa Conservation Society in Zambia and are currently forging new partnerships in Tanzania.

We also work with wildlife and customs enforcement agencies at both the international and national level and provide intelligence to Interpol and the World Customs Organisation. EIA's training films on the illegal trade in ozone-depleting substances, ivory smuggling and illicit trade in Asian Big Cats, are used by enforcement agencies worldwide.

EIA'S CUTTING EDGE INVESTIGATIONS DO WHAT MANY OTHER ORGANISATIONS ARE UNABLE TO DO AND WE VENTURE INTO TERRAIN THAT IS OFF-LIMITS TO THE FAINTHEARTED.

Global Environment

THE OZONE AND CLIMATE CHALLENGE

In the mid 1990s EIA researchers looking into the effect of increased ultra-violet radiation on marine habitats began to pick up rumours of a growing black market trade in CFCs (chlorofluorocarbons) – the most widely used ozone destroyer.

Since then, EIA has played a central role in global efforts to curb the illegal trade in Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS). A combination of painstaking investigations, policy solutions, and sheer persistence has produced tangible results, leading to a massive reduction in the scale of CFC smuggling.

Both the US and EU had stopped manufacturing CFCs but due to loopholes in the Montreal Protocol, the body governing their trade, imports of "recycled" CFCs were permitted. Russia continued to produce large amounts of CFCs in defiance of its obligations, and production was also on the rise in China. In the US the illegal trade in CFCs was second only to cocaine in terms of contraband passing through the port of Miami.

Focussing on the European market, EIA began cultivating credible sources in the chemicals and refrigeration industries and learned of a burgeoning trade in 'recycled' CFCs, orchestrated by a group of fly-by-night brokers.

We entered this murky world of brokers and fraudsters by setting up a fake company – Trans-Cool Trading – and circulating offers to buy CFCs. The fax machine at EIA's fake firm soon started churning out sales offers.

By 1997 we were ready to publish our findings and prove that CFC smuggling was a growing problem. The EIA report led to the EU banning the sale and use of CFCs completely.

During the Trans-Cool Trading investigations, it became apparent that emerging Chinese traders were filling the gap and dominating the black market for CFCs. So in 1998 EIA investigators set up another fake company, and headed to China. Posing as chemicals brokers,

EIA investigators secretly filmed a host of traders boasting of their ability to smuggle contraband CFCs and halons to any destination. The findings of this investigation assisted the authorities in the US and EU to intercept illegal shipments.

Aware that the problem of CFC smuggling would remain unless China acted, EIA conducted a follow up investigation and documented an unchanged landscape. We provided this intelligence to the Chinese authorities, who implemented a series of measures to control

CFC exports: CFC production plants were closed and Chinese customs launched an Asia-wide enforcement operation against illicit trade in ODS.

EIA also provduced a training film, Combating the Illegal Trade in Ozone Depleting Substances, to assist enforcement agencies in their battle to fight illegal trade which has been widely used and endorsed.

THE THREAT OF OZONE LAYER DEPLETION AND U.I.EGAI. TRADE

- All life depends on the ozone layer to screen out harmful ultra-violet radiation
- Significant thinning of the ozone layer was first detected in the mid-1980s
- The main causes are chemicals used in refrigeration, air conditioning and pesticides
- In 1987 the Montreal Protocol was set up to phase-out ozone depletin substances (ODS)
- In the mid-1990s around 38,000 tonnes of ODS were traded illegally every year
- The Antarctic ozone hole reached a record level in 2006, covering an area three times the size of Australia Antarctic ozone levels are predicted to recover by 2075



What is environmental crime?

INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL SYNDICATES

nvironmental crime is the plunder of wildlife and the world's natural resources, destruction of habitats and damage to the environment, illegally carried out by criminal enterprises for profit. No firm figures are available for the extent of wildlife and environmental crime, but it is estimated by Interpol to be worth billions of dollars a year.

EIA regards environmental crime as a serious, transnational, organised crime. It is usually carried out on an international scale, across porous borders and by organised criminals attracted by its high profit margins, and low risk of detection. Like other transnational organised crimes, it thrives in areas of the world beset by corruption and political instability.

From its earliest days, EIA has had criminals in its sights. It has revealed organised gangs trading big cat skins across the Himalaya, tracked down ivory smugglers, named illegal timber barons in Indonesia, and flushed out cynical businessmen peddling dangerous and illegal chemicals around the world.

Times change, but the threat of environmental crime has not gone away. The criminals intent on making a profit from stolen wildlife and environmental damage are constantly developing new ways to plunder the planet, and EIA is changing to keep up with them.

EIA's investigators around the world work with governments, police and customs to beat the criminals. Their work has to be professional, thorough, of the highest standard, and properly targeted. The aim is not just to respond to crime, but also to follow the evidence trail to its source.

One of the most exciting tools available to EIA is state-of-the-art organised crime mapping software, now installed on our computers. Known as i2®, the software is the same as that used by some police forces and the FBI and allows EIA's analysts to track details of criminal networks, such as big cat skin smugglers and companies laundering wood from illegal loggers.

In the field, EIA uses the latest in GPS, mobile phone and satellite mapping technology to help our investigations.

But no amount of clever gadgetry will defeat environmental crime without the commitment, political backing and the resources of the world's police and customs forces and the governments that deploy them. That is why EIA devotes much of its time to lobbying for political support for strong, well-funded enforcement action that really counts.

In particular, EIA is seeking recognition among governments that environmental crime is a serious and organised crime, not so very different from narcotics, arms trafficking, money laundering and people smuggling, with serious implications for society and the world community.

Despite the fact that environmental crime is becoming more organised and poses a growing threat, it remains a low priority for the international enforcement community. In 2008, EIA took the message directly to enforcement agencies with a hard-hitting report, Environmental Crime: A threat to our future, and a two-minute DVD film, Environmental Crime: Our Planet, Our Problem.

FIVE TYPES OF ENVIRONMENTAL CRIME:

- Illegal trade in wildlife
- Illegal trade in ozone depleting or global warming substances
- Dumping and illegal transport of hazardous waste
- Illegal, unregulated and unreported fishin
- Illegal logging, and the trade in illegally-sourced timber

There are signs the message is getting through. Antonia Maria Costa, Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and crime, recently told an international gathering of his concerns that the planet "is being plundered by illegal logging, unlawful exploitation of underground resources, illicit fishing, the dumping of hazardous waste, and the destruction of pristine forests." EIA believes that governments need to follow this call with real action to curb environmental crime.



EIA and local communities

WORKING AT GRASS ROOTS

hilst EIA's work has largely focussed on investigating environmental crime and the illegal trade in wildlife and the habitats in which they live, our campaigns also benefit the people who share those habitats and depend upon them for their livelihoods.

Our investigators often rely upon the trust and co-operation of individuals, local groups and communities to provide reliable and up-to-date information about the situation on the ground. They point us in the right direction so that we can acquire irrefutable evidence. At the same time we share knowledge and develop working relationships and action plans so that people can address and tackle their own issues.

We have also had the good fortune to be taken to the hearts of many of the groups and communities with whom we have worked. In Papua, the Knasaimos tribe asked EIA and Telapak for help to rid their lands of the environmental criminals who were looting their forests and destroying their way of life. In recognition of this work EIA was made an honorary member of the tribe in a special ceremony.

In India, Nepal and Tibet, we have worked with local groups and communities to identify and track the trade in Tiger and other skins; footage obtained with these collaborations was instrumental in changing opinions of many Tibetan communities about the use of skins for ceremonial wear.

In Zambia, the South Luangwa Conservation Society worked alongside EIA to document a massive ivory smuggling syndicate that had been operating with impunity for years. We continue to work together to monitor and track poaching and illegal wildlife trade in South Luangwa.

We are now developing new partnerships with community groups and NGOs in Tanzania as we work to take the successful models of co-operation and collaboration developed in Indonesia and Papua to a new audience in East Africa.



EIA's film & photo unit

AN EYE ON THE WORLD

IA's use of film and photos is what makes it uniquely placed to tackle existing and emerging threats to our environment. Since the very first investigation in 1985 to the present day capturing evidence and recording events on camera has been central to the way in which our investigators operate and present their findings to the wider world.

Technology has moved on a lot since the early days of 16mm film and video cassettes when secret filming meant carting around a heavy bag rigged with a camcorder hidden inside. EIA has an archive of thousands of hours of film and still photographs in these old formats, but today hidden cameras are the size of shirt buttons and digital images are flashed around the world in seconds by Internet and mobile phone.

With an in-house audio-visual studio, all EIA's output is now digitised. Classic, broadcast-quality campaign films often accompany investigative reports and every year we produce a unique range of DVDs, and footage and photographs, including short films for the web.

Visual narrative helps to convey complex environmental issues in a more digestible format and the story is told through the images and the words of the people captured on camera, including those openly boasting their complicity in crime.

Campaign films are usually released to the press and all are available for public viewing on EIA's website. But EIA also makes films for other audiences; for training and to raise awareness of environmental issues among other professionals.

Since 2005 EIA has created films especially for the United Nations Environment Programme and CITES, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species, and we have produced a series of unique training films especially targeted at customs officers – on ivory smuggling, the big cat skin trade, and CFC smuggling.

The latest short production, *Environmental Crime: Our Planet Our Problem*, is a hard-hitting two-minute presentation on the reality of environmental crime and wildlife matters, which has been presented to Interpol, national police forces and United Nations policy makers at a series of international meetings.

- EIA REPORT HIGHLIGHTS THE DANGER OF CATTLE FENCES TO WILDLIFE MIGRATION IN OKAVANGO, BOTSWANA
- UNDERMINED REPORT DOCUMENTS THE IMPACT OF ILLEGAL MINING ON TIGER HABITATS, INDIA CLOSES MINES.
- EIA DOCUMENTS THE POLLUTION LEVELS, FOUND IN CETACEAN FOOD PRODUCTS IN JAPAN.
- EIA REPORT REVEALS THE TRADE IN TIGER AND LEOPARD SKINS FROM INDIA AND NEPAL TO CHINA.
- EIA PETITION STOPS 2000 JAPANESE SUPERMARKETS SELLING WHALE MEAT.

- CHINESE GOVERNMENT PROMISES TO CURE CFC EXPORTS.
- EIA LAUNCHES FIRST TRAINING FILM FOR ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS IN BEIJING.
- REPORT ON TIMBER SMUGGLING FROM PAPUA TO CHINA PROMPTS INDONESIAN PRESIDENT TO LAUNCH UNPRECEDENTED CRACKDOWN ON ILLEGAL LOGGING.

Now for the next 25 years

FACING THE FUTURE

iven the scale of the task, there has never been a greater need for the work of EIA, and its unique blend of hard-hitting investigations and innovative policy responses. To face this future we will focus on three inter-connected themes: climate change, biodiversity, and environmental crime but the challenges are many.

Climate Change

Our unique experience of tackling ozone-layer depletion has resulted in significant climate benefits since Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS) are also potent greenhouse gases. The eradication of illegal trade in CFCs would represent a reduction equivalent to 25 per cent of the UK's annual CO₂ emissions.

A successful phase-out of the chemicals used to replace CFCs – HCFCs – could prevent greenhouse gas emissions totalling 16 billion tonnes of CO_2 – equivalent: that is 6 billion tonnes more than the Kyoto Protocol is expected to achieve.

The climate benefits of an HCFC phase-out are also threatened by the growing use of refrigerants called HFCs. Industry estimates suggest that global use of HFCs could rise by 10 billion tonnes of CO_2 -eq by 2040. EIA is now actively campaigning for a phase-out of HFCs, and a switch to climate-friendly alternatives.

Deforestation, is responsible for up to 20 per cent of global greenhouse gas emissions. Efforts are underway to curb forest loss through the mechanism of Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD). In this area EIA's experience of over a decade of tackling illegal logging will be vital.

Biodiversity and Ecosysytems

The on-going degradation of ecosystems and biodiversity loss threatens the functioning of our planet, our economy and human society. Initial efforts to put an economic value on the services of ecosystems indicate that we are losing natural 'capital' worth at least two trillion dollars a year from deforestation alone.

EIA will continue to operate on the ground to curb illegal logging in countries such as Indonesia, as well as increasing our efforts to reform the global timber trade to ban stolen timber.

Burgeoning demand for biofuels is expected to lead to the conversion of forests into plantations. In the Papuan Provinces of Indonesia up to five million hectares of land – more than twice the size of Wales – have been earmarked for development of plantations; most of it primary forest.

EIA will campaign against conversion of forests into plantations.

Marine ecosystems face severe environmental threats, including pollution, climate change and ozone layer depletion. EIA will continue to raise awareness of these threats and expose the levels of pollutants found in cetaceans destined for human consumption.

And of course, EIA will continue its efforts to protect threatened species from all forms of abuse.



DECISIONS AND ACTIONS
TAKEN TODAY WILL
DETERMINE WHETHER
HUMANITY IS CAPABLE
OF MEETING
THIS CHALLENGE

Environmental Crime

The impacts of climate change, ecosystem degradation and habitat loss are further exacerbated by environmental crime. Environmental crime is perceived as 'victimless' and often fails to prompt the required response from governments and the enforcement community.

EIA has built a reputation as the leading NGO exposing and combating environmental crime. We have a proven track record of investigating illicit wildlife trade, ODS smuggling, and illegal logging. This expertise will be expanded by the creation of an investigations unit within EIA, using advanced research tools and specialist equipment.

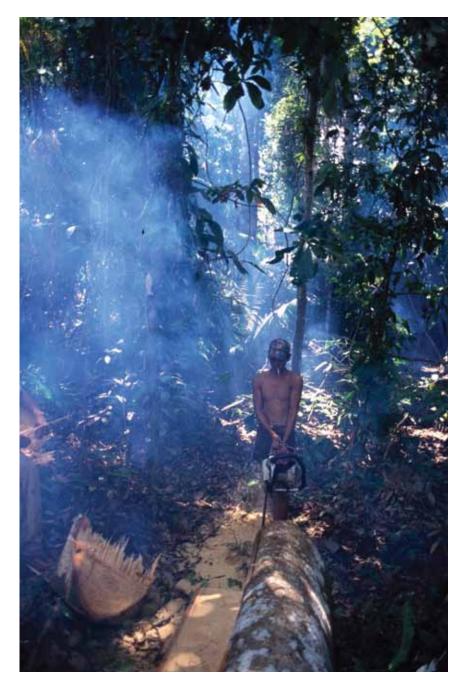
EIA will continue to pressure governments to exert the political will required to tackle environmental crime, as well as building effective relationships with international agencies, such as Interpol, the United Office on Drugs and Crime, and the World Customs Organisation.



U.S. success

THE LACEY ACT

In 2008 our sister office in Washington, D.C. achieved a major coup. Thanksto their I highly focused campaigning, the US government passed the world's first ban on the import and trade of illegally sourced timber and wood products. The new law, an amendment to the Lacey Act, is being hailed by environmentalists as one of the most important achievements in years and is a jewel in the crown of EIA's Forests campaign. For over a decade, EIA has been documenting the role that international trade and no-questions-asked consumer demand for wood products play in driving illegal logging. Although our experiences in countries like Indonesia showed us the need for measures to curb consumer demand, it took years of campaigning to convince other NGOs and policy makers in the US that this was a critical step in stopping illegal logging. The Lacey Act's passage has sent a powerful message to the global timber trade - the world's largest market is closing its doors to illegal wood. The law has already begun to create ripples as businesses attempt to comply and governments in Indonesia and China analyse how trade might be impacted. EIA is now on the cusp of achieving a similar landmark victory in Europe, which would take us one step closer to transforming the global timber trade.



Fundraising & awards

VALUE FOR MONEY

IA is a small organisation achieving great things with very limited resources. We ____commit as much of our money as possible to our investigative and campaigning work but like everyone we have overheads to cover too. If you've never heard of us before it's because we don't spend money on advertising, expensive offices or huge fundraising teams - just on challenging the threats to our natural world.

It can cost between £10,000 and £20,000 to run a full investigation. This covers our travel and research costs as well as specialist equipment and setting up fake companies and identities where required. Then we must turn the evidence we gather into hard hitting campaign information, targeted at the people who can make a difference.



ALBERT SCHWEITZER BBC TV LIFETIME AWARD, 1991 ACHIEVEMENT AWARD, 2001 AWARDED BY THE LATE AWARDED TO EIA'S U.S. SENATOR JOHN HEINZ CHAIRMAN FOR HIS WORK TO EIA'S CO FOUNDERS TO PROTECT WHALES FOR EXPOSING THE TRADE IN POACHED STRATOSPHERIC OZONE ELEPHANT IVORY. PROTECTION AWARD, 2006 AWARDED BY THE US

ASSOCIATION / INTERVET AWARD, 1993 FOR OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO ANIMAL WELFARE AND CONSERVATION: WILD-CAUGHT BIRD CAMPAIGN

BRITISH VETERINARY

WON A GOLD PLAQUE AT THE CHICAGO TELEVISION AND FILM FESTIVAL IN 1995 AND THE PRESTIGIOUS GENESIS AWARD FOR BEST FOREIGN DOCUMENTARY SERIES IN HOLLYWOOD IN 1996

"ANIMAL DETECTIVES"

GLOBAL 500 ROLL OF HONOR, 2001 AWARDED BY THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME FOR "OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT." LAYER.

ENVIRONMENTAL

PROTECTION AGENCY IN RECOGNITION OF EIA'S DECADE LONG FIGHT AGAINST THE ILLEGAL TRADE IN OZONE DEPLETING CHEMICALS

BEST-OF-THE-BEST STRATOSPHERIC OZONE PROTECTION AWARD, 2007 AWARDED BY THE U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY FOR EXCEPTIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION.

MONTREAL PROTOCOL PARTNERS AWARD, 2007 AWARDED BY THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM (UNEP) IN RECOGNITION OF TEN YEARS UNDERCOVER WORK ON ILLICIT TRADE IN CHEMICALS THAT DAMAGE THE OZONE

