Staff at the Turtle Conservation Centre (TCC) in Cuc Phuong National Park worked over night for 14 hours last night to deal with the most recent rescue. Following a confiscation of 69 turtles including 68 Big-headed Turtles (Platysternon megacephalum) and one Impressed Tortoise (Manouria impressa) from Ninh Binh province. All the animals had been wrapped in socks or net bags, some have serious injuries to their tails and limbs and they had been covered in unknown powder. The powder was possibly forced into the animal's stomachs to increase their body weight to increase the sale price.

These aggressive animals all need to be kept individually in cool clean water. Our facility is overwhelmed right now and we simply do not have enough room or containers to keep all the new animals, many of which need intensive treatment. We urgently need to construct additional enclosures, purchase equipment and bring in additional staff.

Please send your kind support by:

1. Make a PayPal donation using support@asianturtleprogram.org
2. Or make a transfer to our bank account, please contact us for details
3. Or contact us if you are willing to help out at the Centre via our Volunteer program.

For more information, please click on the link: [https://goo.gl/e8ciWa](https://goo.gl/e8ciWa)

In addition, the seizure also included one Asian golden cat, 20 bear paws, 4kg of pangolin scales, and 32 Sunda pangolins. These animals were sourced from Laos and being transported to Ninh Binh on a regular Ninh Binh – Luang Prabang coach.

Press release: Do Thanh Hao - Turtle Conservation Centre (TCC), Cuc Phuong National Park
20th October 2017

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**Urgent call to save 68 Endangered Big-headed Turtles in Vietnam**

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Staff of the TCC and ATP unwrap the Big-headed Turtles from the shipment.
Photo by: Jonathan Sander – TCC.
Animals were placed in specially designed rescue crates to keep them separate while they were transported the short distance to the TCC. Photo by: Jonathan Sander – TCC.

We have run out of space and containers, we are now having to stack containers 3 high in the cool air-conditioned rooms. Photo by: Jonathan Sander – TCC.

Individually kept Big-headed Turtles. Photo by: Jonathan Sander – TCC.