

The Last Great Ape Organization – LAGA

August 2022 Report



Highlights

The Deputy Director participated at a workshop on the training officials of the Nsimalen International Airport. He did a presentation on wildlife law enforcement during the workshop that was organized by TRAFFIC.

The Legal advisers held several meetings with State Counsels to follow up ongoing cases in the respective jurisdictions and strengthen collaboration in the fight against wildlife crime.

- **There were no operations this month and the team redoubled efforts and designed new strategies to ensure operations take place next month.**

General

The Deputy Director participated at a workshop on the training officials of the Nsimalen International Airport. He did a presentation on wildlife law enforcement during the workshop that was organized by TRAFFIC.

No operations took place this month and efforts are being made to ensure operations take place next month.

Recruitment was intensified and a volunteer started the testing and training period in the investigations department as part of a strategy to bring renewed vigour in the department.

Investigations

- **16 investigation missions** out in **6 Regions** out of 10 of Cameroon including Littoral, West, Centre, Adamawa, South and East Regions.

Investigations Table

Investigation Missions	Regions	No. of Operations	No of traffickers arrested
16	6	0	0

- **This month no operations took place, and new strategies were being implemented to enable better results next month.**
- **In this regard, recruitment was intensified with several interviews carried out. A volunteer started his training and testing period.**

Legal

- LAGA Legal Department carried out **6 missions** out of Yaounde - Centre Region: 1 in Ebolowa (South), 2 in Sangmelima (South), 1 in Akonolinga (Centre), 1 in Nkongsamba (Littoral) and 1 in Abong-Mbang (East).
- There are **14 traffickers behind bars this month**: 2 in East region, 2 in South region, 2 in Centre, 2 in Littoral region and 6 in West region.
- **24 cases** were followed up by the Legal Department this month.
- **21 cases** were scheduled in court this month.
- **1 trafficker** was convicted this month.
- **Prosecutions**: There was 1 court ruling this month.
 - **05/08/2022**: The Douala – Bonanjo Court of First Instance found the accused **NDAWOU Elisabeth guilty and sentenced her to a 6-month jail term suspended for 3 years and to pay 1,070,000 FCFA as damages.**

She was arrested in Douala on the 03/08/2020 for the illegal possession of one rhinoceros horn.

Legal Table

No of Missions (Out of Yaoundé)	No of Court Judgements	No of Traffickers Given Prison Sentence	Prison term (in months)	No of Traffickers Sanctioned (No prison sentence)	No of Appeals lodged	No of Cases Tried in Courts
6	1	0	0	1	0	21

Media

- **2 media** pieces were produced and pushed to the media including: written press. That is 2 written press (both in English language).
- Giving a total of 2 media pieces produced in the English language making 100% in English.
- Interviewee: none.
- Subjects focused on wildlife law enforcement including: the court hearing of 3 traffickers at the Court of First Instance of Ekounou for the illegal possession of 386kg of pangolin scales.
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Media Table

<i>No of media pieces</i>	TV	Radio	Newspapers	Internet
2	0	0	2	0

External Relations and Policy

- The Deputy Director participated at a workshop on the training officials of the Nsimalen International Airport. He did a presentation on wildlife law enforcement during the workshop that was organized by TRAFFIC.
- The Head of Department had a meeting with the State Counsel of Douala – Bonanjo to discuss legal strategies on a case in court.
- Two legal advisers had a meeting with the Director of Criminal Matters of the Ministry of Justice on issues related to convicted wildlife law defaulters and on the fight against wildlife crime
- A legal adviser held meetings with the State Counsels of Sangmelima, Akonolinga and Abong Mbang respectively to discuss legal strategies.
- Another legal adviser had meetings with the State Counsels of Ebolowa and Nkongsamba to discuss legal strategies concerning matters pending before their respective courts.

Management

- The training programme of the former Burkina Faso coordinator continued in Yaounde.
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Activism Front:

All the activism fostering activities carried out by the LAGA family are online; this could be gotten at the LAGA website – <http://www.laga-enforcement.org/Activism/tabid/77/Default.aspx>.

Finance

In preparation and would be made available soon as possible on the LAGA website www.laga-enforcement.org .