

Project Update: November 2015

A total of 103 shops in Phnom Penh, 45 shops in Siem Reap and 26 shops in Sihanoukville were visited. Most shops offered ivory substitute items, mainly made from plastic, resin and bones. Ten retail outlets in Phnom Penh and seven retail outlets (including one antique shop) in Siem Reap were identified as selling real ivory, offering a total of 524 and 235 ivory items respectively. No retail outlet were found with real ivory in Sihanoukville. The most frequently found ivory items were Buddha amulets and bangles/bracelets. Other items commonly sold items were chopsticks, animal figurines, Chinese zodiacs, rings and necklaces. Twenty-three hankos (Japanese signature seals) were also found in these shops. A second survey will be carry out from January to February 2016 to compare the number of ivory for sale in high and low tourist season.

