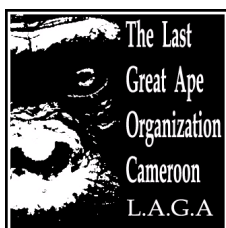


THE LAST GREAT APE ORGANIZATION, CAMEROON LAGA

ANNUAL REPORT JANUARY – DECEMBER 2015



Executive Summary

Despite many obstacles, tangible achievements were made over this period in LAGA's collaboration with MINFOF in the fields of investigation, arrest, prosecution, media exposure, government relations and international activities. Focus was on the fight against corruption, the illegal wildlife trade especially the specialized illicit trade in ape parts including fresh chimpanzee and gorilla heads, limbs and skulls; ivory and elephant products trafficking and the illicit trade in giant pangolin scales and leopards skins. The wildlife law enforcement operations carried out this year also busted international connections in ivory trafficking, ape parts and giant pangolin scales. This year, LAGA focused on the illegal trade in ape skulls uncovering a shocking snapshot of this specialized trade with 89 ape skulls and some bones seized.

80% of those arrested stayed permanently behind bars from the moment of arrest and during the trial process while 16% were granted bail along the line and 4% were released and never prosecuted. Corruption was observed and fought in more than 80% of the cases. Operations focused on the illicit trade in ape parts and the trafficking in ivory. 50 new cases were brought to court, 30 traffickers were found guilty and given prison sentences, fines, damages and penalties and more than \$147,488 to be paid as damages. Media exposure was at a rate of more than one media piece per day.

One new project -EAGLE Uganda, within The EAGLE network, became functional, and produced important results in its first year while the entire network became very effective with significant results and important exchange and training visits among various projects done. This was carried out principally under the EAGLE Exchange programme with investigators and legal advisers from Senegal, Congo, Togo, Benin and Gabon visiting the country.

Governance issues and breach of procedure by some MINFOF delegations were prominent during this period – refusal to prosecute arrested wildlife traffickers and subsequently releasing them, influence, peddling and threats were observed and correspondences sent to the Minister to address the situation.,

The work of the Last Great Ape Organization was supported by:



OVERVIEW OF ACHIEVEMENTS

Investigations

- A total of 256 investigation missions (of varying lengths) were carried out in 8 Regions.
- Network of informants and collaboration with the police yielded good results.
- The Head of Investigations Department in collaboration with investigators developed new investigation techniques which were immediately used in field producing good results.

Operations

- Operations were carried out in 7 Regions against 52 suspects resulting in 50 court cases – a rate of one major trafficker every 7.3 days.
- The rate of imprisonment for suspects apprehended stood at 80%.
- 37% were on primates and ape parts while 17% was on ivory trafficking
- A number of significant ivory operations resulted in the arrest of high profile ivory traffickers.

Legal

- 50 new cases were brought to court and represented.
- 30 traffickers were found guilty and handed prison sentences, fines, damages and penalties. Damages amounted to 73,744,000 CFA F (\$147, 488) to be paid to the MINFOF
- Very good prosecutions obtained notably two 2 years imprisonment terms were given to a wildlife trafficker.

Media

- A total of 371 media pieces were produced and pushed into national media (television, radio, press and online) - a rate of more than one media piece per day was obtained.
- The distribution of *Wildlife Justice Magazine* continued. .

Strategic Highlights

- This year LAGA followed-up its focus on the illegal trade in ape skulls that was started in 2014 and it provided a shocking snapshot of the unprecedented magnitude of this specialized trade with 89 ape skulls and bones seized..
- The strategic focus over this period was on primate and ape parts trafficking making up 37% of total arrest, while ivory trafficking remained one of the main areas of operations with 17%.
- Sea turtle shell operations produced a strong indicator of threat posed by trafficking as 49 shells were recovered during operations.
- Giant pangolin scales trafficking started receiving strong attention due to the escalating trafficking in its scales with over 130 kg seized.

Management

- The EAGEL Exchange programme was very effective and several exchanges of investigators and legal advisers for training in LAGA took place. .

EAGLE Activities

- The EAGLE network Central Coordination Unit became functional, collaborated and assisted LAGA in several areas.
- Visits between other projects and LAGA were carried out under the EAGLE Exchange programme that saw legal advisers and investigators from five projects visit the country.
- EAGEL Uganda became fully functional and received some assistance with the visit of the Deputy Director to the country.
- Several security gaps and concerns were addressed by the Central Coordination Unit that started laying the groundwork for effective collaboration among projects.

CONTENTS

This report refers to activities from January till December 2015. This report includes: the activities in each department (Investigations, Operations, Legal, and Media), strategic overview of the various operations and their impact on wildlife crime, progress in relations with the Cameroonian government, the international arena, in management and the collaboration with the EAGLE network and projects.

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Further documents also available:

- Annual financial statement 2015
- Monthly financial and activity reports January – December 2015
- Media archive – excel database interlinked to recorded media pieces
- Photo archive for media use

For copies please email ofir@laga-enforcement.org

NARRATIVE REPORT

1. Investigations

LAGA's investigation unit carried out 256 investigation missions in 8 Regions of the country during this period. Cooperation among EAGLE projects was carried out under the EAGLE Exchange Programme (ENEP) that became very effective with exchange of investigators, legal advisers and media officers with some projects. The use of international investigation and other new techniques was successfully implemented. Field testing and screening of new investigators were done and one investigator recruited.

Throughout the year, the network of informants put in place was active and provided information leading to a significant operation in Djoum, South with the arrest of two with 18 ivory tusks and a second operation followed with the arrest of a trafficker at the entrance to the Yaounde Nsimalen International Airport with 114 kg of giant pangolin scales. This strategy involves the recruitment of informants in the main wildlife trade hotspots in Cameroon.

For further improvement and more operations within the EAGLE network, training sessions carried continued in Yaounde – Cameroon with investigators from Togo – the TALFF project, Senegal – the SALF project and Benin – the AALF-B project, to be trained under the EAGLE regional exchange programme. Also under the same programme, the Head of the Investigation Department travelled twice to Guinea, firstly to assist in a high profile operation that led to the arrest of a senior wildlife official and he would again travel to Guinea in November, where he provided operation assistance that enabled the arrest of 4 chimpanzee traffickers. He equally travelled to Senegal where he provided investigations and operations support to the SALF project and this led to the arrest of seven elephant parts traffickers with international links to France and to the West and Central African sub-regions and while in Senegal he assisted in the training of newly recruited legal advisers in SALF and investigators. An investigator travelled to Togo to assist and share skills with the TALFF project while a Gabonese investigator arrived Cameroon for the same purpose.

The Head of the Investigations Department held several meetings with customs and wildlife officials to facilitate collaboration that may lead to uncovering illicit cross-border trafficking and during one of the meetings held with the Nsimalen Airport Chief of Forestry and Wildlife Control Post, groundwork for a collaborative platform on wildlife law enforcement activities at the airport were formulated and laid down.

An investigator lost her child while all LAGA members participated in mourning and during the burial. the entire EAGLE network participated through diverse assistance to enable her effectively overcome her grief.

Issues of security and safety for investigators was given special attention with gaps, lapses and changes in behavior addressed through a collaborative effort with the Central Coordination Unit of EAGLE.

Important ape investigations were carried out this year with ape skull trafficking given full attention. The illegal trade in ape skulls uncovering an unprecedented magnitude of this specialized trade with 89 ape skulls and bones seized and 28 traffickers connected to the trafficking of these parts arrested. Targeting of ivory traffickers was undertaken and several arrests made.

The investigation hotline continued to be used and this provided essential information that was exploited and flyers produced continued to be distributed This is being distributed to a specific set of informants like those working in the airports, call box operators, security guards etc..

During this period, there was a special investigation focus on trade in pangolin scales, Red river hog parts and products of other protected wildlife species leading to the arrest of many major traffickers. The month of May experienced a significantly low number of investigation missions due to the financial challenges that the team had to overcome at the time.

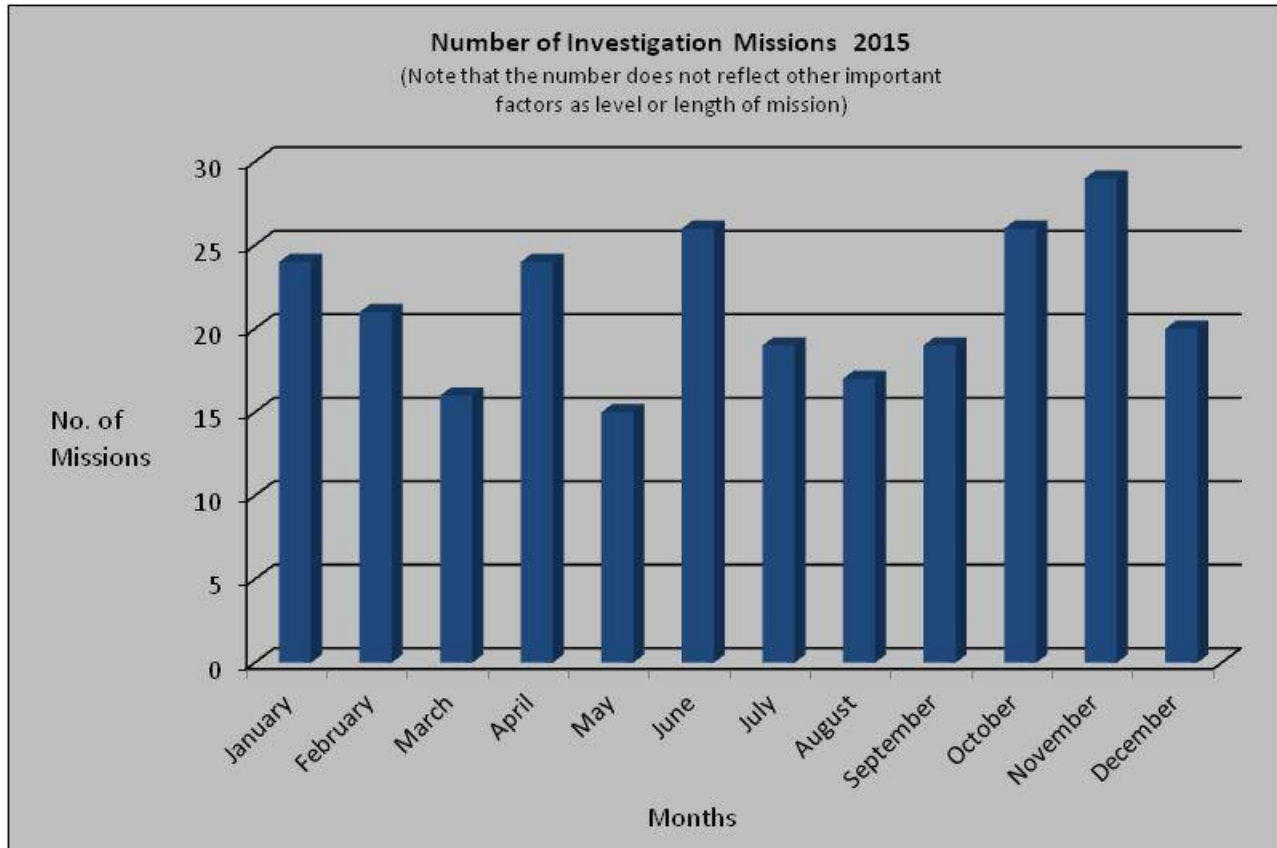


Figure 1: Number of Investigations Missions per Month

2. Operations

LAGA and the Government of Cameroon carried out operations in 7 Regions against 52 individuals resulting in 50 court cases at a rate of 1 every 7.3 days. The use of international investigators as well as new techniques in carrying out operations was developed and this proved successful. The rate of imprisonment reached 80% of the cases with the individuals behind bars while awaiting trial.

Focus was on primates especially the illicit trade in ape parts that recorded 37% of the operations and this was followed by the busting of networks dealing in ivory that made up 17%. Sea turtle shells arrests made 12% as well as operations on giant pangolin scales followed with closely with 11%. Other elephant parts and primate bones made up 9% while the Red river hog recorded a significant entry into operations with 7% and the remaining 7% was for operations on hippo parts, bay duicker skulls as wells skins from some feline species. One live mona monkey

was rescued during an operation. The bursting of some ivory networks took place as early as the start of the year when a notorious network comprising a really big ivory trafficker was busted. He was arrested in Djoum with 18 ivory tusks heading to Yaounde and another operation resulted in the arrest of a major ivory trafficker with international connections in Douala and the uncovering of a ring of traffickers operating within a family. The month of February was full with activity as 9 traffickers were arrested during that period alone. A shocking 89 ape skulls including 65 chimpanzee and 27 gorilla skulls were seized from traffickers during the year.

In January, 3 arrest operations were carried out with 6 traffickers arrested. The first of the operations was carried out in Djoum – South where 2 traffickers were arrested for trafficking in a chimpanzee skull and 3 gorilla skulls. One of the traffickers is a high profile ape trafficker who belongs to a network of ape parts trafficking.

Still in the same town, one week later, two major ivory traffickers were arrested with 18 ivory tusks and they belong to a big ivory trafficking ring and works in partnership with another big time ivory trafficker who seems to be the boss, coordinating their ivory trafficking activities. They get supplies from Mintom – South and transport to Yaounde. Three other traffickers were arrested over giant pangolin meat, scales and a colobus monkey in Ngambe Tikar – Centre and one of the traffickers is the president of the local hunters’ association who has been illegally killing wildlife for over 9 years.

In February, an impressive number of 9 traffickers were arrested within the month during 4 operations including the arrest of 3 traffickers for illegal possession of 31 sea turtles shells in Kribi – South but the prosecution of these traffickers was greatly hampered by the un-procedural behaviour of the divisional delegate who decided to release the traffickers after their arrest. Governance issues were observed during the process as the delegate decided to hold a closed-door meeting with family members of the traffickers.

Three others operations would follow within the month leading to the arrest of an ape skull trafficker in Ambam who tried to sell 14 chimpanzee and 4 gorilla skulls. He is a well-known trafficker to poachers on the one hand and to bushmeat sellers on the other to whom he supplies ammunition (bullets) and ape parts respectively. Then another operation would involve the arrest of 3 in Santchou – West, for trafficking in ivory. The three were a well-organised team with each trafficker playing a specific role in the trafficking chain and the last operation of the month was carried out in Tonga – West where 2 were arrested for trafficking in a variety of bones including elephant tibia, molar and a mandrill skull. A hunting rifle was also seized from them and the elephant, it was discovered had been killed in the Waza national park

In March, 2 ape traffickers were arrested with 4 chimpanzee skulls in Manjo – Littoral. They had obtained the skulls from a poacher and had planned to sell the skulls and then return to make more deals with the poacher.

In April, a total of 6 traffickers were arrested following 3 operations. The first was against 2 ape skull traffickers in Yaounde – Centre that resulted in the seizure of 4 gorilla skulls while two back to back operations involving the arrest of 2 foreign nationals and 2 Cameroonians for sea turtle shell trafficking in the coastal towns of Idenau and Limbe were carried out. A Beninese and a Nigeria ganged up as a professional wildlife trafficking ring.

The month of May witnessed an usual trafficking story in Yaounde - Centre as 3 were arrested by police for ivory trafficking and LAGA brought in to assist in the legal procedure. 2 sellers and a buyer were arrested over the theft and sale of two 2-metre-long ivory tusks and the

involvement of a major ivory trafficker after one of them reported the theft to the police who investigated and arrested the three. In Batouri – East, 2 traffickers were arrested with 2 chimp skulls and giant pangolin scales in an operation that also witnessed the recovery of a hippopotamus skull with teeth lodged into it.

June was marked by 2 significant operations leading to the arrest in Douala – Littoral and in Yaounde – Centre, of 3 major ivory traffickers with international dimensions. The first operation carried out in Douala, saw the arrest of a major ivory trafficker who uses the cover of trading in wood arts to traffic in ivory. He equally uses familiar disguise techniques for ivory to be easily smuggled out of the country as he paints carved ivory to look like wood carvings. Two others using the same cover as arts dealers were arrested in Yaounde – Centre, in the second operation targeting ivory trafficking. The pair had been working as a team in the illegal business for the past 20 years and belongs to the middlemen section of the ivory trafficking chain as they get supplies from poachers and sell to other traffickers.

Two ape skulls traffickers were arrested in Bafia – Centre and in Yaounde after they had travelled with products from supply zones. The first left Ngambe Tikar where he bought a mandrill skull and 4 chimpanzee skulls with two still very fresh indicating the chimps were just recently killed. In the second ape operation carried out in Yaounde, the trafficker travelled from Nanga Eboko – Centre to the capital city with the chimpanzee skulls firmly sealed to avoid the stinking smell from the skulls attracting attention and giving away his illegal booty. He intended to sell the skulls first and then move on to get supplies of pangolin scales which he intended to sell in Yaounde.

Lastly, 2 traffickers were arrested in Edea – Littoral with 8 sea turtle shells and a chimp skull in Edea. One of the traffickers doubles as a commercial bus driver using this position to ferry protected species.

In July 2 traffickers were arrested with 4 chimpanzee skulls in Buea, South West but the Regional Delegate curiously decided to release the traffickers after the writing of the complaint report and refused to prosecute them on grounds that the skulls were very old. This is clear breach of procedures and the Minister was informed about the situation and requested to bring the procedure back as demanded by the law. During a second operation targeting members of a ring of ivory traffickers, illicit gold was recovered instead of ivory after the traffickers had changed minds about selling their ivory and decided to sell the gold first before carrying out the ivory sales later.

During the month of August, one operation was carried out leading to the arrest of 2 traffickers. They were found in possession of wildlife contraband including 4 ape skulls, elephant and Red river hog teeth in Lomie, East. They are veteran poachers and experienced wildlife traffickers who have been supplying diverse wildlife products including ivory and pangolin scales to Chinese traffickers and they used a couple of excellent tricks including trying to evade arrest by keeping watch around their transaction area for wildlife officials. They examined the transaction area, kept an undercover accomplice to watch out for wildlife officials. Early in the morning of their arrest, they visited the area apparently reserved for the transaction, made an expert examination of the surroundings, combing outlets and then left. They later came without the products and did a last round of inspection and then went away. On coming back they appeared from an entirely different direction and had an undercover person to backup their moves

In September, a trafficker who left Ako, a locality close to the Cameroon-Nigeria border was arrested with 3 mandrill skulls and a live mona monkey, 5 Red river hog skulls and a bay

duicker skull. He is known to have been assisting and working with wildlife officials during their regular field trips but seemingly used this to his advantage, carrying out trafficking activities. He tried to evade wildlife officials in the area and actually hid the monkey some 30 km before arriving Kumbo the town where he was supposed to do business. He is well known to some law enforcement officials in the area and is considered to be a big time trafficker with links to Nigeria.

During the second operation in September, one trafficker was arrested trafficking in primate bones in Wum, North West Region. He was found with the following contraband: 3 chimpanzee skulls, 5 mona monkey skulls and 9 chimpanzee bones, which are totally protected species. He has been regularly trafficking in wildlife and has a contact person in Bamenda with whom he does transactions. A suspicious link was uncovered with an international contact.

Two operations were carried out in November and this led to 4 arrests. The first operation took place in Douala, Littoral Region, where 2 major ivory traffickers were arrested with several ivory jewelries and carved pieces. A development earlier witnessed in Lomie in the East Region when two were arrested with skulls, was again witnessed as counter-intelligence maneuvers were carried out by the traffickers who set a team to cover the illegal moves as they pull the ivory deal. They had undercover agents to keep watch on activities going on around the surroundings where they were doing business. One of the traffickers is a serial offender and had earlier served two separate prison sentences for ivory trafficking in Douala.

During the second operation, a long time major trafficker in Bertoua in the East Region was arrested with a fellow accomplice for illegal possession of ivory. After thorough follow-up investigations, the second trafficker was arrested. The two belong to an ivory trafficking ring. One of the arrested traffickers had been in trafficking for a very long time and his family members are equally involved. They both belonged to a chain that specializes in ivory trafficking, recruiting poachers in the East Region and providing them with hunting bullets.

Three significant operations were carried out leading to the arrest of 3 traffickers in November. One trafficker who is also a bus driver was arrested with 114 kg of giant pangolin scales in the Centre Region close to the entrance to the Nsimalen International Airport. A bag of giant pangolin scales was recovered in a bus among passenger luggage and the driver arrested by wildlife officials of the Nsimalen Airport. The operation uncovered the supply and export links, highlighting the airport as a place of transaction before export. During another operation carried out within the month, another giant pangolin scale trafficker was arrested and he belongs to a ring of pangolin scales traffickers who regularly buy scales from poachers around the Deng Deng national park where the giant pangolins are killed. They are the first line of traffickers in the illegal pangolin scale trafficking business that equally involve Chinese traffickers. The third operation of the month saw the arrest of a trafficker with 12 gorilla skulls, 3 chimpanzee skulls, a drill skull and two other primate skulls. The man has links with a suspected poacher in the area. It was claimed that the skulls are sold principally for mystical practices and to traffickers from the Noun Division in the West Region. 55 primate skulls had just been sold to a trafficker who was described as a "Bamoun man", shortly before the arrest was carried out.

In December, 2 traffickers were arrested in Doume, in the East Region for illegal possession of 3 gorilla skulls, a chimp skull, an elephant tail, a Red river hog skull and a skin from an unidentified wildlife species. One of the skulls was painted in red and the reason for this strange observation was obtained later in the month following a second operation. During the second operation an ape skull trafficker was arrested in Yaounde, Centre Region for trafficking in 19 chimpanzees skulls. He revealed that his elder brother is a poacher who kills the apes in the

forests and he got some of the skulls from him and from some other poachers. It was later discovered during his interrogations that he is a pastor. His uncle who came for him and attempted to negotiate a bribe for his release declared that he was a pastor. Another relative of his who is a policewoman attempted to get him released but failed. As noticed in the first operation of the month, one could find patches of red paint on one of the skulls and after interrogations were done, it was found out that this is black magic aiming to render the contraband invisible and Chinese buyers like them painted.

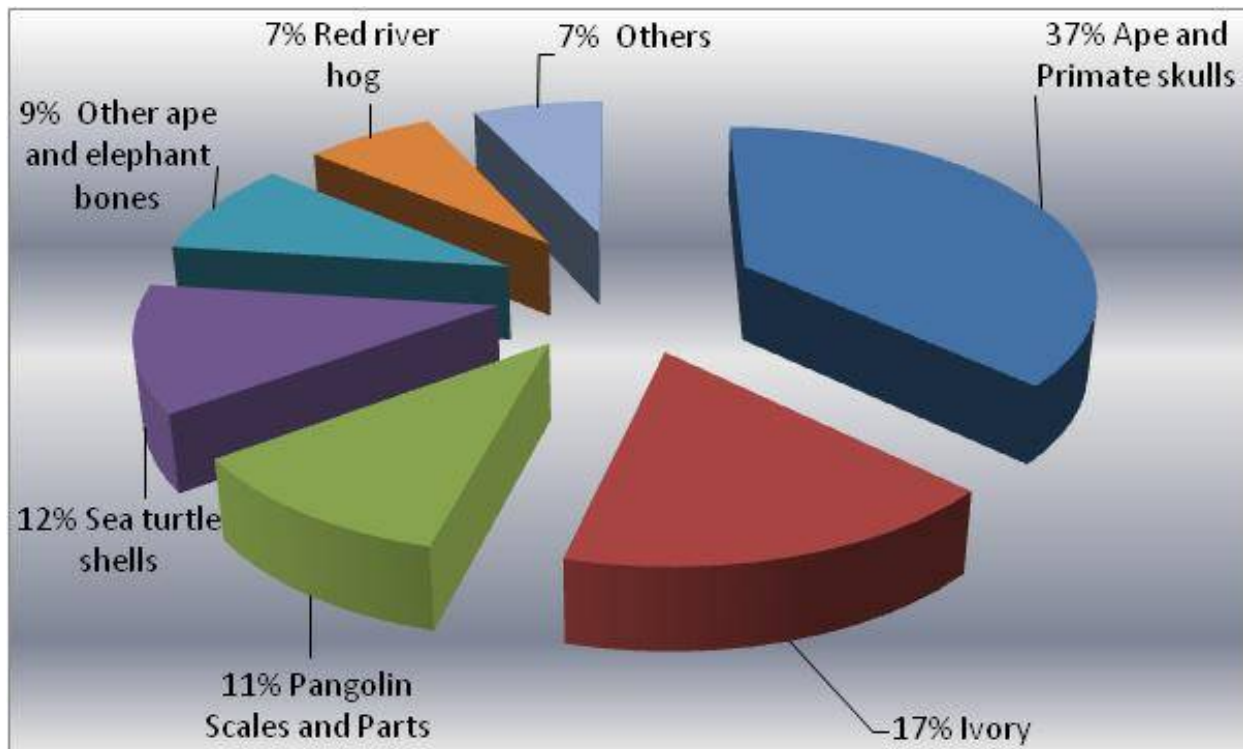


Figure 2: Operations profile

3. Legal

50 court cases were initiated, followed up and represented. Most of the cases initiated within this period have not yet reached the prosecution stage, and most offenders are imprisoned throughout the process instead of being allowed to move freely and conduct further criminal acts.

182 missions were done out of the Center region for follow-up, new cases and the creation of relations with judiciary authorities. More emphasis as a direct result of operations was on apes and primates parts, ivory, giant pangolin scales, sea turtle shells and products of other protected wildlife species such as Red river hog, hippo and mona monkeys.

The most outstanding court decision saw a trafficker arrested for sea turtle shell trafficking in Idenau, in the South West Region given two 2-year imprisonment terms with the two prison sentences to be served concurrently and ordered to pay a fine of 200,000 CFA F (\$400) or serve another 9 months imprisonment while he was also ordered to pay 6,600,000 CFA F (\$13,500) for damages. Damages from court decisions within the year amounted to 73,744,000 CFA F (\$147,488) to be paid to the MINFOF

In January, a trafficker who was arrested at the Forestry and Wildlife Control Post of the Nsimalen International Airport with 72 African grey parrots, was convicted to one and a half year imprisonment term and to pay 3,280,000 CFA F (\$ about \$6,600) by the Mfou Court of First Instance in the Centre Region.

In February, the Dschang Court of First Instance in the West handed a one-year suspended sentence for 3 months to 2 traffickers who were arrested for illegal possession and commercialization of 2 fresh leopard skins while the Ntui Court of First Instance in the Centre Region simply ordered 3 traffickers who were arrested with a freshly killed colobus monkey, pangolin meat and scales to pay damages of 273,000 CFA F (about \$550). An appeal was immediately filed against this ruling in the Centre Court of Appeal.

In March, 3 court judgements were passed with a major ivory trafficker receiving a full one-year imprisonment term given by the Edea Court of First Instance in the Littoral Region that also ordered the ivory trafficker to pay damages amounting to 44,500,000 CFA F (about \$89,000). He was arrested for illegal possession and circulation of 30 ivory tusks. An ape skull trafficker was sentenced in the South by the Djoum Court of First Instance to 2 months imprisonment and payment of 500,000 CFA F (about \$1000) and another ape trafficker who shot, killed and trafficked the meat of an orphaned chimpanzee from the Sanaga Yong Chimpanzee Sanctuary was ordered to pay 2,750,000 CFA F (about \$5,500) as damages and the ruling also gave a 1-year suspended sentence within 3 years to the trafficker.

5 traffickers were handed court rulings in April, the first who was arrested for illegal possession and circulation of chimp and gorilla skulls was tried by the Court of First Instance in Ambam and sentenced to 6 months imprisonment and to pay 500,000 CFA F (about \$1000) as damages while the same court ordered another chimp and gorilla skulls traffickers to pay damages of 1,000,000 CFA F (about \$2000). The Edea Court of First Instance also ordered an ape skull trafficker who was found in illegal possession of chimp and gorilla skulls to pay 200,000 CFA F (\$ about \$200) as damages.

Two traffickers who were arrested in Tonga, West for illegal possession and commercialization of elephant bones and teeth were given a 3-year suspended sentence and ordered to pay 835,000 CFA F (about \$1650) and 540,000 CFA F (about \$1100) as damages respectively by Bangante Court of First Instance. .

In May, the Nkongsamba Court of First Instance – Littoral, convicted two ape skull traffickers to 45 days imprisonment and to jointly pay 600.000 CFA F as damages.. They were also convicted to pay 60.000 CFA F and 50,000 CFA F respectively as fines and jointly pay 32.550 CFA F as costs fees or serve another 3 months imprisonment in the case of failure to pay the said costs fees. They were arrested in Manjo for illegal possession and circulation of 4 chimp skulls. The second ruling by a Yaounde Court of First Instance convicted a trafficker to 1 month imprisonment and to pay 300.000 CFA F as damages. He was also convicted to pay 300.000 CFA F as fines and 26.400 CFA F as costs fees or serve another 3 months imprisonment term in default of payment of the said costs fees. He was arrested in Yaounde for illegal possession and circulation of a live mandrill.

In July two court rulings were passed and a trafficker who was arrested in Douala with 44 sculpted ivory contraband pieces was sentenced by the Douala Court of First Instance – Littoral to 1 year suspended imprisonment term for 3 years and to pay 5,360,000 CFA F (\$10,720) as damages and fines. A second court ruling during the month sentenced a trafficker arrested for

trafficking sea turtle shells to pay 100,000 CFA F (\$200) as fines and 600,000 CFA F (\$1,200) as damages

In August, three court judgments were obtained starting in Edea, where another sea turtle shell trafficker was sentenced to 2 months imprisonment and to pay 28,450 CFA F (\$57) as fines, 250,000 CFA F (\$500) as damages and to serve 3 months imprisonment in default of payment of the fines. During the second court ruling of the month, the court in Bafia handed an ape trafficker a 6 month-suspended sentence and to pay a fine of 10 000 CFA F (\$20). He was also ordered to pay 450 000 CFA F (\$900) as civil damages and 30 000 CFA F (\$60) as cost fees or serve 6 months in jail in default of the payment of the said cost fees. The Buea Court of First Instance – South West convicted a trafficker to serve two prison sentences of 2 years each, with both sentences running concurrently and a fine of 200,000 CFA F (\$400) with 9 months imprisonment in default of payment of such fines. He was also sentenced to pay 65,000 CFA F (\$130) as cost fees or serve a further 6 months jail term in default of payment of the said cost fees and to pay 6,600,000.CFA F (\$13,500) as sum total of special and general damages. He was arrested for illegal possession and circulation of 9 sea turtle shells.

In September, 3 court judgements were passed and according to the first judgement passed in Yaounde, a gorilla skull trafficker was handed a prison sentence of 6 months and to pay 24,650 CFA F (\$49) as cost fees and 3 months imprisonment in default of payment of the said costs while the same court found two accused guilty of illegally possessing and commercializing protected wildlife species after their arrest with 29 sculpted ivory pieces. They were sentenced to one month imprisonment and to pay fines of 100 000 CFA F (\$200) and payment of civil damages worth 4 860 000 CFA F (\$5,720) and 28, 300 CFA F (\$53) as cost fees or serve a 9-month jail term in default of the payment of the said cost fees and fines. During the last ruling of the month, the Batouri Court of First Instance – East found the accused guilty and sentenced him to serve a 1-year suspended sentence and a fine of 100,000 CFA F with 9 months imprisonment in default of payment of such fines. He was arrested in Batouri for illegal possession and circulation of 7 chimpanzee skulls, 5 gorilla skulls, 1 elephant molar, and giant pangolin scales.

During the month of October, the Douala Court of First Instance – Bonanajo found an accused not guilty after he was charged for the illegal capture of totally protected species. He was arrested in Douala for illegal detention of 727 African grey parrots. An appeal was lodged immediately against this ruling.

In November, two accused were found guilty of illegal killing and commercialization of sea turtle shells in Limbe and were sentenced as follows: 2 months imprisonment term, 100,000 CFA F (\$200) for fines, 100,000 CFA F (\$200) for civil damages, 30,000 CFA F (\$60) for cost fees and to serve 9 months imprisonment term in default of payment of the fines for the first accused and for the second accused: 2 months imprisonment term, 50,000 CFA F (\$100) for fines, 50,000 CFA F (\$100) for civil damages, 20,000 F CFA (440) for cost fees and to serve 6 months imprisonment in default of payment of fines.

In December, 3 court rulings were obtained and in the first decision, The Douala Court of First Instance – Littoral, found two traffickers guilty of illegal possession and commercialization of trophies of totally protected species and were sentenced to 1 year suspended sentence within 3 years and payment of 1,260,000 CFA F (\$2,580) for civil damages. They were arrested in Douala for illegal possession and commercialization of 202 sculptured Ivory objects. The second court ruling by the Wum Court of First Instance read as follows: 500,000 CFA F (\$1000) or 9 months imprisonment term, cost fees - 51,640 CFA F or 6 months imprisonment term and civil damages- 500,000 CFA F (\$1000) to a trafficker arrested for chimpanzee parts trafficking.

A third judgment was passed this month and a trafficker sentenced to 6 months imprisonment term, fined 100,000 CFA F (\$200), to pay civil damages to the tune of 500,000 CFA F (\$1000) and cost fee of 44,050 CFA F (\$88) following his arrest in Yaounde for illegally selling 3 gorilla skulls.

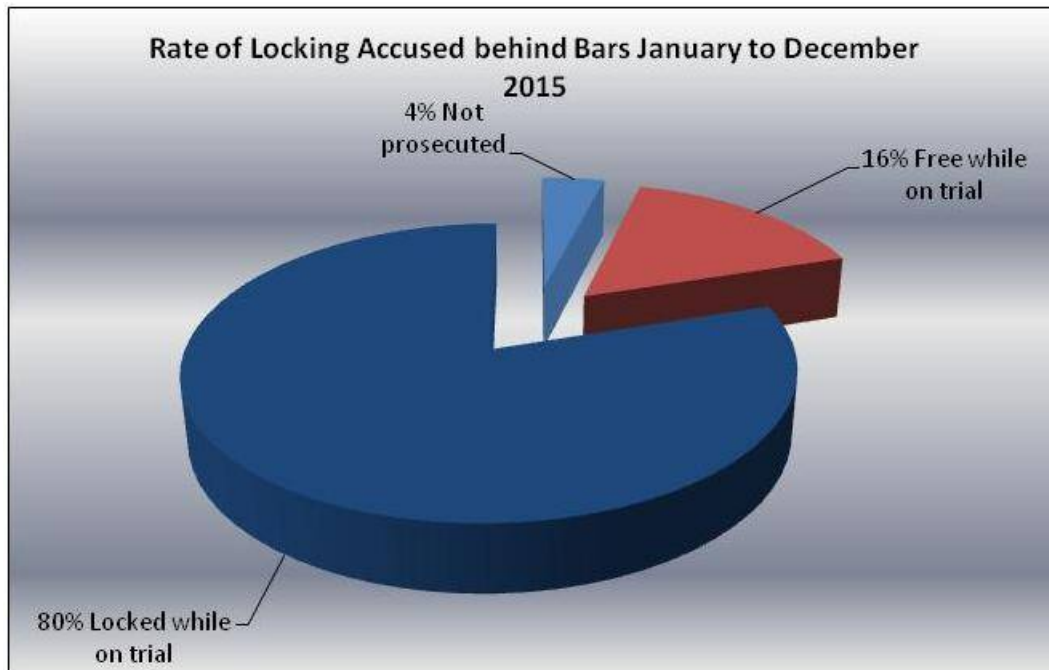


Figure 3: Rate of locking accused behind bars

4. Media

A total of 371 media pieces were produced and pushed into media. These included numerous articles, stories and news briefs in all media – radio, television, written press and the internet achieved at a rate of more than one media piece per day. June produced 54 media pieces recording the highest for the entire year as a significantly high number of arrest operations were carried out within the month while July month saw the lowest number of media pieces; 11 in total and this was partly due to the fact that just one operation was carried out with the month and the operation out could not be given any unnecessary publicity because it was a perfect example of how the Ministry is riddled with governance issues following the failure to prosecute the two wildlife traffickers arrested because a senior wildlife official breached procedures and released them.

Subjects were on a broad range of wildlife law enforcement issues including all of LAGA-MINFOF operations and some prosecutions, the fight against corruption and some key operations carried out in other EAGLE projects. Enforcement operations included several arrests of ape and primate skull traffickers in various towns including Djoum, Ambam, Manjo, Batouri, Yaounde, Bafia, Buea, Doume, Ndop, Batouri, Yaounde, Kumbo and Lomie, the arrest of a trafficker of a live mona monkey in Kumbo, the arrest of three, including the president of a local hunting association for trafficking in a dead colobus monkey, pangolin scales and meat in Ngambe Tikar, the arrest of a pangolin scale trafficker in Belabo and in Yaounde, the arrest of a bus driver arrested near the Nsimalen International Airport with over 100 kg of giant pangolin scales found among passenger luggage, several sea turtle shell operations leading to the arrest of traffickers in Kribi in the South, Edea in the Littoral Region, Ideneau and Limbe in the South West Region, five key ivory operations carried out in June and in October, including two key

operations in Douala and Yaounde with three major ivory traffickers arrested and one other ivory operation with the dismantling of a team of three ivory traffickers in Santchou, West; while in October two traffickers arrested with ivory contraband in Bertoua and two in Douala, the arrest of elephant bones traffickers in Tonga, the sentencing of a big ivory trafficker in Edea; the court rulings sentencing traffickers in Djoum, Nanga Eboko, Ambam and Manjo; the conviction and sentencing in Buea of a trafficker in sea turtle shells, some ongoing trials of wildlife traffickers in Dschang, Yaounde and in Limbe; wildlife law enforcement operations carried out in other EAGLE projects including Gabon, Congo, Guinea, Togo and Uganda where 38 hippo ivory tusks and buffalo horns were seized, the 28 illegal logging arrests in Gabon and the arrest of a senior wildlife official in Guinea.

Guests included: the Secretary General in the Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife, the Mbam and Kim Divisional Delegate of Forestry and Wildlife, two US researchers from C4ADS, the Manjo Chief of Forestry and Wildlife Control Post, a Kenyan legal adviser, the Regional Director of Traffic, the Director of Garoua Wildlife School, and the former Director of the same school, the Regional Coordinator of ICRAF, the Regional Wildlife Chief for the East Region, the Menchum Divisional Delegate of Forestry and Wildlife, the Conservators of Kwageme Gorilla Sanctuary and the Mbi Crater Faunal Reserve, CARPE/IUCN focal point in Kinshasa, DRC and two NGO officials based in the South West Region and the Deputy Director of LAGA who appeared on a radio talkshow.

The distribution of Wildlife Justice Magazine continued. Wildlife Justice is a thematic journal that focuses on wildlife law enforcement and conservation issues.

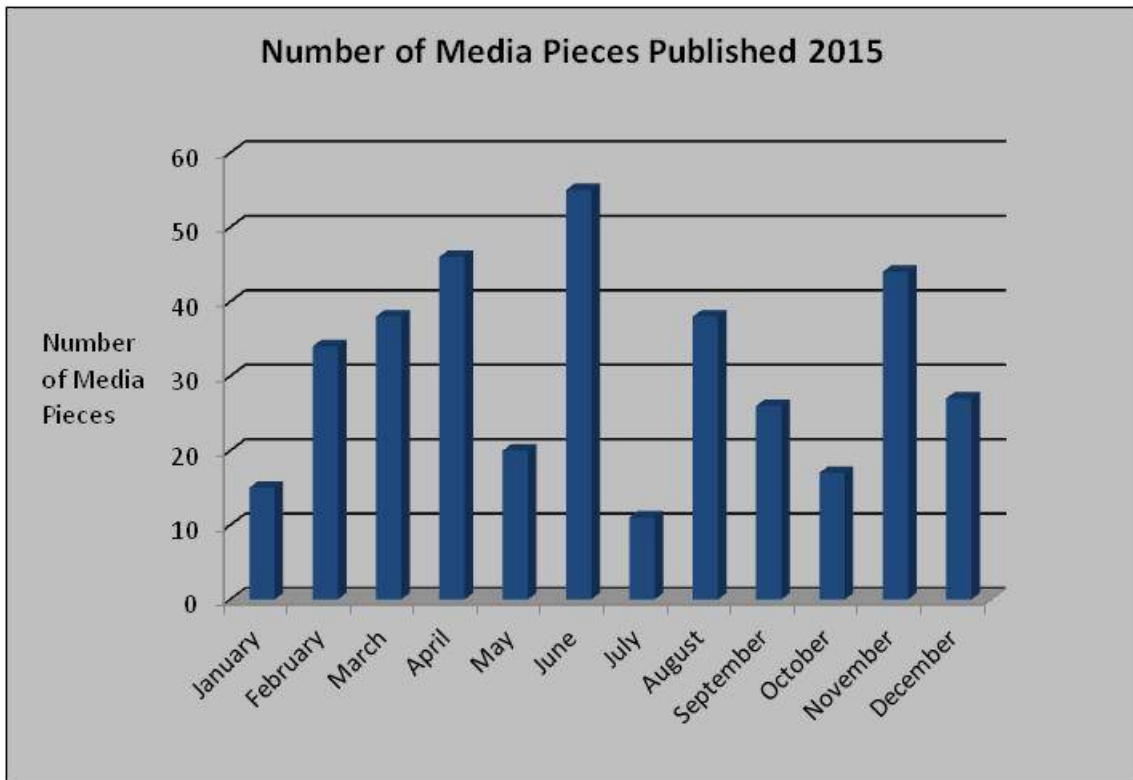


Figure 4: Number of Media Pieces Produced and Published

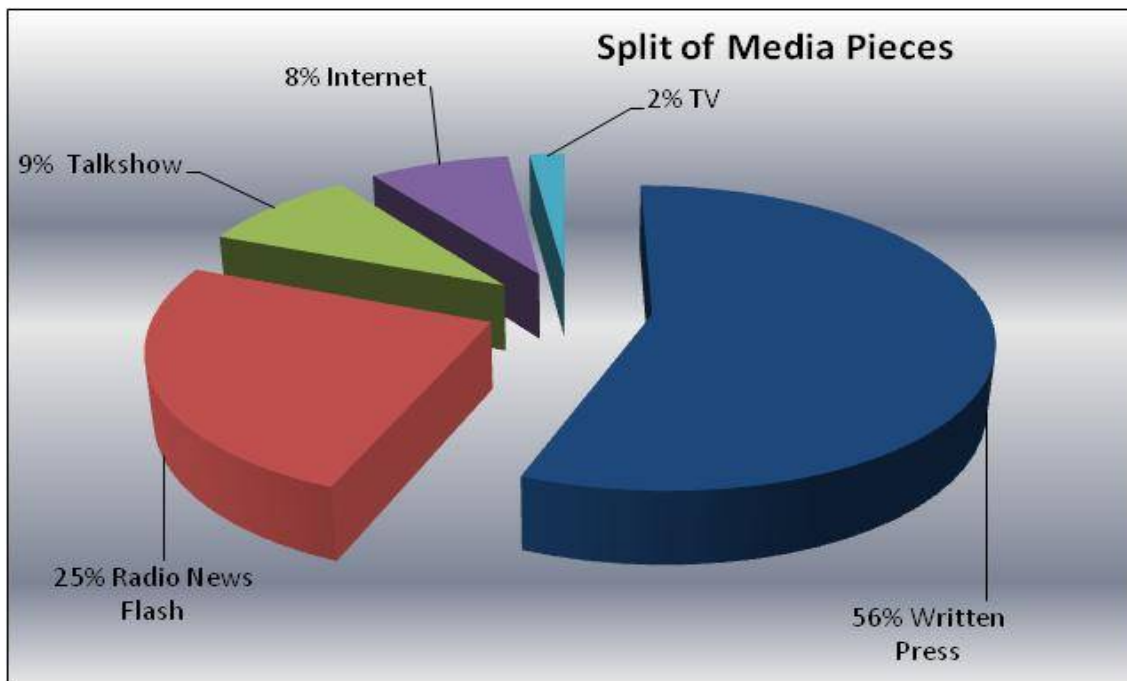


Figure 5: Split of Media Pieces

5. Strategic Overview of Wildlife Crime in Cameroon and Operations' Impact

In addition to the number of operations and their effectiveness, there is another indicator in evaluating LAGA's work – the strategic value of the operations in reducing the level of illegal wildlife trade. In this regard, LAGA is choosing diversified operations, which carry an added value to expose and map the different angles of wildlife crime in Cameroon. Consequently, LAGA Annual Report January – December 2015

LAGA-MINFOF work with that of replication sheds light on the nature of illegal wildlife trade in the sub-region. The strategic focus over this period was on ape parts, live primates, ivory and elephant products, , giant pangolin scales, and leopard skins and other protected wildlife species, corruption in MINFOF and Chinese traffickers and international wildlife trade.

5.1 Primates and Ape Parts

During this period, attention was focused on primate trafficking, particularly the illicit trade in specific ape parts including chimpanzee and gorilla skulls with 89 of them seized from traffickers. Of the 89 ape skulls seized 62 were chimp skulls including 9 other bones while 27 were gorilla skulls among the several other primate bones and parts seized during the year. . Operations carried out resulted in arresting traffickers connected to the trafficking of great apes and primate parts including chimpanzees, gorillas, drills, and mona monkeys. A live mona monkey was recovered and taken to the Mefou national park where it has since been receiving treatment and care. .

In January, one of the arrest operations carried out was in Djoum – South, resulting in the seizure of 3 gorilla and 1 chimpanzee skull. One of the traffickers is known in the area to be a major trafficker in ape parts, buying and selling the meat and also parts of other protected species.

In February, an ape trafficker was arrested with 18 ape skulls constituting 14 chimpanzee skulls and 4 gorilla skulls. This operation once more show the trend in ape skull trafficking as the trafficker, same as the one arrested in January, is known to many bushmeat , sellers and buyers in Ambam, South Region where another trend is observed, the brisk illegal business involving the trafficking of ape parts. This is a region that still has populations of chimpanzee and gorillas in the country and may now be considered to be an ape trafficking hotspot with threats to the survival of the great apes. The trafficker supplies poachers with bullets and money to facilitate their poaching.

Another ape operation carried out in March witnessed the seizure of 4 chimpanzee skulls and the traffickers obtained the contraband from supply zones in the Littoral Region, travelled to Manjo to sell. This was also the case in Bafia, in June when a community leader was arrested for trafficking in 4 chimpanzee skulls and 1 mandrill skull as he travelled from a supply zone – Ngambe Tikar to the town of Bafia with the intention of making returns on his purchases. This trend of ape skull trafficking moving around with their contraband would be observed a few days later in Yaounde where another ape skull operation resulted in the arrest of a trafficker who left Nanga Eboko considered to be an important supply zone and an intense ape trafficking spot as similar operations over the years have demonstrated. Nanga Eboko is located some some 166 km from Yaounde. From this town, he ferried 6 fresh chimpanzee skulls, tightly sealed in a cardboard box to stop the stinking smell attracting attention.. The operations demonstrate the operation mechanism used by the traffickers, moving fresh ape skulls from source areas to commercial centres for sale. Secondly, the freshness of the skulls indicates that when apes are killed their skulls are immediately trafficked even when they release pungent smell, it is not a deterrence for the traffickers who seal the skulls tightly.

In July, an arrest operation carried out in Buea – South West, resulted in the seizure of 4 chimpanzee skulls but unfortunately through a blatant breach of procedure, the Delegate decided to release the two arrested traffickers. This action exemplifies governance issues MINFOF is facing and the need to step up action against officials who breach procedures.

In August 2 chimpanzee and two gorilla skulls were seized from two veteran traffickers who have a diverse range of contraband products they supply to Chinese traffickers.

In March, a primate trafficker was arrested with 3 chimpanzee skulls among other contraband including 5 mona monkey skulls and 9 chimpanzee bones. He had been regularly trafficking in primate parts around the North West Region and had a contact person at the regional capital. A suspicious contact with someone in France was found and needs further investigations. This operation shows that despite the dwindling populations of apes in the region that was once home to very big ape populations, the killing and trafficking is ongoing.

One of the biggest operations concerning ape skulls was carried out in November and a large consignment of skulls including 12 gorilla skulls and 3 chimpanzee skulls were seized from a trafficker with links to a suspected big time trafficker in the area. This operation unravelled the little known skulls trade for mystical purposes in the North West Region as investigation pointed out that shortly before the arrest, 55 primate skulls had been sold to someone who was described as a Bamoun man, coming from a neighbouring Noun Division. The North West Region is known for its traditional healing and mystical practices and this arrest links these practices to the illegal trade in ape skulls.

Another important observation was carried out in December when two successive operations equally unravel a phenomenon which consists in the painting of ape skulls in red. During the first operation carried out in Doume, in the East Region, 3 gorilla skulls were seized and one of the skulls was painted entirely red. This strange occurrence would reappear during a second operation carried out in Yaounde, Centre Region later in the month. The trafficker, who travelled from the South, was arrested with 19 chimpanzee and one of the skulls was partially painted in red. When he was interrogated, it was revealed that the skulls are painted to make them invisible and Chinese buyers equally want the skulls painted. The profile of the trafficker was equally surprising as this is the first time someone from the clergy has been arrested. His uncle who came for his rescue told police, his niece was a pastor.

Primate skulls and other bones were generally part of ape skull operations as traffickers attempted to sell several skulls at once. This was the case, in November in Ndop, North West where a trafficker who was arrested with 12 gorilla and 3 chimpanzee skulls. He equally had a drill skull and skulls from two other primate species. This operation revealed the diverse uses of skulls as it was revealed that they were meant for traditional mystical practices and a consignment of 55 skulls had earlier been sold shortly before the arrest of the trafficker.

In September, 3 mandrill skulls were seized from a trafficker who travelled from a border town close to Nigeria to the inland town of Kumbo. He is known as a close collaborator to wildlife officials in the area, assisting them during field trips and seemingly used this to his advantage to do some trafficking. This connection with some officials is dubious, indicating the unhealthy link some wildlife officials may have with traffickers. The trafficker who equally had a mona monkey hid the animal some 30 km before arriving Kumbo and then took up lodging. Early on the morning of transaction, he dashed to the village where the monkey was hidden, recovered it and brought it to Kumbo. This is just one of several tactics used by traffickers who travel with contraband.

5.2 Ivory and Elephant Parts

During this period, operations leading to the arrests and cracking down on ivory trafficking networks continued. Ivory traffickers are among the most sophisticated and skilful in the wildlife trafficking world and this is not different in the country. Last year, a new technique developed by the investigation department consisting of targeting of ivory traffickers through

elephant bones was developed and used successfully. This necessitated a change in technique this year and this became equally sophisticated as those used by traffickers. This led to the arrest of 8 trying to traffic raw ivory and other ivory carvings

In January, 2 high profile traffickers were arrested for trafficking 18 ivory tusks. Their boss is a big time ivory trafficker who coordinates every ivory transaction the pair carry out. They obtain ivory from Mintom - South Region and mainly deliver the ivory in the capital city Yaounde. They were arrested in Djoum which is one of the biggest ivory trafficking towns in the country and several operations targeting ivory traffickers have been carried out in the town along the years..

In February, 3 were arrested in Santchou, a town close to a wildlife sanctuary that once hosted elephant population that had been decimated over the years. The three demonstrated how professional ivory traffickers work, well-organised with each having a specific role with several layers of transaction including, a marketing agent who does the briefing concerning the contraband they have, the negotiator who breaks the deal and the person keeping the ivory, doing the actual selling.

In June, two significant operations carried out in the country's biggest towns Douala and Yaounde exposed a number of issues. Firstly that a new technique is now being used by ivory traffickers to avoid arrest and it involves presenting a smaller quantity of ivory, not their entire haul they do claim to have while trying to sell the smaller stock first when it is a new client. If the transaction goes on successfully, they then attempt to sell even bigger quantities. Secondly, the operation carried out in Douala saw the arrest of an international ivory trafficker using latest mobile phone software to send photos of the 44 carved ivory pieces he had to sell, exposed an old reliable trick ivory traffickers have been using over the years. The carved ivory would be painted to resemble wood for easy smuggling through the borders and to effectively solidify this trick, the traffickers use a front business for the trafficking, posing as wood art sellers. This trick was the same trick used by 2 other ivory traffickers who were arrested with a haul of 2 worked ivory tusks and 27 carved pieces. They claimed to be wood art dealers. Their phone contacts show many international links that are still being investigated, buttressing claims that ivory traffickers invariably have international links.

The sophistication of ivory traffickers was once more proven correct in October during an operation as a group of ivory traffickers carry out counter-intelligence tactics to evade arrest while they attempted to traffic 202 ivory jewelries and carved pieces. They placed undercover agents at the site of their transaction to keep watch on activities going on around the place. They looked out for any arrival of enforcement officials. One of the traffickers is a serial offender and had earlier served two separate prison sentences for ivory trafficking demonstrating the necessity to fully apply the law that gives a 3-year-long sentence to offenders. This evidently keeps the trafficker behind bars for as long as possible because many seem to come back to their illegal activity once released. .

The issue of ivory trafficking running through families was observed in October after the arrest of two long time traffickers in Bertoua in the East Region. One of the two who belongs to a trafficking ring has been in the business for a very long time and the ring revolves around his family members. The trafficking chain is a more expansive one that covers ivory trafficking, recruitment of poachers and providing them with hunting bullets. This again demonstrates how organised and professional ivory traffickers seem to be.

5.3 Pangolin Scales

Pangolins are rapidly driven to extinction, as the booming illegal trade threatening them is on an exponential increase. Over 130 kg of giant pangolin scales were seized during operations carried out. This illegal trade continued with the arrest of two found in possession of giant pangolin scales in Batouri. They worked as a team and it was revealed that one does the transportation of the scales from Mbang, a region known for trafficking in diverse protected wildlife in the East region while the order would be stationed at the commercial centre looking out for clients. An earlier operation had seen the arrest of 3 traffickers in Ngambe Tikar with one of them being the president of a local hunters' association. This is a classic case of the use of specific functions to cover illicit activity. Pressure from administrative and traditional authorities was brought to bear on wildlife officials to release the hunters' president.

An operation against an ape skull dealer in Yaounde also revealed that he intended to move to Ntui, Centre to buy giant pangolin scales for trafficking in Yaounde. Pangolin scale trafficking, as time moves on, is gradually climbing to the top of the list of most trafficked contraband as prices of pangolin scales keep rising in both rural and commercial centres. The ape skull trafficker arrested in Yaounde disclosed the prices of pangolins scale in the rural area and how much he could get by selling the scales in a big city like Yaounde. This may be viewed as the markets responding to the rise in demand for pangolin scales in the international black market.

A commercial bus driver was arrested at the entrance to the Nsimalen international airport in November as he ferried over 114 kg of giant pangolin scales lodged among passenger luggage. This arrest demonstrates the role of bus drivers in the illegal trade in wildlife species and the sheer quantity of the scales shows how dangerous the trade has become while the part bus drivers play may be crucial in the extinction of giant pangolins. They may have the required logistics and the know-how to circumvent controls and checks points with the nearness of the operation to an international airport being an issue to worry about. More importantly it shows the link between export and supplies at airports.

Two other giant pangolin scale operations were carried out, one in Yaounde in August and the other in November in Belabo in the East Region. The later trafficker belongs to a ring of pangolin scales traffickers with links to poachers near the Deng Deng national park where the pangolins are killed. They are the first line of traffickers in the illegal pangolin scale business that equally involve Chinese buyers. They buy from the poachers and then sell to other traffickers higher up the chain. This is the habitual route wildlife species take from the forests to its final destination, passing through several identifiable layers of the chain and towns.

9.4 Sea turtle shells

The illegal trade in sea turtle shells continued as well operations against those involved in it and principally at coastal towns. Town operations carried out in one of these towns (Kribi) found out 3 traffickers with 31 sea turtle shells but curiously enough the Divisional Delegate in clear breach of procedure decided to release the traffickers. This sort of behaviour by the wildlife official is something that has failed to go away despite many years of wildlife law enforcement in the country and the understanding of the procedure in prosecuting wildlife criminals.

Two other major operations concerning sea turtle shells were carried out in Limbe and Idenau in the South West Region with two foreign nationals arrested in Idenau. The town is noted for its fishing activities and host big populations of nationals from West Africa whose principal activity is fishing and the operations demonstrate that protected wildlife species are part of their catch and trafficking.

In Edea, an inland town that is close to the Douala-Edea Reserve saw the arrest of two for trafficking in sea turtle shells. Over the years trafficking of sea turtle shells has been, demanding improved law enforcement measures targeting, specifically, sea turtle shell traffickers as much work has been done by conservation groups in the domain of sea turtle conservation and awareness but little on the side of law enforcement.

5.5 Other protected wildlife species

As part of the strategy started last year targeting ivory traffickers through another illicit elephant product – bones, operations continued to be carried out against traffickers, clamping down on illegal elephant bones trade. This was the case in Tonga – West where a retired public official and one other were arrested with the remains of an elephant including tibia bones and molars. A mandrill skull was among the bones that was recovered from the 2 traffickers who equally had a rifle, demonstrating the thin line between poachers and traffickers. They had poached the elephant in the Waza national park in the north of the country but the trafficking took place hundreds of mile away, in the west of the country.

Notoriously, this kind of traffickers are connected to every protected species and this was the case in Ngambe Tikar when 3, including the president of the local hunters association was arrested for trafficking in protected wildlife species; namely colobus monkey, pangolin meat and scales. The position one of them holds had been used as a cover for wildlife trafficking and poaching. This influence even got to wildlife officials from the National Control Brigade who had arrested him once, red handed but let go, giving him just a warning.

In September, 5 Red river hog skulls and a bay duicker skull were seized from a trafficker in Ndop who equally had mandrill skulls. The surprise was the high number of Red river hog skulls and in August another operation connected to the Red river hog had been carried out in Lomie. It resulted in the seizure of Red river hog teeth from a trafficker who attempted to sell 4 ape skulls. He also had some elephant teeth with him

What is common with all of these operations is that traffickers who initially want to traffic in parts of totally protected species such as chimpanzees and gorillas would generally come along with parts of other species to make the biggest possible profits from the varied consignment of wildlife species. It equally means that some traffickers are not very specialised, are opportunistic and would traffic whatever they may lay hands on.

5.6 International Connection

In April, a total of 6 traffickers and among them were two foreign nationals were arrested for sea turtle shell trafficking in the coastal towns of Idenau. A Beninese and a Nigerian, were both arrested for trafficking in sea turtle shells in the South West fishing town of Idenau, home to several West African nationals most of them engaged in the buying and selling of fish as well as in fishing itself. It is also a port of export of several goods from Cameroon to Nigeria.

In September, a trafficker who left Ako, a locality close to the Cameroon-Nigeria border was arrested with 3 mandrill skulls and a live mona monkey, 5 Red river hog skulls and a bay duicker skull. His activities, preliminary investigations show, extend into Nigeria. During the second operation in September, one trafficker was arrested trafficking in primate bones in Wum, North West Region. He was found with the following contraband: 3 chimpanzee skulls, 5 mona monkey skulls and 9 chimpanzee bones, which are totally protected species. He has been

regularly trafficking in wildlife and has a contact person in Bamenda with whom he does transactions. A suspicious link was uncovered with an international contact.

Two ivory traffickers were arrested in Douala in October are international traffickers with one of them being a serial offender as he had earlier been arrested on board a ship in Douala and sentenced to prison for ivory trafficking. They seemed to master the risk associated with ivory trafficking and organized counter intelligence measures during the operation that led to their arrest. In another ivory operation in Douala, in June, an arrest was carried out, of a major international ivory trafficker who uses the cover of trading in wood arts to traffic in ivory. He equally uses familiar disguise techniques for ivory to be easily smuggled out of the country as he paints carved ivory to look like wood carvings. Two others with international links also, using the same cover as arts dealers were arrested in Yaounde – Centre, in the second operation targeting ivory trafficking. The pair had been working as a team in the illegal business for the past 20 years and belong to the middlemen section of the ivory trafficking chain as they get supplies from poachers and sell to other traffickers

One trafficker who is also a bus driver was arrested with 114 kg of giant pangolin scales in the Centre Region close to the entrance to the Nsimalen International Airport. A bag of giant pangolin scales was recovered in a bus among passenger luggage and the driver arrested by wildlife officials of the Nsimalen Airport. The operation uncovered the supply and export links, highlighting the airport as a place of transaction before export.

A strange phenomenon was observed in December and it was revealed it had international dimensions. Two operations carried out in the month led to the arrest of 3 ape skulls traffickers and it was observed that two skulls were painted red; one entirely and the other partially. Following interrogations of one the traffickers it was revealed that Chinese buyers like painted skulls and it was also found out that it is an attempt at disguising them or making them “invincible” for detection.

5.7 Corruption and Wildlife Crime

Bribing attempts are documented in 85% of our field arrest operations, and more than 80% of all court cases within the legal system. But LAGA is not an observer of corruption; it was created to fight corruption, redirecting the positive pressures existing within the system, usually wasted in large conference, to specific corruption attempts and the field realities that form corruption. Corruption is also observed and combated in the regional enforcement activities.

Bribery or attempts at bribing officials and even the LAGA team is recorded in almost every operation and for examples; the ape skull trafficker arrested in Bafia decided during the drawing of the complaint report, to tempt wildlife officials doing report with money. He attempted to give what he had with him to the officials and promised giving more money later if he was released. This would have been a very successful coup if he had his way because he had lied about his true names as it was discovered later. This was the same case in Manjo where the 2 ape skull traffickers actively sought to negotiate for their freedom and “compensation” to be paid later to the wildlife official who refused any such negotiation. A relative of theirs would later come and continued attempts at negotiating their release.

Two of the most prominent charges during this period were the case of the arrest of 3 sea turtle shell traffickers in the South and the arrest of ape skull traffickers in Buea the South West Region. During the first case, following the arrest of 3 traffickers in what constituted a red handed arrest, the Divisional Delegate to whom fell the responsibility of establishing a case file

against the traffickers decided to stop the procedure and release the traffickers which is clear breach of procedure. Huge efforts were deployed against such an attempt to let go the traffickers and this resulted in the re-arrest of two while the third was never seen nor charged. This situation was again observed in the South West Region in July, after the arrest of 2 ape traffickers, the normal procedure began without much fuss and after the taking of the complaint report, a shocking incident occurred as the Regional Delegate refused to forward the traffickers to the state prosecutor as required by the law and again this was a clear breach of procedures. This situation highlighted once more the unfortunate problems of governance within the Ministry

In January, after the arrest of 2 ivory traffickers, family members of the traffickers including a cousin and a wife would try to corrupt the Djoum wildlife chief to obtain their release but he rejected their proposals and bribes were again offered in another ivory case, this time in Yaounde where those who were arrested over stolen and trafficked ivory had proposed money for their release. The wildlife official recording the complaint report was asked to name his price (which was awaited in terms of millions) for the release of the traffickers but he rebuffed the attempts.

In the matter involving the president of a hunters' association, as law enforcement officials made logistics to transfer the arrested traffickers to Ntui, the divisional headquarters where the case would be tried, influence peddling was set into motion with administrative and traditional authorities piling pressure on wildlife officials who resisted nevertheless. Physical pressures were even applied at some stages but seeing that these pressures were not getting the desired results, corruption attempts were engaged.

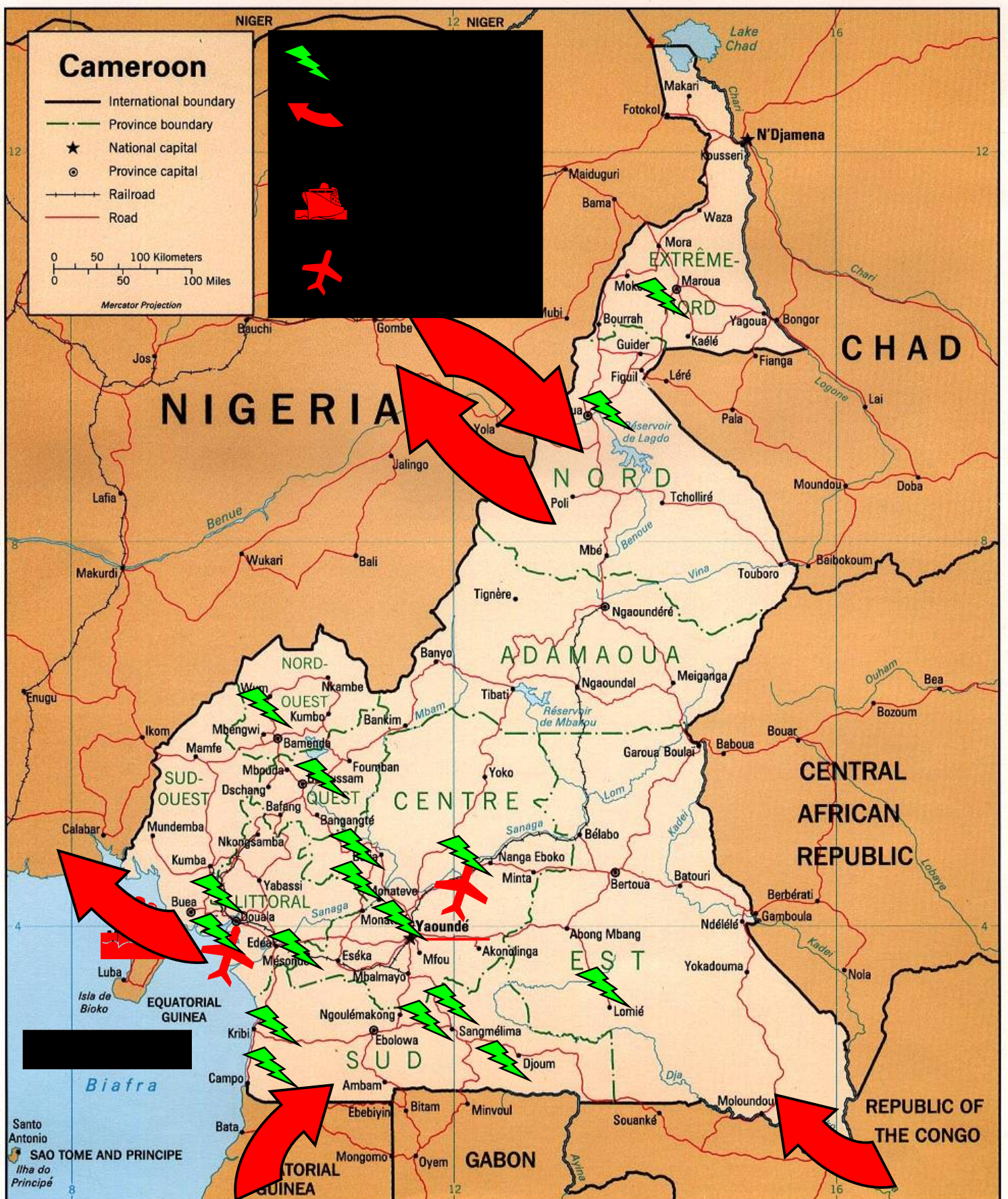
Another prominent charge occurred in Belabo in the East Region in October following the arrest of a giant pangolin scale trafficker. While the complaint report was being established for the legal process to get into full swing, wildlife officials were confronted with a full corruption attempt as the family members came forth and tried to corrupt the wildlife chief blatantly. A sum of 500.000 CFA F (\$1000) was proposed to the team and this was immediately rejected by the wildlife chief who chased them away.

In October, after the arrest of 2 ivory traffickers in Bertoua, and as has earlier been observed in other cases, during the period when complaint statements are made, traffickers or family members tried to bribe their way out. While taking their statement, the family members attempted to negotiate with the Regional Delegate of Wildlife who rejected their proposal and chased them away. They would not give up and later met the state counsel and tried to have him grant bail but once more they failed as the state prosecutor stood firm.

An uncle to the arrested pastor/trafficker in December arrived at the police station to assist him get his freedom while another relative who is a policewoman would appear in the same matter for the same purpose. Their presence was seen as an attempt to bring pressure and as influence peddling.

A correspondence on the Kribi case involving the release of 3 sea turtle shell traffickers was addressed, to the Minister and 2 of the 3 traffickers were later re-arrested and the prosecution process commenced while another correspondence requesting the Minister to intervene in the case in Buea where the Delegate breached procedures and decided not to prosecute traffickers was made.

Overview of International Wildlife Traffic in Cameroon and Operations' Sites 2014



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6 Relations with the Government

The fostering of LAGA's relationship with the Government of Cameroon is of high importance in the sensitive domain of law enforcement, as building legitimacy for the concept of a Wildlife Law Enforcement NGO is LAGA's objective No. 3. During this year, LAGA held many meetings with government authorities within Cameroon, meetings with, cooperated with local NGOs, and participated in some workshops and meetings.

The Deputy Director held a meeting with the Director of Wildlife and Protected Areas at the Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife and discussions focused on specific areas of collaboration between LAGA and the Ministry that needed some clarifications and he equally held another meeting with the new Head of the Legal Unit in the Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife. He held a meeting with the Head of the Communication unit at the Ministry to discuss collaboration on the communication front.

Several meetings were held by the legal department with wildlife officials, the forces of law and order and the judiciary in areas where operations were carried out and or where cases are being tried in court and followed-up.

The Head of the Legal Department attended the Littoral regional anti-poaching committee meeting while one of the legal advisers attended the South regional anti-poaching committee meeting. Several other meetings were held by the legal department and state prosecutors in towns where wildlife cases were undergoing trial. The Head of the Legal Department and other members of the department held several meetings with regional officials of MINFOF focusing discussions on a number of issues including the carrying out of arrest operations, cases pending in court and collaboration.

The Heads of the Investigation departments held working sessions with some chiefs of forestry and wildlife control posts on improving collaboration and investigations in their specific areas and activities and one of the meetings was held with the Wildlife Chief at the Nsimalen International Airport.

7. International Arena

During this period, LAGA had many meeting with the diplomatic authorities in Cameroon, international NGOs, and personalities and participated in conferences, made presentations and carried out trainings.

LAGA Director and his Deputy held meetings with the American Ambassador, European Union officials and diplomatic missions and institutions. The meetings dwelt on wildlife law enforcement and conservation in general. They also met the newly appointed Canadian High Commissioner to engage collaboration with the High Commission on wildlife crime. The Deputy Director equally had a meeting with the Head of the Political Section in the British High Commission on recent developments in the wildlife sector and on areas of cooperation with the diplomatic mission

He equally held a meeting with the German Ambassador to discuss wildlife law enforcement challenges. He held a meeting with two print journalists from Belgium who visited the country to cover the poaching and trafficking of great apes. Accompanied by the Heads of Departments of Investigation and Legal, he held a meeting with a US Embassy official to discuss recent trends in

wildlife crime and with a French conservationist who is presently volunteering with the Sanaga Yong Chimpanzee Centre to discuss a wide range of conservation issues.

Several meetings were held with partners and other bodies to discuss wildlife law enforcement and conservations issues these include meetings with officials from Pangolin Mentor PoP programme and LAGA was chosen as one of the mentors in this programme that seeks to highlight threats faced by pangolins and forged conservation initiatives to stem the threats. The programme is sponsored by the US Fish and Wildlife Service and hosted in Cameroon by ZSL

8. Management

LAGA Director arrived the country for a short visit and returned to Kenya while management continued to function effectively under the Deputy and the Interim Directors who effectively carried out assigned tasks despite the Director's continued stay in Kenya, demonstrating the vitality and maturity of the LAGA team that now operates independently.

The benefits of LAGA's reconstruction work carried out over the past couple of years continued to accrue as objectives set for the year were fully achieved, departmental action plans followed and recruitment processes in two LAGA departments (Investigations and Legal) continued. In June, an investigator was recruited while one other was put on trial. A legal adviser also commenced his trial period and was recruited in September. The EAGLE Exchange programme became effective as several exchange visits were carried out between projects. In order to improve on financial management and accountability with EAGLE, a new financial reporting table was examined and put into use.

The annual activity report for 2014 were printed and distributed to all the stakeholders. The electronic versions are available on line on the LAGA website www.laga-enforcement.org. This is a result of teamwork involving all the departments in LAGA – Investigations, Legal, Media, Operations and Management.

For further improvement and more operations within the EAGLE network, training sessions continued to be held in Yaounde – Cameroon, three legal advisers arrived from Congo and trained under the EAGLE exchange program while a Senegalese, a Togolese and a Beninese investigator also arrived the country for the same purpose.

An Indian activist also came in from Gabon where she had been assisting Conservation Justice and carried out a two-week-long collaboration visit and in the same vein an Indonesian conservationist also joined the team for a two-week long visit,

During the course of the year, two members left us to pursue different objectives elsewhere. Firstly, a legal adviser left for ZSL as their new wildlife law enforcement coordinator for Cameroon after serving in the legal department for close to five years. He was a devout fighter for LAGA and it is hoped he shall move over with the same spirit and engagement and enhance LAGA values in his new station especially the fight for proper accountability. Tchakounte Guy, the accountant, left the organization in October for further studies on finance in the United States. We wished him goodbye and urged him to take along the LAGA spirit and honesty to become a shining example of the dedication and activism he learnt in LAGA. The process to bring in another accountant was started.

The assistant head of the media and external relations department attended The Jackson Hole Elephant Summit in the USA where she shared ideas and LAGA's experience with other participants. The summit that holds once every two years brings together scientists, conservationists and media practitioners who meet to discuss solutions to conservation's gruelling enigma – the steady decline of wildlife species.

An American anthropologist and PhD research student carried out volunteer and research work with the team. She assisted LAGA and AC on several issues including office and administrative duties, website and data analysis, project writing and programme development while focusing on her subject of research which is the understanding of the relationships between humans and rescued chimpanzees and all of the legal and law enforcement processes that shape them. She joined the LAGA team that visited the Mefou national park and among the team was the EAGLE Organisational Development Officer who was in the country to get familiar with the workings and challenges faced by EAGLE projects.

To foster activism and leadership skills, a series of thought provoking sessions of presentations and debates for the LAGA team on corruption and development continued. This is an initiative which also aims at strengthening the capacity, unity and values of the LAGA family.

The LAGA family was sadly bereaved twice within this period; in February the head of the legal department lost his 4-month old baby girl who was born when he was on duty in Senegal to assist in the arrest and prosecution of some wildlife traffickers in the country and in April an investigator lost her child and the team joined her to mourn and bury the child while providing necessary assistance to sooth and get her up again.

The year ended with targets met in full and the LAGA family was given an end of year meal during which they were wished happy feasting as December 16, 2015 marked the beginning of vacation to enable the staff feast, rest and refresh.

9. LAGA and the EAGLE Network

9.1. – General

LAGA's new model for NGO – Government collaboration establishing wildlife law enforcement, bringing about results with an innovative approach geared at changing the existing system and triggering a paradigm shift in the way NGOs tackle wildlife crime is being realised within the EAGLE network. The model is essentially shifting away from targeting small-time poachers in the forest and focusing on the prosecution of major traffickers, fighting head on the major obstacle to the application of the wildlife law in Africa – Corruption. LAGA's experience and model is currently operating within the EAGLE network that group 9 countries.

The replication of the LAGA model is also geared at taking cross section lessons outside of wildlife conservation; these include the fight against corruption, fostering activism, fight against child trafficking etc.

<http://www.laga-enforcement.org/Replication/tabid/166/Default.aspx>

Within the framework of the EAGLE Network, specifically under the EAGLE Exchange Programme, LAGA collaborated with other projects on several areas and legal advisers and investigators from Congo, Senegal, Gabon, Togo and Benin visited the country. Activities also included assistance in planning and carrying out operations by LAGA's legal and investigation departments. Short working visits were carried out and an investigator from Cameroon went to Togo, while the Head of the Investigation Department travelled to Guinea, twice during this

period. He also visited Senegal while the Deputy Director went to Uganda and the Assistant Head of the Media Department travelled to Gabon.

The EAGLE Organisational Development Officer visited the count and within the one week period she spent time familiarising herself with the activities of a project and during her stay made a field trip with the legal department.

Several presentations on the diverse topics were prepared by the Central Coordination Unit (CCU) of EAGLE and these included general security issues, social media and internet communication implications, introduction to the CCU etc and these were presented to members by the Deputy Director .

9.2 PALF - The Republic of Congo

Two Congolese legal advisers from the PALF project were trained in the various departments, namely investigation, operations, legal, media and management departments during a two-week visit to the country. They participated in field missions and later in the year another legal adviser arrived the country for a three-week long training programme with the legal department and made several field trips with the legal team to follow up cases in courts.. For more information on PALF, go to the new website <http://www.palf-enforcement.org/congo-brazzaville/>

9.3 GALF – Guinea

The Head of the Investigation Department travelled to Guinea for an investigation and arrest operation support that resulted in the arrest of a senior wildlife official for his involvement in wildlife trafficking and illegal CITES permits and later in the year, travelled again to Guinea for operational assistance leading to the arrest of four chimpanzee traffickers.

7.4 SALF – Senegal

The Head of the Investigation Department travelled to Senegal for an investigation and arrest operation support that resulted in the arrest of seven major international traffickers with links to France. A newly recruited investigator with SALF, travelled to Cameroon for a 3-week-long training session during which time he carried out several field missions and witnessed arrest operations. The Head of the Legal Department equally provided legal assistance in the prosecution of some wildlife cases in Senegal and training support.

7.5 TALFF – Togo

The Head of the Investigation Department assisted the project on investigative and legal procedures for planned operations while an investigator travelled to Togo to provide assistance and share experiences. A Togolese investigator spent 3 weeks learning and sharpening investigation skills in and out of the office with field missions. The TALFF project equally received technical assistance in tortoise and manatee operations carried out in Togo.

7.6 AALF-Gabon

A Gabonese investigator arrived the country for experience sharing, operations assistance and the Assistant Head of the Media Department travelled to Gabon to learn video and TV footage editing and broadcast. For more information on AALF, go to <http://www.conservation-justice.org>

7.7 AALF-B Benin

A Beninese investigator was trained on investigations and he equally joined the LAGA team during field missions to acquaint himself with field and investigative activities. .

7.8 EAGLE Uganda

The Deputy Director travelled to Uganda to provide operational, media, management support and training to the new team that has been developing very fast and producing excellent results.

7.9 Chad

Collaboration with Africa Parks that is expected to host the Chad replication project was strengthened and a Chadian activist was given a full cycle training in all LAGA departments during his visit to the country, as he is expected to kick start the Chadian EAGLE member project.

LAGA assisted other EAGLE network projects in investigations procedure, operations planning, legal follow-up, and publication of media pieces over various media outlets and management issues..

7.10 Other Countries in Africa

Plans have been developed for future replications in Zambia, Uganda and DRC – Kinshasa. Advice on wildlife law enforcement and the fight against corruption continued in several other countries.

The regional law library that was created continued to put into value what has been done before based on the LAGA model and how to proceed from there. This library with the documents therein could help in the creation of other structures in other parts of Africa and the world at large by motivated individuals.

10 Activism Front

During this period, LAGA continued to foster activism internally and externally. Creating independent activists is one aspect that LAGA uses to foster activism. The NGO members are encouraged to develop their own projects on the various development issues of their country and are given NGO time and management time to do develop the project in the vision of turning it in to an independent NGO/paper/book. The function of leadership is not producing more followers but to produce more leaders.

<http://www.laga-enforcement.org/Activism/tabid/77/Default.aspx>

Activism was focused on documentaries and presentations including:

Ritual crime: the PowerPoint presentation depicts the decadence of our society as seen through ritual crime which has become a big public issue in the country today. The situation is so worrisome that it leaves no one indifferent. Between November 2012 to February 2013, Cameroon registered the killing of about 14 young girls between the ages of 16 to 25 in the lone town of Yaounde. Similar cases were recorded in other towns of the country including Bafoussam and Douala. The presenter who gives a description of ritual crime as understood in this context attempts to expose the alleged links between the crime and quest for political, financial power etc. The crime is quickly recognizable in Cameroon because generally the

executioner often cuts off some parts of the victim's body especially private parts for ritual sacrifices.

Music is the weapon: Fela Kuti: music is the weapon is a documentary that focuses on Fela Kuti's musical career and his activism in Nigerian politics. Fela Kuti is a political activist who used music to create awareness on the ills of the Nigerian society. Because Nigeria had a huge potential and a big economy, being an African giant, one would have expected issues of governance to be treated differently and appropriately in the country. This was not the case and despite Fela's gesticulations, protestations and poignant activism at the time, nothing changed. As stubborn as the ills, his brand of activism still has a place in the Nigeria of today. Debates after the screening went from his special brand of activism to his personal and religious orientations.

Conspiracy Theories: Didymus & Mug Punter: The presentation elucidates the widely used but badly understood term. It attempts to define the term while explaining the sources of theories, why after all conspiracy theories exist, who generates them for what purposes and how are they manifested. These explanations are aimed at enabling a clearer grasp of the term that is wildly used in politics and in the international politics and more often with a prejudicial sense. The presentation gives categories and kinds of conspiracy theories while using international and local examples to elucidate these forms. The Ebola crisis produced one of the greatest conspiracy theories of our time and the presentation delves into it. The message after all is to help activist to understand the power and limits of conspiracy theories.

Strategies against wildlife crime in cross-border areas: The presentation is at the depth of our work, that is wildlife law enforcement and Congolese jurist Kevin Tsengou examines the border areas between the Republic of Congo and Cameroon and describes the geography of the area and the illicit trafficking going on there. In the presentation, ivory is stated as the commodity of choice for traffickers who move to and fro the both countries with little or no disturbance. This calls for a collaborative strategy between the two projects to be able to effectively track and prosecute these cross-border traffickers. Important challenges for effective wildlife law enforcement in the area were examined and possible solutions enumerated because the area needs urgent attention, it is necessary that these challenges must be faced and overcome.

Au dela des faits (Beyond Facts) : The documentary describes the calamitous state of some of Cameroon's some important parks in the country including the Bouba Ndjidda, the Benoue and the Faro parks that are facing unprecedented poaching, gold digging and transhumance activities. The parks are dying very fast while wildlife authorities in the country are not only slow to act but seem to lack the willingness to do so. The documentary exposes little known activities of migrating herdsmen who cause havoc and fear in the regions and their illegal activities is suspected to be facilitated by some local traditional and administrative officials through corruption. The situation needs urgent action to bring back the parks to their glorious past, when it was a nation's pride attracting foreign dignitaries, even presidents who visited the parks. Discussions were held on some possible solutions to this problem and definitely wildlife law enforcement and other conservation and policy measures floated as possible solutions.

Biodiversity: Indian volunteer who had a remarkable time in Cameroon with our team presents a topic that is known to everyone - biodiversity. She focuses on biodiversity as found in India with particular emphasis on local wildlife species and the problems connected to their protection. During the presentation, it was discovered by listeners that a section of India, the North East is an Achilles' heel to conservation in the country because of the socio-cultural divide between this region and the rest of the country. Paradoxically, it is a region rich in wildlife but not only is

bushmeat consumed in this area but little law enforcement tasks place here and its frontiers is notoriously open for cross-border trafficking. She equally presents conservation measures being taken by the authorities and her work with the turtles. A comparative analysis of wildlife conservation and wildlife law enforcement was specifically the topic of discussions during the debate session that followed and the main threat to wildlife extinction in India was identified to be population encroachment in protected areas.

Selma: A moving and teary movie on Martin Luther King Jr. and the fight for voting rights during the Lyndon Johnson presidency as America grappled with racial segregation. The movie depicts the difficulties the blacks had in obtaining voting rights which is enshrined in the constitution and the non violent approach Martin Lurther King and his team used to tackle the issue, forcing President Johnson into enacting a bill to give all American citizens voting rights. It vividly tells the story of how very bad it was to be a black or negro during those years in a racial America and what untold violence could be used to stop any attempts for obtaining voting rights. Debates focused on the use of non violent protest, the legacy charismatic leaders like King left and the importance of this legacy for blacks all over the world. The perpetuation of such injustices is very well the responsibility of those who commit it as well as those who fail to act in front of such injustices as the episode in the film when whites join the march in Selma tells this story. Questions also dwelt on inequalities in the world, in our country today and the stubborn resistance of the racial divide and what lessons could we draw from the use of non violent protests.

Erin Brockovich: What does a single mother of three children from two dislocated marriages, who has had an accident and had been jobless do when she discovers that residents of the town she now lives in had been drinking contaminated water? Most people would crumble under the enormity of their personal responsibilities and struggles and would never give such an issue a second thought, not to talk of starting a fight. Not Erin Brockovich anyway. Drawn from a true story, Erin Brockovich is a perfect example of a modern heroine in a dual world of the powerful against the weak and vulnerable. A modern day fighter who despite all the odds, engages a David vs Goliath clash involving an energy giant that had poisoned the waters of the town for over 30 years. With a totally unknown, small time law firm that had represented her on an accident suit she once filed, they battle the energy giant and hundreds of citizens get a landmark tort settlement of hundreds of millions. The story is a shining example of just how one person alone can make a huge difference. It has bravery and determination and most especially it has a woman, a strong and stubborn one. Discussions after the presentation of the movie focused on her bravery, her domestic responsibilities and on what lessons could be drawn from her cast-iron determination to succeed.

Pay it forward: One may never be too small to make a change; that is one of lessons from the movie that demonstrates the importance of good thinking and most especially the importance of putting this into action. A kid, through his social studies classes develops a wonderful idea that principally says, to change the world each person should help at least three people in need and should not expect anything from them in return except for the fact that these three should each assist three others. What a wonderful idea to change our world and Trevor, our kid puts this into action. Although it seems as if he fails trying it out on a homeless man, his actions save his mother and put her back to track. A complex mix of happy and tragic ends mesmerizes on as Trevor is stabbed by a classmate while he tries to save another; then the world takes note of his action: his charitable movement. Discussions focused on the importance of his idea, the need for compassion and assistance to people in distress and the tragedy – our kid gives his life.

Cesar Chavez: It is always difficult to live as a foreigner in someone else's country, even worse to claim for rights in a country where you're considered a pest. Cesar Chavez is a film that portrays the challenge a migrant took on himself to lead non-violent demonstrations to bring change in the lives of migrant farmers by forming labor unions. His struggles and determinations in a pacific manner, in making sure the rights of migrant farmers are instituted, yield him fame and recognition in a country where he was disregarded. Debates on the film centered on tentative answers to the question; why many people would not want to be at the forefront of a gainful cause.

The Wave: The movie depicts autocracy and the problems associated with it. When a secondary school teacher is asked to teach autocracy, he resorts to learning by experience; being practical about it and he creates a small state within his classroom where autocracy is tried. All the characteristics of autocracy are tried in real time. The sinister and the good are intertwined. Our poor teacher never sees all of the dangers and quickly gets involved emotionally because as it is with every autocratic government the consequences of autocracy is always beyond the ability of the Leader to control it. The movie is a simplified version of an autocratic state and enables a quick understanding of the factors and powers that come into play within such a state. Discussions focused on the understanding of the movie and the dangers associated with autocracy.

ANNEX I- CASE TRACKING SYSTEM – JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2015

<u>Case num.</u>	<u>Date of operation</u>	<u>Region</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Case name</u>	<u>Offence</u>	<u>Profile</u>	<u>Remarks</u>	<u>Nationality of dealers</u>	<u>Country involved</u>	<u>Status</u>
1	1/17/2015	South	Djoum	ELANG Francis	Illegal Detention of 3 Gorilla skulls and 1 Chimpanzee Skull.	Seller	The dealer is an accomplice to Ekoumou Joseph.	Cameroonian	None	free while on trial
2	1/25/2015	South	Djoum	Mohamadu	Illegal detention of 18 Ivory tusks	Seller	The dealer belongs to the same notorious and high profile network involved Ivory trafficking and a co-offender to Mohamadou Alioum . He works in partnership with a certain Sidiki who is the overseer of all Ivory tusks bought by Mohamadou Alioum . He buys these Ivory tusks from Mintom and transports them to Yaounde.	Cameroonian	None	Locked while on trial
3	1/25/2015	South	Djoum	Mohamadou Alioum	Illegal detention of 18 Ivory tusks	Seller	The dealer belongs to a notorious and high profile network involved Ivory trafficking. He works in partnership with a certain Sidiki who is the overseer of all Ivory tusks bought by Mohamadou Alioum . He buys these Ivory tusks from Mintom and transports them to Yaounde.	Cameroonian	None	Locked while on trial
4	1/27/2015	Centre	Ngambe Tikar	Mondjii Oumarou Ernest	Illegal Detention of 4 destroyed legs of Giant Pangolin Scales, 1 colubus baby Monkey and Giant pangolin	seller	The dealer is a co-offender and member of the network specialised in trafficking Giant pangolin scales amongst other protected animal species. He sells these Giant pangolin scales at 50,000 FCFA to potential buyers.	Cameroonian	None	Locked while on trial
5	1/27/2015	Centre	Ngambe Tikar	Mounkam Louis Bertrand	Illegal Detention of 4 destroyed legs of Giant Pangolin Scales, 1 colubus baby Monkey and Giant pangolin	Seller	The dealer is a co-offender belonging to a network involved in poaching and selling protected animal species particularly Giant pangolin scales and Primates. He sells the giant pangolin scales at 50,000 FCFA to potential buyers and Wart hogs trophies upon	Cameroonian	None	Locked while on trial

6	1/27/2015	Centre	Ngambe Tikar	Nsangou Oumarou	Illegal Detention of 4 destroyed legs of Giant Pangolin Scales, 1 colubus baby Monkey and Giant pangolin Scales	Poacher and seller	The dealer is a high profile poacher and seller dealing in Primates.. He is extremely notorious for his eminent hunting activities and is popularly called " The President of the hunters association" in Ngambe Tikar. He is the Overseer of all hunters in the association who are 19 in number,and organises their hunting and tax paying activities. He carries out his poaching activities in the Zones of Waoue amongst other	Cameroonian	None	Locked while on trial
7	2/2/2015	South	Kribi	Naga Robert	Illegal Detention of 16 Turtle shells		The dealer is a co-offender to Ndjondje Augustin and are both members of a notorious network involved in the trafficking of sea turtle shells. He collects these trophies from Grand Batanga and sells them to potential buyers at fixed prices set during	Cameroonian	None	free while on trial
8	2/2/2015	South	Kribi	Makota Massela Martin	Illegal Detention of 15 Turtle Shells		The accused is a high profile dealer and belongs to a notorious network involved in the trafficking of Sea turtle shells. He collects these turtle shells from his village at Campo and sells them to potential buyers upon fixed prices in Kribi	Cameroonian	None	free while on trial
9	2/2/2015	South	Kribi	NDJONDJE NDENBWE AUGUSTIN	Illegal Detention of 16 Turtle Shells		The dealer is a co-offender to Naga Robert and are both members a notorious network involved in the trafficking of sea turtle shells.He plays the role of a middleman and gets potential buyers for the Sea turtle shells collected by	Cameroonian	None	free while on trial
10	2/9/2015	West	Santchou	DIEUPE YOSSA Honore	Illegal Detention of 2 Ivory Tusks	Seller	The dealer is a member of a high profile network involved in the trafficking of Ivory Tusks amongst other protected animal species including Leopard skins. His family is particularly involved the trafficking of Ivory tusks and is a family heritage. The dealer works in collaboration with Nna Ambroise who negotiates dealings with potential buyers. The dealer sells these Ivory tusks at	Cameroonian	None	Locked while on trial

11	2/9/2015	West	Santcho u	MOUKAM DEUTOU JEROME	Illegal Detention of 2 Ivory Tusks	Seller	The dealer is an accomplice to Dieupe Youssa Honore. He is charge of transportation arrangements ensuring the smooth transactions of the other co-offenders in selling these Ivory tusks.	Cameroon n	None	Locked while on trial
12	2/9/2015	West	Santcho u	NNA AMBROISE	Illegal Detention of 2 Ivory Tusks	Seller	The dealer is a member of the same high profile network with Youssa Honore and moukam Deutou. He is the negotiator of all dealings with potential buyers of the Ivory Tusk gotten by Yoassa Honore.	Cameroon n	None	Locked while on trial
13	2/13/2015	South	Ambam	ONDO Crispain Abaa	Illegal Detention of 15 Chimpanzee skulls and 3 Gorilla skulls	Seller	The accused is a notorious dealer in primates particularly Chimpanzees and Gorillas. He buys and sell these Chimpanzee and Gorilla trophies at fixed prices to potential buyers.	Cameroon n	None	
14	2/25/2015	West	Tonga	Dipamba Jean	Illegal Detention of 1 Tibia elephant bone , 1 Mandrill Skull and 1 elephant Jawbone.	Seller	The accused is a high profile dealer in Elephant and Primate trophies amongst other protected animal species. After a search at his residence, 7 bullets and a hunting gun were seized. He buys these animal trophies and sells them to potential buyers at 25.000 FCFA per trophy.	Cameroon n	None	Locked while on trial
15	2/25/2015		Tonga	Ndinteh George	Illegal Detention of 1 Tibia elephant bone , 1 Mandrill Skull and 1 elephant Jawbone.	Seller	The dealer is a co-offender to Dipamba Jean and belongs to the same network. He sells collected animal trophies to potential buyers at 8,000 FCFA per trophy.	Cameroon n	None	Locked while on trial
16	3/24/2015	Littoral	Manjo	NGALLE Jean Jerome	Illegal Detention of 4 Chimpanzee skulls.	Seller	The dealer is a co-offender and belongs to the same network as Moto Joel involved in the illegal trafficking of Chimpanzee and other protected species. He collects these animal trophies from hunters in Mangamba and Babong and sells them to potential buyers at 4000 FCFA per trophy.	Cameroon n	None	Locked while on trial
17	3/24/2015		Manjo	MOTO Joel	Illegal Detention of 4 Chimpanzee skulls	Seller	The dealer is an accomplice to Ngalle Jean and plays the role of the mediator between Ngalle and potential buyers. He gets buyers for trophies collected by Ngalle Jean.	Cameroon n	None	Locked while on trial
		Littoral								

18	4/14/2015	Centre	Yaoundé	EDJIM ELIE Martin	Illegal Detention of 4 Gorilla Skulls	Seller	The dealer belongs to network involved in the trafficking of Gorilla and other primates species. He collects these Gorilla trophies from hunters in Mangan. He buys them at 2000-3000 FCFA per Gorilla skull and sells them at 5000 FCFA per Skull.	Cameroon	None	Locked while on trial
19	4/14/2015	Centre	Yaoundé	ANGO Simon	Illegal Detention of 4 Gorilla skulls	Seller	He is an accomplice to Edjim Elie and belongs to the same network. He facilitates the connection of Edjim to potential buyers of Gorilla and other primates trophies.	Cameroon	None	Locked while on trial
20	4/28/2015	South west	Idenau	Fiognon Kocou	Illegal Detention of 9 Turtle shells	seller	The dealer is a notorious trafficker in Sea Turtle shells. He collects these turtle shells from Eric a fisherman in Idenau. He sells these Sea turtle shells to potential buyers at 20,000 FCFA for some species and for some other species the prices are arranged upon during transaction with the buyers.	Benin	Benin	locked while on trial
21	4/28/2015	South west	Idenau	Reuben Akpan Jack	Illegal Detention of 9 Turtle shells	seller	The dealer is an accomplice to Fiognon Kocou and plays the role of a mediator between Fiognon and potential buyers	Nigerian	Nigeria	locked while on trial
22	4/28/2015	South west	Limbe	AKAM Michael	Illegal Detention of 1 Turtle shell	seller	The dealer is an accomplice to Kanghi Joseph and members of the same network involved in the trafficking of Sea turtle shells. He gets potential buyers for turtle shells collected by Kanghi at 5000 FCFA Each.	Cameroon	None	locked while on trial
23	4/28/2015	South west	Limbe	KANGHI Joseph Che	Illegal Detention of 1 Turtle shell	seller	The dealer collects turtle shells from fishermen at Down beach limbe. He gives them to Akam Michael to sell to potential buyers.	Cameroon	None	locked while on trial
24	5/27/2015	East	Batouri	MBOBORE N MARIUS	Illegal detention of 2.5 Kg of Giant and normal pangolin scales and 2 Chimpanzee skulls.	seller	The dealer buys giant pangolin from hunters and preserves their scales to sell them to potential buyers. He sells a chimpanzee skull at 10,000 Fcfa each and Giant pangolin scales at 2,500 a cup.	Cameroon	None	locked while on trial

25	5/27/2015	East	Batouri	YINAF ESAIE	Illegal detention of 2.5 Kg of Giant and normal pangolin scales and 2 Chimpanzee skulls.	seller	The dealer is in the same network with Mboroben Maruis . He plays the role of a mediator between Mboroben oren and potential buyers.	Cameroon n	None	locked while on trial
26	5/28/2015	Centre	Yaoundé	NLANG OKO YOANN	Illegal Detention of 2 Ivory Tusks	seller	The dealer is notorious an belongs to the same Ivory trafficking network of Bassirou Baba. He sells Ivory tusks to potential buyers based on their varying weights. He sold the 2 Ivory tusks weighing 61 Kg for 6.000.000 Fcfa to Bassirou Baba.	Cameroon n	None	locked while on trial
27	5/28/2015	Centre	Yaoundé	BASSIROU BABA	Illegal Detention of 2 Ivory Tusks	seller	The dealer is a notorious and renowned trafficker specialised in Ivory Tusks. He buys them based on their varying weights. He bought the 2 Ivory tusks for 6.000.000 Fcfa.	Cameroon n	None	locked while on trial
28	6/3/2015	Littoral	Edéa	BANY Simon	Illegal Detention of 1 Chimpanzee skull and 8 Turtle shell	seller		Cameroon n	None	locked while on trial
29	6/3/2015	Littoral	Edéa	BONGUILE Jacques Aime	Illegal Detention of 1 Chimpanzee skull and 8 Turtle shell	seller		Cameroon n	None	locked while on trial
30	6/6/2015	Centre	Bafia	Nken Jean Marie	Illegal Detention of 4 Chimpanzee skulls and 1 cephalobe.	seller	The dealer is a notorious trafficker in primates and their trophies. He buys chimpanzee skulls from hunters in Nyassem and Ngoro. He buys them at 50,000 FCFA and sells them at 100.000FCFA. He is an ex-poacher in the zone of Nyassem.	Cameroon n	None	
31	6/18/2015	Littoral	Douala	YENDE ABDOU DALILOU	Illegal Detention of 44 Sculptured Ivory objects and bracelets.	seller	The dealer is a notorious trafficker in Ivory. He works in partnership with a certain Papa Ibrahim who supplies him sculptured ivory objects for him to sell to potential buyers and Maloum mama who also is his supplier. He paints the sculptured Ivory in wood paint so he could sell easily due to the high demand of this sculptured ivory objects in wood paint. He intended to sell the ivory objects for 500,000 FCFA.	Cameroon n	None	locked while on trial

32	6/24/2015	Centre	Yaoundé	BOTONDO NO MOUSSA Ibrahim	Illegal Detention of 2 Sculptured Ivory and 27 Sculptured ivory Objects	seller	The dealer is a co-offender to Botondono Martin Moussa who both belong to the same notorious network. He got the 2 Ivory sculptured objects from Germany. They belonged to an aunt. He wanted to sell them for 50,000 FCFA.	Cameroon	Germany	locked while on trial
33	6/24/2015	Centre	Yaoundé	ZOA Martin Marinos	Illegal Detention of 2 Sculptured Ivory and 27 Sculptured ivory Objects.	seller	The dealer is a notorious trafficker in Ivory and Ivory sculptures. He works in collaboration with a certain Assigna Fabien who collects sculptured Ivory from Briquiterie and T-Bella, Yaounde and supplies them to Botondono to sell to potential buyers. He intended to sell the sculptured objects for 332.500 FCFA.	Cameroon	Germany	locked while on trial
34	8/19/2015		Lomié	MILLAH Bernard	Illegal Detention of 2 Chimpanzee Skulls, 2 Gorilla Skulls, 1 Elephant teeth, and 3 Bush pig incisors	seller	The dealer is a notorious trafficker who sells Gorilla and other trophies of totally protected animal species. He sells them to potential buyers upon fixed prices.	Cameroon	None	locked while on trial
35	8/19/2015		Lomié	BOTTO KANGA	Illegal Detention of 2 Chimpanzee Skulls, 2 Gorilla Skulls, 1 Elephant teeth, and 3 Bush pig incisors	seller	The dealer is a notorious trafficker who sells Gorilla and other trophies of totally protected animal species. He sells them to potential buyers upon fixed prices.	Cameroon	None	locked while on trial
36	8/21/2015	Centre	Yaoundé	Zal Kanga Zephyrin	Illegal Detention of 2.5 Kg of Giant Pangolin Scales.	Seller	The dealer is a renowned trafficker in Giant Pangolin Scales. He works in collaboration with the Pygmies (Barkas) in Mindourou to get these pangolin Scales and sells them to potential buyers at 20,000 FCFA a kg.	Cameroon	None	locked while on trial
37	9/26/2015	North West	Kumbo	Ethe Harrison	Illegal Detention of 1 life Monas Monkey, 3 Mandrill skulls, 05 Bush pig skulls and 1 Bay duiker skull	Poacher	The dealer is a poacher who traps animals by setting up a hedge in his farm located in Ako village, kills them and sells them to potential buyers upon fixed prices.	Cameroon	None	free while on trial

38	9/28/2015	North West	Wum	Akou Emmanuel	5 Chimpanzee skulls, 5 Monas monkey skulls and 9 Chimpanzee bones.	Poacher	The dealer is a poacher who carries out his poaching activities around the Kom-wum forest reserve. He works in a network of three other traffickers known as David,Genesis . This network goes across national and interational levels.The chimpanzee trophies gotten from the hunt are sold to potential buyers upon fixed prices.	Cameroon	France	locked while on trial
39	10/5/2015	East	Bertoua	Konlack Folong Carine Flore	Illegal Detention of 1 live Bioto putty nosed monkey (cercophecus nictatus martini)	Seller	The dealer is a traffcker in live primates and trophies. She buys live primates from hunters and sells them at 100,000 FCFA each. She is in this network with her husband.	Cameroon	None	locked while on trial
40	10/13/2015	East	Bertoua	Alioum Yaddi	Illegal detenton of 1 Ivory tusk	seller	The dealer is a renowned trafficker in Ivory. He buys ivory from Ahmadou Bobbo for 15,000 Fcfa and sells them to potential buyers at 40,000 Fcfa each. He also sells these ivories to ivory jewelry makers who sell them on to potential buyers on fixed prices. He sells them nationally and internationally in Congo.	Cameroon	Congo	locked while on trial
41	10/13/2015	East	Bertoua	Ahmadou Bobbo	Illegal detenton of 1 Ivory tusk	seller	The dealer is a co-offender to Alioum Yaddi and belongs to the same network. He sells ivories to Alioum Yaddi for 15,000 Fcfa each.	Cameroon	Congo	locked while on trial
42	10/14/2015	Littoral	Douala	Kakeu Michel	Illegal detention of 202 sculptured Ivory objects in bracelets, combs, keyholders,medals,rings, barretes, cfigarrete sticks and statues of birds and man.	Seller	The dealer is a renowned Ivory trafficker and notorious recidivist.He has been arrested twice before on the 16 July 2004 and 11 september 2004 with Ivory and ivory sculptures and was condemned at the Court of first instance and Court of Appeal. The accused accepted that trafficking in Sculptured Ivory is his specialization and admitted to selling them.	Cameroon	None	locked while on trial

43	10/14/2015	Littoral	Douala	Gueze Jules	Illegal detention of 202 sculptured Ivory objects in bracelets, combs, keyholders, medals, rings, barrettes, cigarette sticks and statues of birds and man.	seller	The accused is a co-offender and belongs to the same notorious network with Kakeu michel.	Cameroon	None	locked while on trial
44	11/10/2015	Centre	Mfou	Kafsou Ernest	Illegal Detention of 100 KG of Giant pangolin Scales	seller	The accused is a well known trafficker of trophies of protected species particularly giant pangolin. He is a driver at Mmila Agency and this greatly facilitates his transportation of these giant pangolin scales to deliver it to potential	Cameroon	None	locked while on trial
45	11/13/2015	North West	Ndop	JUNBANG Zachary NTIABANG	1 Gorilla skull, 13 chimpanzee skulls, 1 Drill skull, and 3 Monkey skulls.	hunter and seller	The dealer is a hunter and seller who kills Gorillas and other primates and sells them to potential buyers. He admitted that his father was a hunter insinuating that poaching runs in the family. He sell these gorilla and chimpanzee skulls gotten from the hunt at 1000 FCFA for the young skulls and 20,000	Cameroon	None	locked while on trial
46	11/23/2015	Littoral	Douala	SEGOUA Paul	1 Hippopotamus teeth and 5 Leopard teeth	Seller	The dealer is a trafficker in protected species trophies particularly leopard. He trafficks in leopard skins and other parts and even specified that he sells ivories. He sells the leopard trophies at 200,000 FCFA to potential buyers. He has	Cameroon	chad	locked while on trial
47	11/26/2015	East	Belabo	NJIKAM Abdouramani	15 KG of Giant Pangolin scales	seller	The dealer is in the same network as Emene Wilfred who once was arrested with chimpanzee products. He also works in collaboration with a certain zachary who supplies him with giant pangolin scales and	Cameroon	None	locked while on trial

48	12/8/2015	East	Doume	Yanda Emmanuel	Illegal detention of 2 Gorilla skulls, 1 Chimpanzee skulls, 1 Elephant tail and 1 skin of an unidentified animal	Seller	The dealer belongs to the same network as Sakol Joseph stephane and is specialized in primates trafficking. He buys these primate skulls from hunters at 1,500 FCFA and resells them at 25,000 FCFA to potential buyers.	Cameroonian	None	locked while on trial
49	12/8/2015	East	Doume	SAKOL Joseph Stephane	Illegal detention of 2 Gorilla skulls, 1 Chimpanzee skull, 1 Elephant tail and 1 skin of an unidentified animal	Seller	The dealer is a co-offender to Yanda Emmanuel . He assists in collecting primate skulls from hunters in the same network and gets potential buyers for these trophies to whom he sells them based on fixed prices.	Cameroonian	None	locked while on trial
50	12/16/2015	Centre	Yaoundé	ESSAME Cyril	Illegal detention of 2 Mandrill skulls and 17 Chimpanzee skulls.	Seller	The dealer is a notorious trafficker in primate trophies. He buys them from hunters in the villages of Mekas, Nkolda, and other surrounding villages. He buys them at 2000-3000 F CFA each and sells	Cameroonian	None	locked while on trial

Annex II – The Year in Pictures – Some Important Events



Arrested in Douala with 44 carved ivory pieces during one of two key ivory operations carried out in June



He is a major ivory trafficker and paints ivory to look like wood for easy smuggling through to the international markets



The second of two key ivory operations carried out in June, and dismantled this 20-year partnership in ivory trafficking



Arrested over the trafficking of 18 ivory tusks in South of Cameroon, a region known to host several ivory trafficking hotbeds.



One of two ivory traffickers arrested in Douala at the wildlife office for prosecution to begin



Carved ivory was among several other pieces seized from the traffickers in Douala in October, traffickers used counter-intelligence measures in an attempt to evade capture



Several ivory jewelries and carved pieces seized from ivory traffickers in Douala



Two traffickers arrested in Bertoua, East for ivory trafficking, they have been in the illegal business for a long time, it was discovered ivory trafficking is a family business for one of the traffickers



He is a pastor, travelled from the South to Yaounde to sell 19 chimpanzee skulls, at the police station for interrogation



19 chimp skulls arrested found with trafficker The rising number of skulls seized in the country is testimony to the devastating impact of the poaching of great apes



skulls seized from a trafficker who had earlier sold 55 other skulls to traffickers allegedly to be used in traditional mystical purposes in the North West Region(above) Seized mandrills skulls (below)



Seized skulls from an two arrested traffickers in December in the East Region one of the skulls is painted in red to make it “invincible” for smuggling according to traffickers and also Chinese buyers request they are painted probably for disguise





One of several operations leading to the arrest of ape skull traffickers (above), Two of the skulls were still fresh they sit in front of the trafficker who answers to questions from wildlife officials (left)



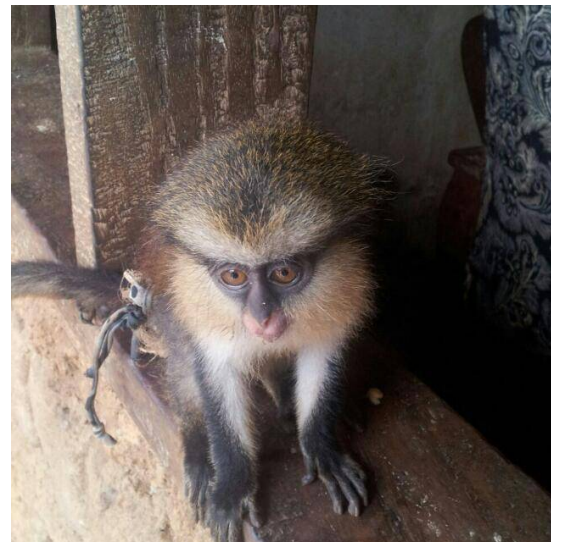
Two brothers arrested for chimp skull trafficking in March and pose for photos at the local wildlife chief's office shortly after they had been thoroughly interrogated by the official (left)

He was arrested in the South with 18 ape skulls (right)





Chimp and gorilla skulls (above) seized in August from two traffickers (left) in the logging town of Lomie, East Region.



He travelled from the border town close to Nigeria, used a number of techniques to hide the live mona monkey (right) from enforcement officials while travelling through many towns and villages to sell wildlife contraband that included mandrill skulls



Giant pangolin scales seized from trafficker (above) and Giant pangolin scale trafficker who doubles as a bus driver arrested close to the Nsimalen International Airport with bags full of scales found among passenger luggage(left)



Arrested in Belabo, East Region in November he is part of a ring of traffickers working with poaches around the Deng Deng National Park

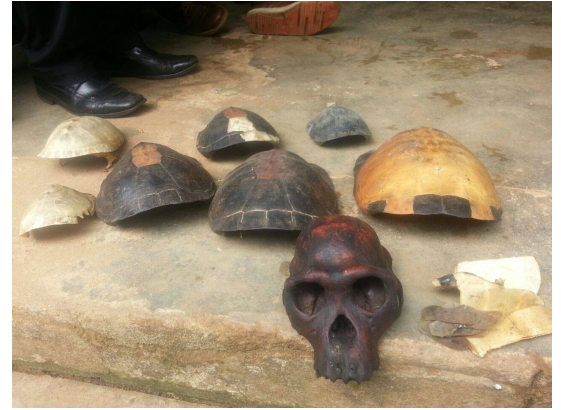


Arrested trafficker at a police station with giant pangolin scales, shortly before an interrogation begins



Sea turtle shells seized from two traffickers in Edea (Above)

Four arrested in two coastal towns in South West Cameroon during two swift operations. A Beninese and a Nigerian among those apprehended (left).



Two poachers/traffickers arrested in Batouri in the East Region with giant pangolin scales, chimp skulls and a hippo skull with teeth was also recovered.



President of a local hunting association with two others arrested for illegal possession of several protected species including a colobus monkey and pangolin parts

ANNEX III – Some Links for the Year 2015

<http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/features/2015/01/trafficking-great-ape-body-parts-cameroon-2015148945815121.html>

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vUo_kyaYkd4

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=70Yh0Y4ujiQ>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tt6_yfiUJmE

<http://cameroonmirror.com/beninese-nigerian-arrested-for-wildlife-trafficking/>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TzJkwrRZAf8&feature=youtu.be>

<http://cameroonmirror.com/ivory-trafficker-arrested-in-douala/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BycwAeqms8M&spfreload=10>

<http://cameroonmirror.com/ako-hunting-guide-arrested-for-wildlife-trafficking/>

<http://cameroonmirror.com/man-arrested-in-wum-for-illegal-wildlife-trafficking/>

http://www.alwihdainfo.com/Cameroun-un-conducteur-de-bus-arrete-avec-100-kg-d-ecailles-de-pangolins_a25155.html

<http://en.cihan.com.tr/en/four-wildlife-traffickers-arrested-in-cameroon-1966363.htm>