

# Ivory trade: Over the Years

**1979**

An estimated 1.3 million elephants roamed Africa. A decade later, widespread poaching had reduced that figure to 600,000.

**1989**

CITES voted that the African Elephant was threatened with extinction and listed the elephant on Appendix I as a 'most-endangered' species.

**1990**

A worldwide ban on ivory trade was approved by CITES. Levels of poaching fell dramatically, and black market prices of ivory slumped. Kenya also burnt its ivory stockpile worth over \$3m.

**1997**

This ban did not affect the domestic sale and use of ivory. Botswana, Namibia and Zimbabwe were allowed an 'experimental one-off sale' of over 49,000kg of ivory to Japan.

**2002**

A further one-off sale was approved resulting in 105,000kg of ivory being shipped to China. This finally took place in 2008.

**2009**

Over 20,000kg of ivory was seized by police and customs authorities worldwide.

**2011**

Thirteen of the largest seizures amounted to over 23,000kg which broke all records since the ivory ban.

**2012**

CITES recognised that elephant poaching had reached 'unsustainable' levels, not only in small unprotected populations but also among larger populations, regarded as safe.

**2013**

Between October 2012 and January 2013, 12 tonnes of ivory were seized in just 4 incidents.

**Predictions were made:**

African Elephants will be extinct by **2025** if ivory poaching continues at this rate.

## Changes have to be made.

**What are the solutions?**

**Education** is fundamental to the future of Africa's Elephants. A survey carried out showed 70% of the Chinese population believe that elephant tusks fall out and once collected by traders, they grow back.

**Reduce demand** for ivory in China. The current demand for ivory far exceeds supply, with a permanent ban in ivory trade buyers will become wary to purchase ivory as will traders. The only way to stop killings is to break every link in the trade chain, from elephant poaching to ivory trafficking to market demand.

**Campaigning** makes people aware of the devastating trade in ivory and the irreversible effects it has on the future of Africa's Elephants.

**Front Line Anti-Poaching** efforts are put in place around Africa to better protect wild elephants from poachers. Teams of Anti-Poaching Rangers patrol National Parks in search of any misconduct. Efforts can be enhanced through tighter security measures such as drones and Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV's) which many conservationists are looking into.



# How to help

## Join the peaceful march on October 4th 2013

The David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust's International March for Elephants will take place across the globe on Friday 4th October. The world will unite on one day for elephants. Join the movement and find your [nearest city](#).

## Campaign

Raising awareness of the brutal truth behind the devastating ivory trade will educate and inform. Campaigning in your local area will provide others with an insight into the truth, with another person knowing we are one step closer to protecting Africa's Elephants. There are campaigning materials on the *iWorry* website such as the Say NO to ivory poster which you can print off and a petition form to ask friends and family to complete.

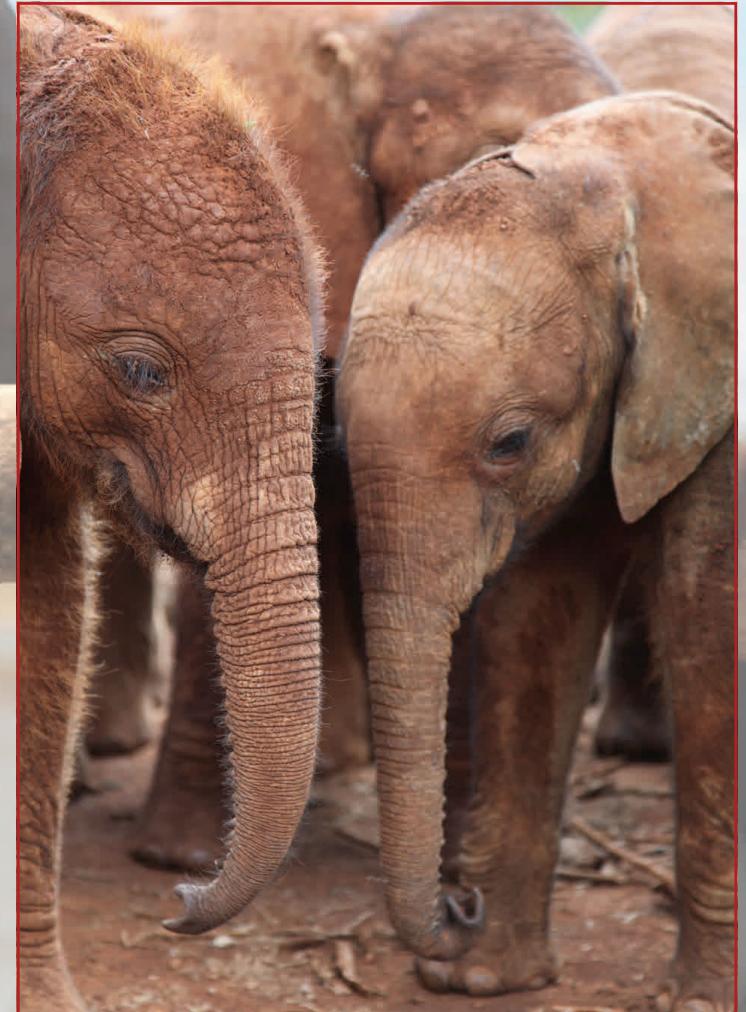
## Say NO to ivory

Never buy into the ivory trade. Every single piece of ivory represents a dead elephant regardless of the size.

## Donate

At the David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust (DSWT) we are totally reliant on funds from our supporters to carry out our work in the field. Donations help us better protect Africa's Elephants, whether to aid our Anti-Poaching efforts or buying milk for the little baby elephants who we rescue.

Visit [www.sheldrickwildlifetrust.org](http://www.sheldrickwildlifetrust.org) to find out more.



## Protect

[Help](#) give these baby elephants a future in the wild and foster today.