

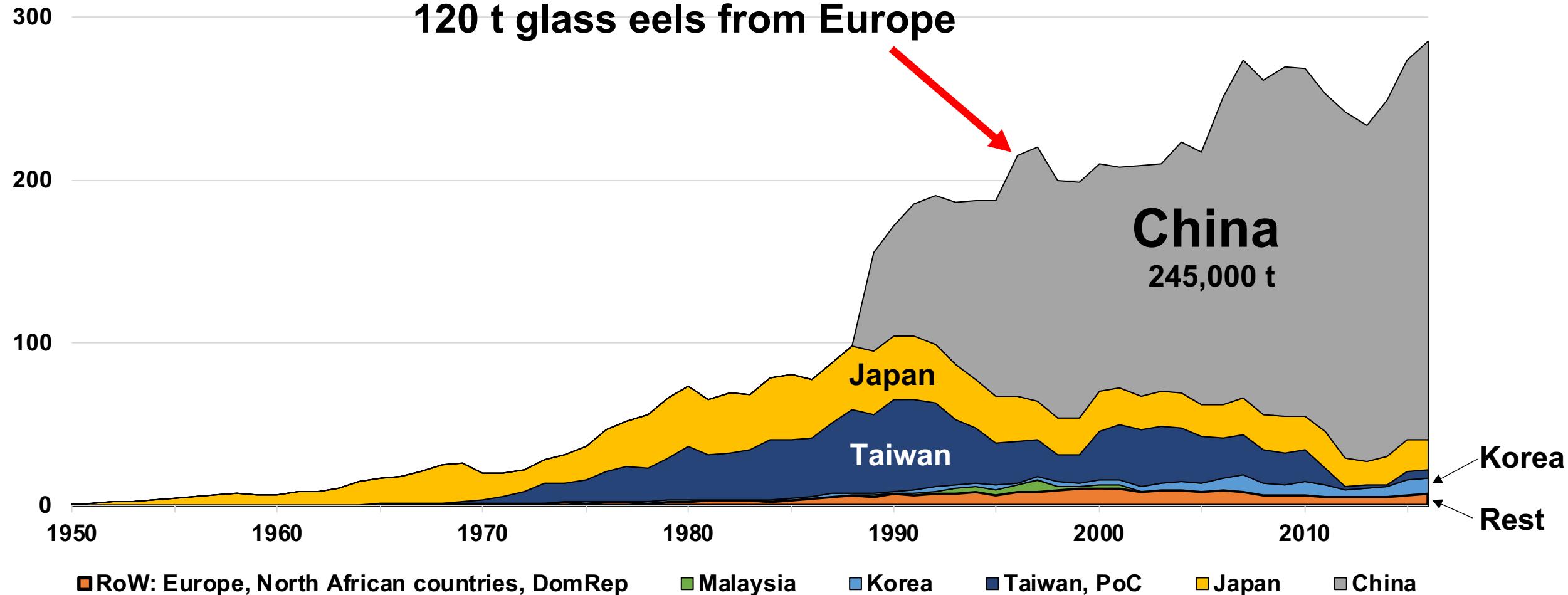
Why are eels trafficked?



Florian Stein
Sustainable Eel Group (SEG)
27 June 2019, Natural History Museum
#SEG10Y

Global aquaculture production, freshwater eels

(FAO, 1950-2016)



■ RoW: Europe, North African countries, DomRep

■ Malaysia

■ Korea

■ Taiwan, PoC

■ Japan

■ China

Nature of the Chinese eel industry



Photo credit: Chang W. Lee/The New York Times 2009; Location: Xulong factory in Taishan, China
https://www.nytimes.com/slideshow/2007/07/02/business/20070703_FISH_SLIDESHOW_index.html?searchResultPosition=9

Nature of the Chinese eel industry

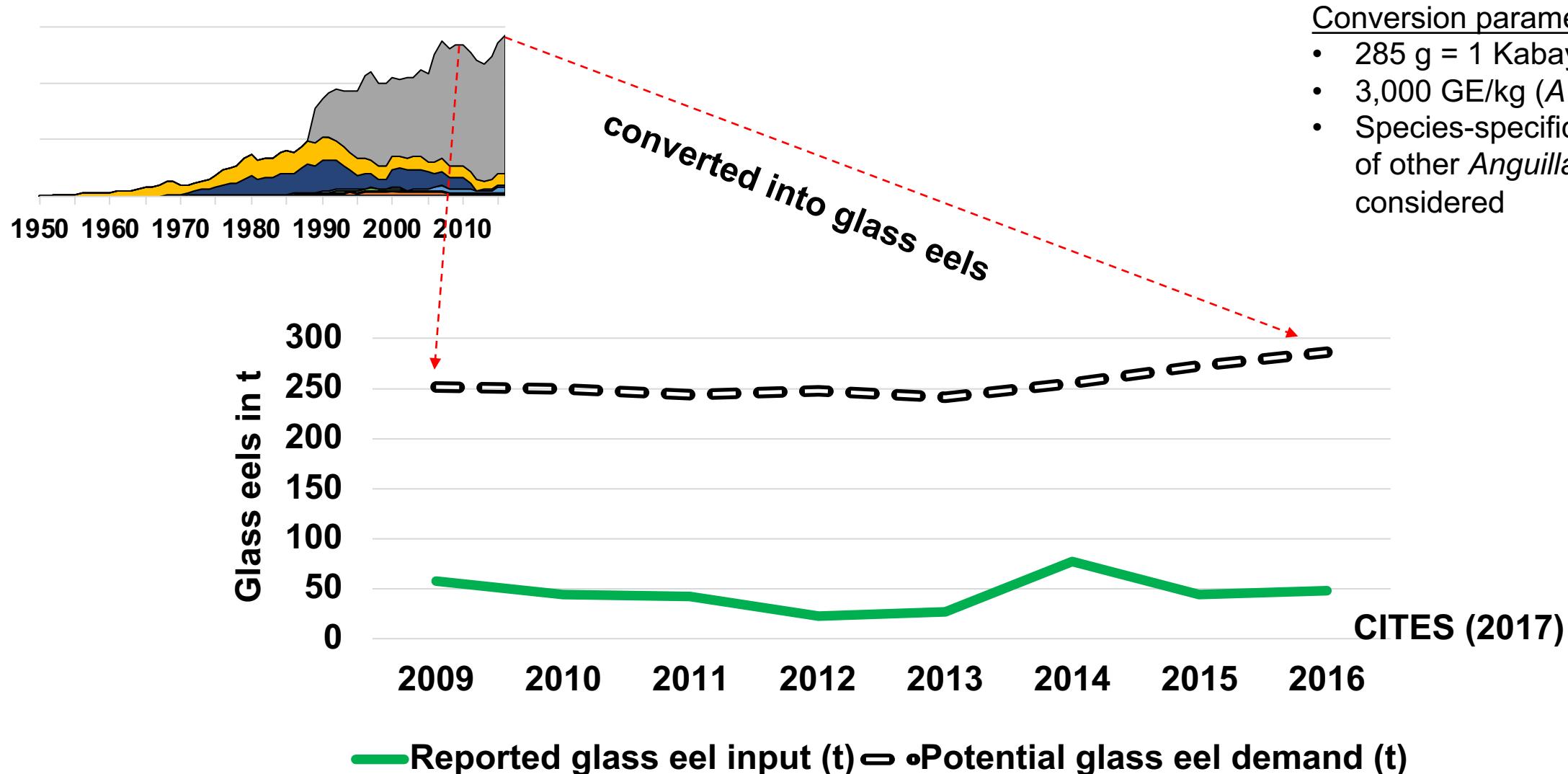
- **797 eel aquaculture processors**
(CITES, 2017)
- **900 – 1000 eel farms**
(China Eel Industrial Association, 2018)
- **Single processors producing > 10,000 t!**
(UNIDO, 2013)

Eel products exported from CN in t (2017)



Source: Chinese customs, compiled by Shiraishi and Crook in CITES AC30-18-01-A2

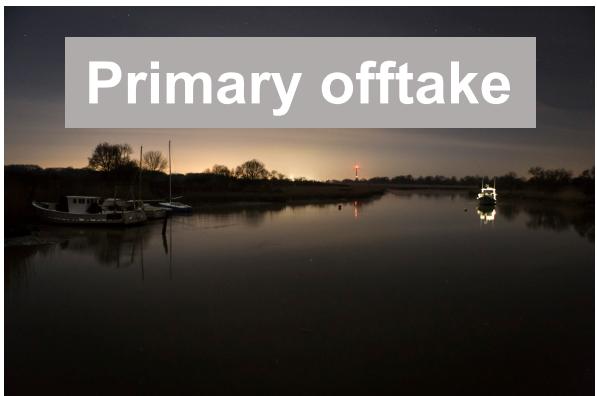
Potential GE demand for CN eel aquaculture



Conversion parameters:

- 285 g = 1 Kabayaki fillet
- 3,000 GE/kg (*A. anguilla*)
- Species-specific parameters of other *Anguilla* species not considered

Values along the illegal supply chain



300 €
1 kg

1,000 €
1 kg

6,000 €
1 kg

25,800 €
727 kg

Simplified estimates based on enforcement information
contains 15 % mortality

KEY messages

- Trafficking industry supplies global market
 - Demand is much higher than reported supply
 - High profits fuel black market
-
- **Implementation and enforcement** by:
 - consistent CITES codes for eel trade
 - modern technologies (e.g. DNA, Chemical Fingerprinting)

➤ **Efficient, comprehensive control system**

Thank You!

