# if<mark>a</mark>w

# live animals seized in trade

## 200+

frontline law enforcement officers trained or to be trained on animal handling and care in 5 years

### 1000+

of wild animals cared for following seizures in IFAWsupported operations in various countries

▶ Pair of Salvadori's Fig-parrots (Psittaculirostris salvadorii) sitting on a branch.



IFAW works across the world to help law enforcement officials implement the procedures and best practices that they need to intercept trafficked wild animals and hold those involved accountable. When an animal is rescued, we engage rescue centers, sanctuaries, and zoos to place the animal under their care. While the animal recovers, we work with wildlife authorities and the scientific community to identify the animal's original habitat and determine whether it can safely and humanely return to life in the wild there.

Wild animals are illegally captured, transported, and sold live at a shocking rate, and traffickers primarily target threatened or protected species. This illegal trade undermines wildlife conservation efforts, increases zoonotic disease risks and severely impacts animal welfare.

In collaboration with governmental and scientific agencies, we challenge current release guidelines and find innovative ways to return healthy animals back to the wild while also avoiding the risk to existing wild populations.

#### implementation on the ground

The LAST program partners with several agencies and organizations to successfully develop and implement best practices for animal welfare, evidence collection and biosafety, with the generous support by the United States government.

The Confiscated Animals–Rescue & Enforcement (CARE) Project is an innovative and holistic approach to combat illegal wildlife trafficking,



## 185

Confiscator Kits and animal handling equipment being distributed to frontline officers in intervention countries

13

species or taxa specific Standard Operating Procedures developed for the confiscation and transport of wild animals by frontline officers

- ◆ Rescue of pangolins in Pekanbaru, Riau, Indonesia.
- Crowd of smuggled Hermann's tortoises (Testudo hermanni) in the quarantine section of Szeged Zoo. They were found at the Serbian border.

# see how at ifaw.org



#ActsForAnimals

focusing on prominent trafficking routes in Republic of Indonesia (Indonesia), Republic of the Congo (Congo) and Co operative Republic of Guyana (Guyana). This project is implemented with the Jane Goodall Institute, Jakarta Animal Aid Network and Legal Atlas.

IFAW also works with Freeland to create the Targeting Regional Investigations for Policing Opportunities & Development (TRIPOD). Led by Freeland and implemented by IFAW and WWF, TRIPOD combats wildlife crime and disrupts wildlife traffickers in Southeast Asia. By working with frontline officers, our goal is to identify, care for and return confiscated wildlife back to their appropriate habitats

#### an example to live by

Indonesia, Congo and Guyana are three countries that are significantly impacted by illegal wildlife trade, frequently confiscate live animals, and have the potential to foster best practices regionally.

The CARE Project allows IFAW and its partners to ensure confiscated animals are treated in a humane and safe way, receiving the best possible care while in custody. Those who survive—often juvenile orphans—require specialized care to not only help them recover from their trauma, but to also ensure their unique needs are met.

Legal resources are urgently needed to support successful prosecutions and the survival of confiscated live animals. Legal Atlas and IFAW are producing these resources through legal gap



analyses, training, and technical assistance to improve legal frameworks and practices for confiscated animals in <u>Indonesia</u>, Congo and Guyana.



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#### the increasing risk of zoonotic disease

Globally, current efforts to combat the illegal wildlife trade are largely focused on wildlife products, with limited attention on the scale, significance, and risks associated with live animals being illegally trafficked. This phenomenon not only threatens wildlife conservation efforts, but also animal health and welfare, and public health. IFAW and its partners are establishing sustainable resources and activities on three continents, and the program's goal is to provide a foundational framework that can aid other countries facing similar challenges.