



## Towards an Understanding of the Economic and Social Drivers of the Wildlife Trade in Southeast Asia

**Ani Mardiasuti**  
**TRAFFIC Southeast Asia**

## Key Questions...



Local people

Resources



Market

- what **drives** the wildlife trade?
- which **interventions** are most effective in reducing illegal and unsustainable wildlife trade?



## Output of the Study

- the nature of the social and economic drivers of the wildlife trade, and the most effective way to address them
- recommendations for future action to tackle unsustainable and illegal trade
- specific wildlife markets, products and trade chains (freshwater turtle, agarwood, tiger)

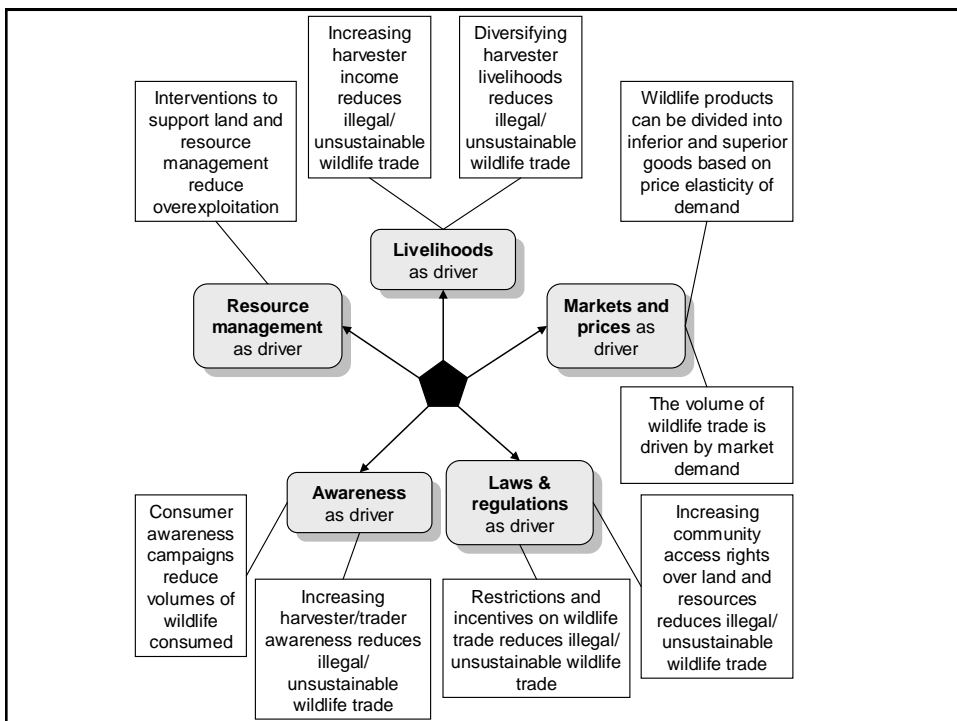
## Today's discussion...

- Presenting results (draft)
- Input/feedback from various stakeholders in ID (respondents, policy makers, non-respondents):
  - Confirm with ID condition?
  - Bias? Sources of bias?
  - Practical applicability?
  - Translating research into policy action?

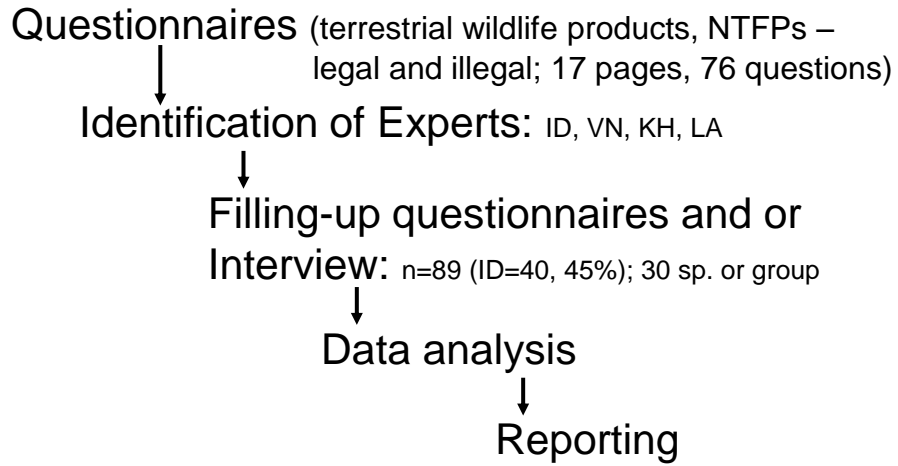


# Intervention types

1. Livelihood
2. Market
3. Legislation and regulations
4. Awareness
5. Resource regulation



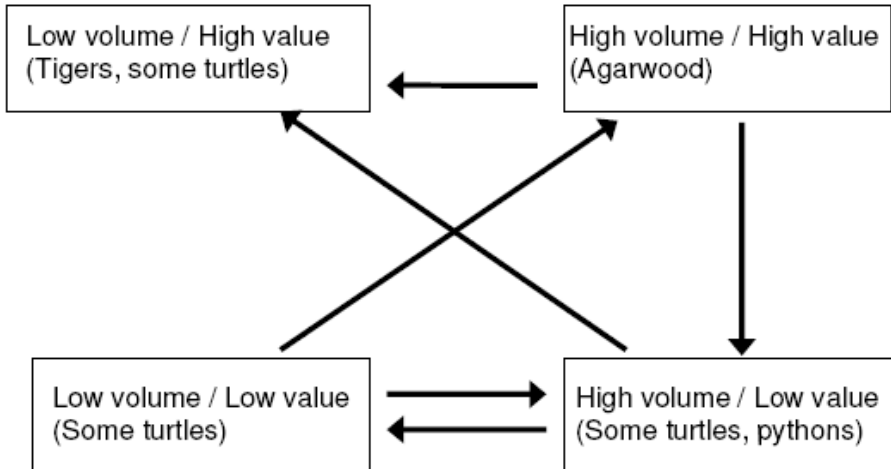
## Methods







## Characteristics of wildlife commodities & NTFPs and the possible shifts due to trade



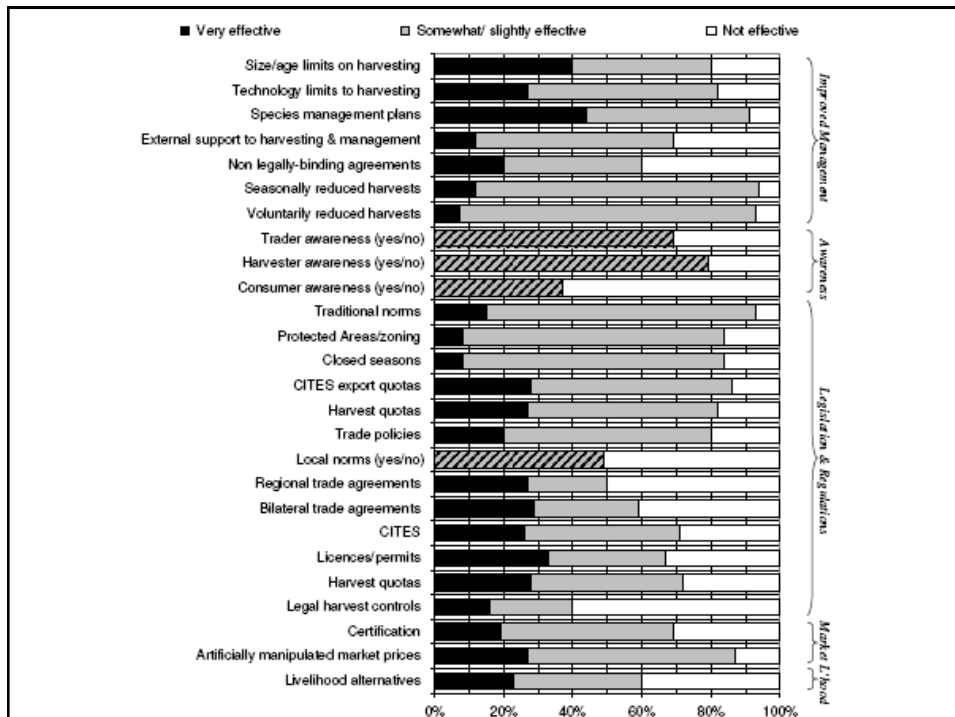
## RESULTS

### *Nature and impacts of the wildlife trade*

- the exploitation of wildlife for trade is not considered to be sustainable
- did not confirm whether it is an important economic activity for harvester households

## Social and economic drivers

- there is no single driver which can be considered in isolation
- interventions need to be specifically targeted to biophysical and socio-economic factors and encompass a package of mutually-reinforcing measures targeted at multiple drivers, groups and stages in the marketing chain
- in the majority of cases, interventions are least slightly effective
- the species are threatened or otherwise vulnerable
- data deficiency is a major factor limiting decision-making





## *1. Livelihood drivers and interventions*

- the poor are notable participants in the wildlife trade
- poorer households: seasonal harvesters
- households move into wildlife harvest for trade as their socio-economic status declines
- the importance of the wildlife trade to income: highly variable between locations and households, no clear trends
- strengthening livelihoods and increasing income:
  - does not reduce participation in the wildlife trade
  - does not have a tangible impact on poverty status

## *2. Market drivers and interventions*

- livelihood status: important determinants of wildlife demand
- the most important factors influencing the increasing supply:
  - improvements in infrastructure
  - improvements of communications and connectivity

### *3. Regulatory and legal drivers and interventions*

- the number of regulatory controls and the level of enforcement has increased over the last decade, but this has not reduce the volume of wildlife harvest and trade
- regulatory interventions: more effective when applied in combination, across the trade chain (rather than as single interventions)
- local and traditional norms: highly effective where they were present

### *4. Awareness drivers and interventions*

- consumer awareness campaigns: only limited effectiveness
- increase harvester and trader awareness: a high degree of success
- harvester and trader awareness improved  
→ little evidence that participation in the wildlife trade has reduced

## *5. Resource management drivers and interventions*

- external technical: slightly effective
- harvest management: more often effective
- CITES-related interventions: only limited success
- zoning and protected areas: the least effective
- domestication of traded wildlife species: been limited success

## Recommendations

- Knowledge → interventions and develop future policy for the wildlife trade
- Strengthen the accuracy of information used to develop and test wildlife trade interventions
- Increase understanding and information about external wildlife markets
- Facilitate a coordinated policy framework for wildlife trade throughout the Southeast Asia region
- Increase dialogue between conservation and development actors



Terima kasih