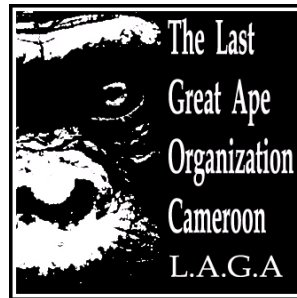


# THE LAST GREAT APE ORGANIZATION, CAMEROON LAGA

## FIRST SEMESTER REPORT JANUARY – JUNE 2012



### Executive Summary

Significant progress was made over this period on many aspects of LAGA's collaboration with MINFOF, with tangible achievements not only in the fields of investigation, arrest and prosecution but also in media exposure, government relations and international activities with more focus on the fight against corruption, wildlife trade especially networks of ivory traffickers and dealers in primates. 24 dealers were arrested during this period.

During this period, LAGA won another award. In May, LAGA won the Marsh Christian Trust Award after being nominated by WSPA. The Award seeks to recognise unsung heroes who aim to improve the world, giving their time unselfishly. It is the fifth in connection to LAGA's work, and is hoped to give more credibility to and acceptance of LAGA's message and help in its long term quest to affect conservation in a meaningful way.

For every 7.58 days a major wildlife dealer was arrested, 96% stayed behind bars from the day of arrest. Corruption was observed and combated in more than 80% of the cases. Regional wildlife law enforcement became more effective with good operations and prosecutions. Replication concretized in Guinea-Conakry with good operations and GALF becomes the newest member of our Regional Wildlife Law Enforcement Network. The LAGA Director was invited again by ILEA to continue with the training of wildlife officers on the corruption and ethics parts that was built in 2011. Training sessions continued in Yaounde with 2 jurists from AALF – Gabon arriving for training.

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



**LAST GREAT APE ORGANISATION, CAMEROON (LAGA)**  
**SEMESTER REPORT**  
January - June 2012

**Overview**

Investigations

- A total of 159 investigation missions (of varying lengths) were carried out in 9 Regions.
- High level Investigations carried out on Bouba Ndjida elephant massacre.
- An International Investigator used to get more information about the Bouba Ndjida poachers
- 1 Investigator let go due to lack of produced operations.

Operations

- Operations were carried out in 5 Regions against 24 individuals resulting in 24 court cases at a rate of 1 per 7.58 days.
- More than half of the operations were on ivory followed by primates.
- The rate of imprisonment for these cases reached 96%.

Legal

- 24 new cases were brought to court and represented (many of the cases begun during the period have not yet reached the prosecution stage but procedures still ongoing).
- Good prosecutions obtained, Internet dealer sentenced to 2 years imprisonment and 4 dealers sentenced to 30 months and more than \$171.000 awarded for damages.
- Corruption was observed and combated in more than 80% of the cases.

Media

- A total of 201 media pieces were produced in national media (television, radio and press) achieved in a rate of more than 1 media piece per day.
- Online sensitization resulted in over 1000 visits to the LAGA website per month. It should be noted that the LAGA website was entirely created from scratch and is maintained by the LAGA family.

Management

- LAGA wins another award - the Marsh Christian Trust Award.
- The Annual and Financial Reports for 2011 printed and distributed to all the stakeholders. Electronic versions available on line on the LAGA website [www.laga-enforcement.org](http://www.laga-enforcement.org).

External Relations and Policy

- Several meetings were held with the Minister – MINFOF, Diplomatic Community, National and International NGOs to discuss corruption in the NGO projects, wildlife law enforcement etc.
- The LAGA Director was invited again by ILEA to continue with the training of wildlife officers on the corruption and ethics parts that was built in 2011.

Replication of LAGA Activities

- Replication concretized in Guinea-Conakry with good operations and GALF becomes the newest member of our Regional Wildlife Law Enforcement Network.
- Good operations carried in all regional enforcement projects and good prosecutions obtained – LAGA, PALF, RALF and AALF.
- 2 AALF jurists trained in LAGA in regional exchange program.
- PALF, AALF and LAGA meet in Gabon in order to outline strategies for the next few months especially on Investigations.

Strategic Highlights

- This period was marked by a special focus on dismantling ivory trafficking networks and dealers in primates and meat of primates amongst other protected wildlife products.
- Special focus was on the massacre of elephants in the Bouba Ndjida National Park with special missions carried out in Cameroon, Chad and CAR.
- The fight against corruption and wildlife crime was intensified.

## **Narrative Report**

### **Introduction**

This report refers to activities from January till June 2012.

This report includes: the progress in each department of activities (Investigations, Operations, Legal, Media and Management), strategic overview of and the impact of our operations on wildlife crime in Cameroon, progress in relations with the Cameroonian Government, non-governmental bodies, in the international arena, and in non-enforcement initiatives LAGA has undertaken.

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## **1. Investigations**

LAGA's investigation unit carried out 159 investigation missions in 9 Regions during this period. The department continued with structural reorganization culminating in high improvement in its professional output. Field testing and screening of new investigators continued, a total of 7 candidates were tested with 2 giving encouraging results. Training on operations procedure continued to actively assist and help in controlling some operations in the field.

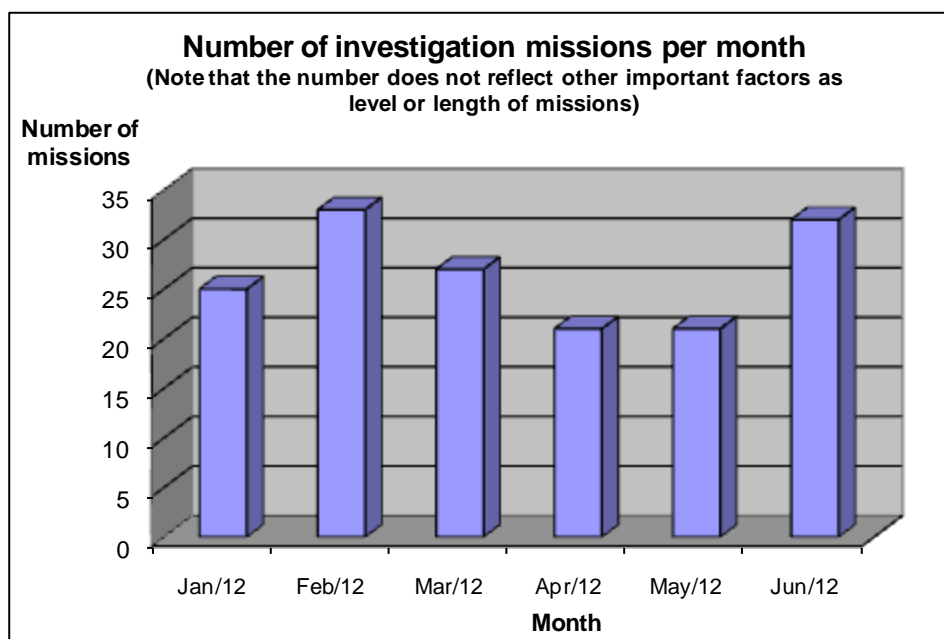
During this period, high level investigations were carried out with regards to the hundreds of elephants killed by international poachers in the Bouba Ndjida National Park in the Northern Region of Cameroon; an International Investigator was used to get more information about the Bouba Ndjida poachers and other missions were carried out with other projects in Chad and the Central African Republic (CAR). There was more focus on trade in primates and their parts, networks involved in ivory trade and other elephant products, bush meat trade etc.

The Unit continued to undertake investigations relating to wildlife trade that involves additional offences not under wildlife law concerning illegal adoption scheme of children, illegal immigration, as well as international trafficking with special focus on foreigners.

As part of a new strategy to get credible information and to make the Investigation missions more effective, a hotline was established and a flyer was produced this month in French. This is being distributed to a specific set of informants like those working in the airports, call box operators, security guards etc. The English version will be produced as well.

The strategy involving the recruitment of informants in the main wildlife trade hotspots in Cameroon continued with good information resulting into operations in the East and South West Regions. This exercise will be carried out in all the Regions of Cameroon especially the Northern part of the country. This will permit real time information on illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products as well as compensating a shortage of Investigators.

In May, 1 Investigator was let go because of lack of produced operations. It is hoped that she will continue to undertake Investigations on her own and will be given a bonus in case of a successful operation.



## **Operations**

LAGA and the Government of Cameroon carried out operations in 5 Regions against 24 individuals resulting in 24 court cases. Operations became more sophisticated over the period and the rate of imprisonment reached 96% of the cases with the individuals behind bars while awaiting trial. More than half of the operations were on the busting of networks dealing in ivory and other elephant products.

In January, arrest of a dealer in primate skulls was arrested in Tinto – South West with chimp and mandrill skulls. This was as a result of good information given by a newly recruited informant as part of a new strategy of getting more credible information.

In February, a regular dealer in elephant products was arrested in Yaounde – Center with elephant tails. He travelled all the way from Djoum – South, a hotspot area for trade in ivory and other elephant trophies. He claimed that highly placed officials in Djoum are involved in ivory trade with many accomplices found in the Cameroon army. More investigations are ongoing to penetrate the network, target and arrest the high level dealers.

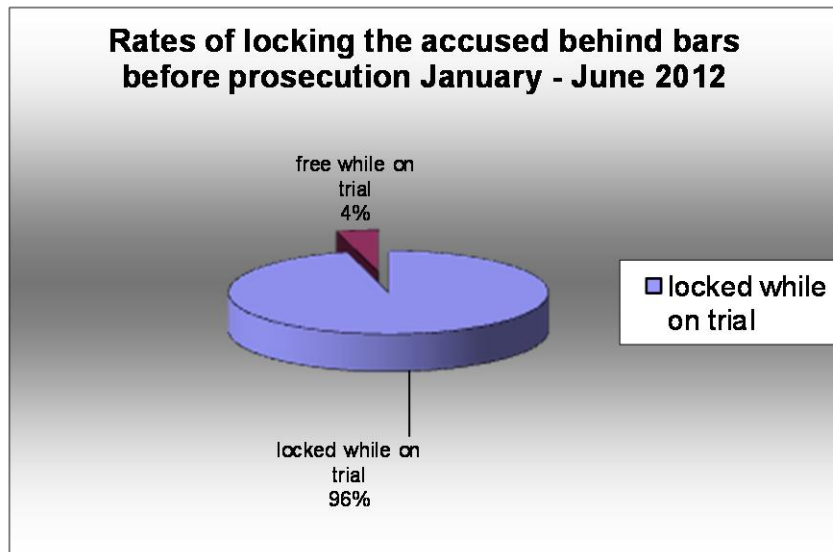
March saw the bursting of ivory networks in the East Region. 7 dealers were arrested in 3 different operations in the East Region all involved in dealing in ivory and other elephant products. 1 was arrested in Mindaourou with elephant meat; a network busted in Messok with 4 dealers arrested and also found in possession of 3 packets of marijuana and 2 hunting rifles; 2 well known dealers arrested in Yokadouma with 12 elephant tusks after killing 6 elephants. One of the dealers is a recidivist who had been arrested before in Abong Mbang and after being granted bail, he went straight back to poaching elephants.

In April, 4 operations were carried out with 6 dealers arrested. A major dealer was arrested with 5 elephant tails in Lomie – East; 2 regular dealers in ivory were arrested in Messok – East for the killing of elephants and trying to trade in its parts; 2 other ivory traffickers were arrested in Lomie – East with 8 elephant tusks, they attempted to bribe the arresting team with 1 million FCFA (about \$2000) for their release, an act that was combated by the LAGA team in the field. Another dealer was arrested in Mintom – South with 8 elephant tails. He claims to have steady customers in Djoum and Sangmelima, some of whom are high government officials. This claim is being investigated.

In May, the Delegation of MINFOF Mamfe – South West Region arrested an international trafficker while attempting to illegally enter with 8 ostriches into Cameroon from Nigeria with no official documents or permits. High level government officials of the South West Region were trying to intimidate MINFOF officials for their release and it is alleged that the birds were ordered by a multi-millionaire in the North West Region. LAGA assisted MINFOF to open a case file against the dealer in the Court of First Instance – Mamfe, as well as to protect MINFOF officials from legal harassment.

In June, 2 operations were carried out against 3 dealers. In Yaounde – Center, a regular dealer from Akonolinga was arrested with elephant products including tails and jaws. He proposed 2 million FCFA to the arresting team for his release, an act that was immediately combated by the LAGA team in the field. In Bazou – West, 2 well known dealers were arrested with a live baby chimp while trying to illegally trade in it. They initially resisted arrest, instigating a crowd to intimidate the operations team; fortunately, the team used diplomacy, convinced the crowd on the necessity of getting the statements of offence of the dealers who were thereafter transported to Bangangte. The baby chimp was rescued and transported to Yaounde for upkeep and proper treatment in the Mfou wildlife reserve.

In another operation, a major ivory dealer was arrested with 6 elephant tusks and elephant meat in Djoum - South, a hotspot for ivory trafficking. He had 2 guns and ammunition on him. The operation was initiated by MINFOF - National Brigade with LAGA responsible in coordinating, controlling legal procedure and follow-up in court.



### **3. Legal**

24 new cases reached the court during this period, these cases joined old cases that were scheduled, followed-up, tried in various courts and jail visits organized. Most of the cases initiated within this period have not yet reached the prosecution stage with 96% imprisoned throughout the process.

107 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 ivory and other elephant products including tails and skulls with 83% of the cases followed by primates with 13% and live Ostriches at 4%.

During this period, 14 cases were prosecuted with 32 dealers convicted and more than \$171,000 to be paid as damages to MINFOF. There were very good prosecutions obtained notably 30 months of imprisonment of 2 ivory dealers in Yokadouma - East and 2 years imprisonment of an Internet Wildlife dealer in Muyuka – South West; 17 dealers sentenced in the month of April alone.

In January, 7 dealers sentenced in Abong-Mbang and Yokadouma in the East Region. The Court of First Instance of Abong-Mbang sentenced a dealer in meat of protected wildlife arrested in Lomie – East to 1 year of prison term and \$10.000 as fine suspended sentence for 3 years. The same court sentenced 2 dealers (a man and his wife) to 2 years of prison and to pay \$6.000 as fine suspended for 3 years. They were also arrested in Lomie for dealing in the meat of protected wildlife species. The Court of First Instance of Yokadouma sentenced 4 ivory traffickers to 1 month of prison each and to pay \$10.000 as damages and fine. They were arrested in Yokadouma for illegally keeping and trafficking of 44 elephant tusks. Appeals have been lodged against all these prosecutions and there is strong suspicion of bribery and corruption for which an investigation has been opened.

In February, the court of First Instance of Abong-Mbang sentenced a dealer in gorilla parts and other protected wildlife products to 1 year of prison and \$8.000 as fine and damages suspended

during 3 years. He was arrested in Lomie for illegal detaining of products of totally protected species including gorilla limbs and primates amongst many others.

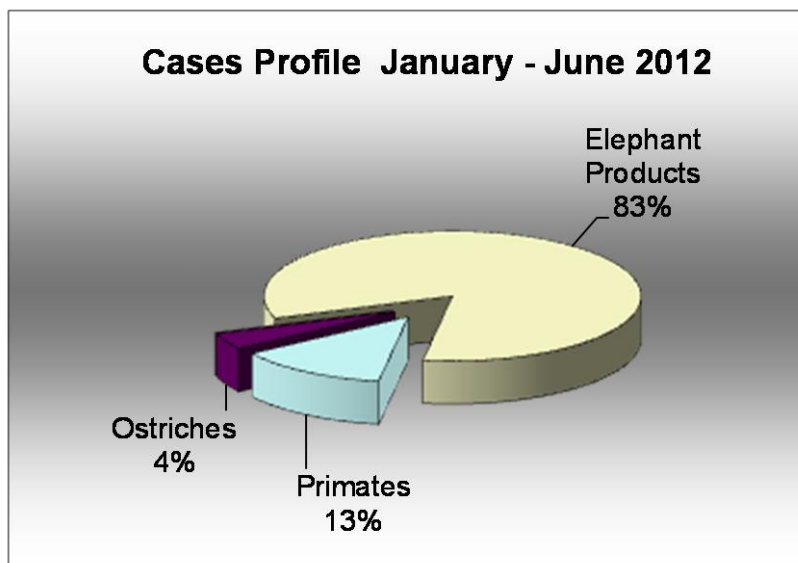
In March, the Court of First Instance of Bafoussam - West sentenced a dealer in primates to 1 year suspended sentence during 3 years and to pay \$4.000 as damages.

Outstanding prosecutions obtained in April with a total of 17 dealers sentenced and more than 60 million FCFA (\$120,000) to be paid to MINFOF as damages; 4 of dealers sentenced to 30 months imprisonment each in Yokadouma – East for killing of elephants and trying to illegally trade in ivory and trafficking in African Grey parrots and their parts.

A total of 15 dealers sentenced in Yokadouma: 2 dealers sentenced to 3 months and 6 months respectively, 2 others who are recidivists sentenced to 30 months of prison term each, they were arrested inside Lobeke National Park for illegal capturing and killing of about 1000 African grey parrots. 3 others sentenced to 10 months of imprisonment; they were arrested in Salapoumbe for killing of elephants and illegally trying to trade in the elephant products. A network of 5 dealers were sentenced to 18 months of prison each, they were arrested inside the Boumba-Beck National Park for illegal killing of 6 elephants and trying to trade in their products; and 3 more sentenced to 10 months of prison term each. 1 dealer of live primates (mandrill) sentenced to 6 months of prison in Ambam – South; and 1 dealer of primate parts (chimp and mandrill skulls) sentenced in Mamfe – South West.

6 dealers were sentenced in May. The Court of First Instance of Muyuka – South West Region sentenced an Internet wildlife dealer to 2 years imprisonment. He was arrested with his accomplice following a report to LAGA and international collaboration with the US Fish and Wildlife Service while attempting to sell rhino horns over the Internet using a falsified CITES permit and other official documents. 2 dealers in ivory were sentenced to 1 year in prison each one of them being a woman running an NGO and laundering trade behind it; and 3 other dealers to 4 months imprisonment by the Court of First Instance Abong Mbang – East.

A regional law library that was created continues 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.





#### **4. Media**

A total of 201 media pieces were produced and pushed into media including numerous articles in all media – radio, television and written press achieved in a rate of more than one media piece per day. January month saw the lowest number of media pieces because of low produced operations and resumption of work later in the month.

Subjects were on a broad range of wildlife law enforcement issues including all of LAGA-MINFOF operations, prosecutions and fighting corruption. These were on – Tinto ape skulls dealer arrest, arrest of crocodile dealer in Douala; pangolin dealer arrest in Lomie, Interpol meeting in Thailand, Bouba Njida story of 200 elephants killed; Yaounde arrest of dealer in elephant parts, judgment of Yokadouma ivory dealers, Djoum arrest of elephant traffickers and INTERPOL steps in to fight against the killing of elephants; 7 wildlife traffickers arrested in Guinea Conakry, 3 elephant parts and ivory traffickers arrest in Lomie; 6 traffickers arrested in Guinea, Muyuka Internet wildlife dealer sentenced, Mintom arrest of elephant trafficker – hearing, Mindourou judgment of elephant trafficker, Messok judgment of elephant trafficker, Yokadouma judgment of ivory and African grey parrot traffickers; Chimp rescued and 2 traffickers arrested in Bazou, Court hearing for elephant trafficker arrested in East, Yaounde elephant products dealer arrest etc.

Guests included: LAGA Director, the Traditional Ruler of Bafut and craftsmen, Manyu Divisional Delegate – MINFOF, LAGA Deputy Director and Head of Legal Unit, LAGA Head of Communication Unit, Program Officer of US Fish and Wildlife Service, North West Delegate – MINFOF, LAGA Head of Investigation Unit, National Coordinator of the Central Africa Regional programme for the environment (CARPE), and a Cameroon environmental journalist.

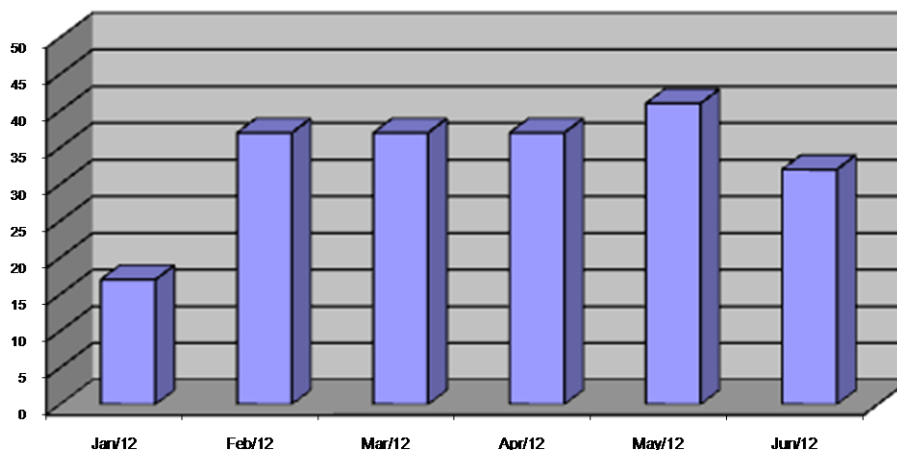
The distribution of the Wildlife Justice continued. Wildlife Justice is a thematic journal that focuses on wildlife law enforcement and conservation issues.

LAGA Website Analysis January - June 2012:

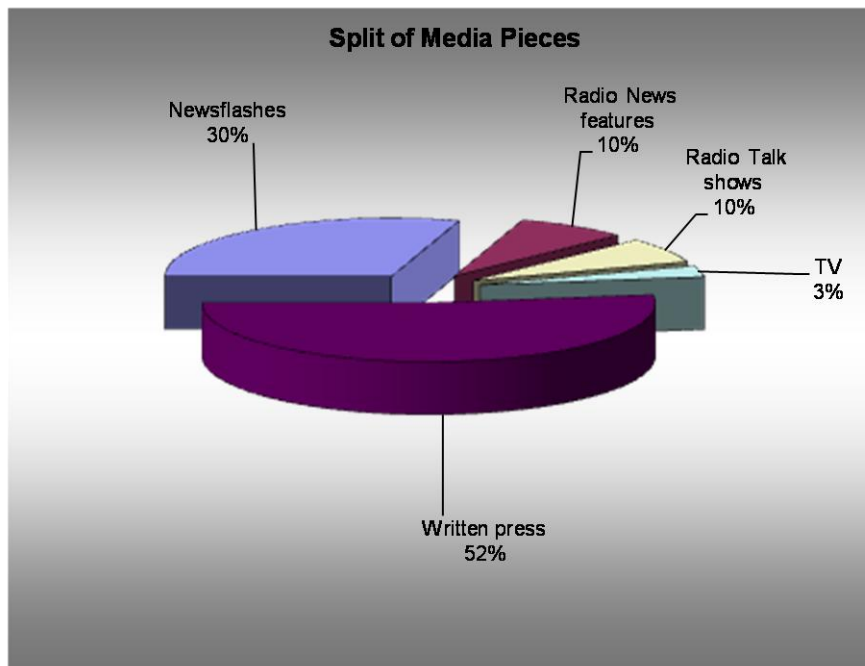
<b>Page Views</b>	<b>6,200</b>
<b>You Tube Views</b>	<b>40,000</b>
<b>Channel Views</b>	<b>2,421</b>

It should be noted that the LAGA website ([www.laga-enforcement.org](http://www.laga-enforcement.org)) was entirely created from scratch and is maintained by the LAGA family.

Number of Media Pieces Produced and Pushed







## **5. Management**

Work on the reconstruction of LAGA continued as well as work on action plans for departments while stretching recruitment processes in three LAGA departments (Investigations, Legal and Media). The Annual Activity and Financial Reports for 2011 were printed and distributed to all the stakeholders. The electronic versions are available on line on the LAGA website [www.laga-enforcement.org](http://www.laga-enforcement.org). This is a result of teamwork involving all the departments in LAGA – Investigations, Legal, Media, Operations and Management.

LAGA won another award during this period. In May, LAGA won the Marsh Christian Trust Award after being nominated by WSPA. The Award seeks to recognise unsung heroes who aim to improve the world, giving their time unselfishly. It is the fifth in connection to LAGA's work, and is hoped to give more credibility to and acceptance of LAGA's message and help in its long term quest to affect conservation in a meaningful way.

For further improvement and more operations in regional enforcement, training sessions continue to be held in Yaounde – Cameroon 2 Jurists arrived from AALF Gabon to be trained under the regional exchange program in February. Training and exchange of project personnel in regional enforcement will continue with the other projects in the forthcoming months. Others that had been trained before include the Coordinator of RALF – CAR, Jurist – PALF Congo, Investigator – PALF Congo, Jurists - AALF Gabon and Investigator AALF - Gabon.

The series of thought provoking sessions of presentations and debates for the LAGA Team on corruption and development introduced by the LAGA Director continued during this period. This is a part of a new project aimed to strengthen the capacity, unity and values of the LAGA family. The weekly meeting sessions also continued. Other meetings and the agendas are initiated by any LAGA family member at any time. These meetings are geared towards identifying problems and proposing solutions to these problems and other existing ones so as to ascertain the smooth running of the organization, and to take initiatives in the development of the family members and the organization at large by carrying out specific assignments. During this period, there were series of meetings to discuss about finance, donors, and the bonus system among others.

In May, 1 Investigator was let go this month because of lack of produced operations. It is hoped that she will continue to undertake Investigations on her own and will be given a bonus in case of a successful operation.

The LAGA Family is less than a dozen activists; an NGO without a single vehicle. In a world of multi-nationals among the conservation industry giants, LAGA is proud to be small and slim. During this period, the LAGA family took off some time from work and had a 2 day trip at the sea resort town of Limbe – South West. It should be noted that the trip was not only about having a good time, but to commune together, get to know one another out of the working environment, and meet spouses and children of LAGA family members.

## **6. External Relations and Policy**

During this period, LAGA had many meeting sessions with highly placed government and diplomatic authorities in Cameroon, outside of Cameroon, local and international NGOs, and participated in conferences.

This period was rich in meetings with the Minister MINFOF and other MINFOF officials on issues related to a broad range of wildlife law enforcement activities including all of LAGA-MINFOF operations, prosecutions and fighting corruption. LAGA Director and his Deputy met with the new Minister of Forestry and Wildlife for acquaintance and continuation of work between MINFOF and LAGA.

LAGA also met with other government officials – a meeting was held with the Secretary General at the Presidency to discuss on the fight against wildlife crime in the country and the Bouba Njida situation.

Many meetings were held with the Diplomatic community – with the British High Commission on wildlife law enforcement challenges, corruption, transparency and access to information amongst others. LAGA Director participated in a meeting initiated by Citizen Governance Initiative to form an NGO caucus for the Access to Information in Cameroon.

The LAGA Director was invited again by ILEA (International Law Enforcement Academy) to continue with the training of wildlife officers on the corruption and ethics parts that was built in 2011. There will be a follow-up on this as the Director of ILEA proposed that this program should also be taught outside of wildlife. The group was of wildlife officers, police, customs and judiciary from Cameroon, Gabon, Congo, DRC, Kenya and Botswana.

Several meetings were held with other International and national organizations – with two evaluation teams – one of the World Bank and one by Global Witness – on rethinking the approach to forest governance in Cameroon, the fight against corruption and access to information. LAGA Director participated in a WWF international move to focus on wildlife law enforcement against the ivory trade in a meeting with WWF CARPO and gave a presentation on tackling ivory syndicates. He also participated in a meeting concerning the study on African Grey Parrots and the issue of reopening the trade in that species; with GCI to discuss on the fight against corruption and access to information. The Head of Investigations Department and the Head of Legal Department held a meeting with Interpol in Yaounde to discuss on collaboration pertaining to cyber wildlife crime Investigations.

In February, LAGA Deputy Director travelled to Chad and his mission was focused on the massacre of hundreds of elephants in the Bouba Ndjida National park in Cameroon located near the Chadian

border. This mission revealed that the Chadian authorities do not also have a sense of responsibility and it is a pity and quite regrettable because this delay in replication is not only negatively impacting on regional wildlife law enforcement, but it could be seen from the Bouba Ndjida issue whereby concrete action could have been undertaken from the Chadian side.

LAGA Director travelled to Thailand and attended an Interpol meeting. His intervention was more on corruption and the fact enforcement should be measured in terms of prosecutions and not seizures. Many participants knew already about LAGA from previous meetings and Deputy Director's work; many showed a lot of interest in LAGA's work especially the Thai Police and Thai Judges. Everyone was very supportive saying LAGA is the only one that actually manages to get things done. In addition to the meeting, he sought out and created contact with more collaborators and build investigations ties so that LAGA can get a constant flow of information from Asia to make arrests in Africa and vice versa.

He also travelled to Guinea – Conakry to initiate replication activities there. His mission confirmed the fact that Guinea Conakry which has been of great concern for several years is a wildlife trafficking hotspot; the high scale of corruption and complicity; the astronomical scale of the illegal trade in ivory with huge quantities openly displayed; more than 250 leopard skins and more than 70 lion skins openly sold; Guinean Government documenting past shipments in chimps etc. He also held several meetings with high level government officials, CITES Management Authority (MA), and NGOs.

LAGA Director travelled again to Guinea – Conakry and concretized the replication of LAGA activities there with a sting arrest operation. 7 major traffickers were arrested while trying to sell more than 60 Kg of ivory and 10 leopard skins. Luc Mathot left Gabon to assist in investigations and recruitment of local team and the replication will be assured by Charlotte Houpline of Wara Conservation Project with the support of USFS.

LAGA Director continued with a special mission on the Bouba Ndjida massacre. These poachers have been seen in south east corner of Chad and this can be the last chance of intercepting them. Prior to that, they have been spotted in north east CAR moving west, and projecting their route, the Chadian authorities were alerted that the poachers may move south of Am Timan towards Sudan. As the armed group is about to cross the border into Sudan in the forthcoming days, follow up investigation in North Sudan remains the last hope for effective action against this group, that is very likely to return and threaten both elephants as well as cross border security for Chad, CAR and Cameroon. Information has been shared between four governments on movements of Sudanese poachers on the border of CAR – Chad towards Sudan.

The LAGA Director and Deputy Director participated in Regional Wildlife Trafficking meeting in Gabon. Still in Gabon, the Regional Law Enforcement Network held a meeting - PALF, AALF and LAGA - in order to outline a strategy for the next few months.

Presentations were given on activism to students of America school; on activism to international university students; on NGOs-Governments collaboration on regional wildlife law enforcement in the Central Africa sub region and also worked on the drafting of 2012-2016 action plan by including law enforcement activities during the Cross River Gorilla Action Planning Workshop in Limbe – South West Region.

The Director of LAGA was invited to give a presentation about establishing wildlife law enforcement in Central Africa in the IPPL conference in the US. He gave a presentation in front of a large audience of IPPL supporters. He used the opportunity of the tour to promote his new book to deliver two presentations on wildlife law enforcement and the fight against corruption. The first was

in the World Bank headquarters and the second in Forest Service and included FWS, DOJ, and State Department.

A Jurist was sent to Chad to evaluate and initiate court cases against dealers arrested; discuss with local authorities for the legal follow-up of cases initiated; to recruit a lawyer as well. 2 cases were effectively sent to court against 7 dealers in Amtiman. A lawyer was recruited in N'djamena and discussions held with authorities, Ecoguards of Zakouma national park and NGOs.

## **7. Replication of LAGA Activities**

### **7.1. – General**

LAGA's goal from 2003 has been to create a new model for NGO – Government collaboration establishing wildlife law enforcement. Our hope was that by bringing about results with an innovative approach, we will be able to change the existing system and trigger a paradigm shift in the way NGOs tackle wildlife crime. The model is essentially shifting away from targeting small-time poachers in the forest and focusing in prosecution of major dealers, fighting head the major obstacle to the application of the wildlife law in Africa – Corruption. Following several awards and recommendations from the international community to replicate the model in other countries, LAGA has started working with other NGOs transferring the LAGA experience and model throughout the sub-region. LAGA started working with a new budget proposal for sub-regional replication work. The LAGA model is currently operating in 5 countries – Republic of Congo (PALF), the Central African Republic (RALF), Gabon (AALF), Guinea – Conakry (GALF) and Chad; inroads had been made in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Nigeria.

The replication of the LAGA model is also geared 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>

In the Replication of LAGA activities and Regional Law Enforcement, March month was marked by the concretization of replication in Guinea- Conakry. LAGA Director travelled to Guinea – Conakry and concretized the replication of LAGA activities there with a sting arrest operation. 7 major traffickers were arrested while trying to sell more than 80 Kg of ivory and 10 leopard skins. Luc Mathot left Gabon to assist in investigations and recruitment of local team and the replication will be assured by Charlotte Houpline of Wara Conservation Project with the support of USFS.

This continued in May when the newest LAGA's replication and member of our Regional Wildlife Law Enforcement Network –GALF Guinea Conakry carried out a new wave of arrests. 6 major dealers were arrested with more than 800 items, mostly ivory, from hankos and figurines to raw tusks. The operation has been coordinated with Interpol and the head of Police, the Ministry of Environment Water and Forests, and the Ministry of Justice at the highest levels.

This came about following Naftali Honig's (PALF Congo Coordinator) successful mission to assist Charlotte Houpline (GALF Coordinator) to ensure our law enforcement efforts are sustainable. To give an insight to the influence and bribing-power such big dealers have in an impoverished country like Guinea:

- According to investigations, one single ivory sculpture was valued at \$55,000.
- More than \$30,000 in foreign currency cash was found on site (mostly 100\$ notes and Euros).

Special mission carried out in Chad and in the CAR by RALF concerning the Bouba Ndjida elephant massacre were supervised by LAGA. These missions in the South East of Chad and North East of CAR were focused on getting more information and tracking the poachers alleged to come

from Sudan who killed more than 300 elephants. Missions in Chad were carried out by a local Chadian Investigator and an International Investigator. In CAR, missions were carried out by RALF Coordinator and other informants contacted and recruited locally in the Northern part of CAR.

LAGA Director was invited again by ILEA to continue with the training of wildlife officers on the corruption and ethics parts that was built in 2011. There will be a follow-up on this as the Director of ILEA proposed that this program should also be taught outside of wildlife. The group was of wildlife officers, police, customs and judiciary from Cameroon, Gabon, Congo, DRC, Kenya and Botswana.

LAGA assists AALF in getting the information pertaining to the burning of ivory in Gabon to the media. AALF - Gabon was one of the organisations that fought for the realisation of this moment. President Ali Bongo of Gabon set fire on the country's entire ivory stockpile of over 4000 kilogrammes worth some millions of dollars amidst a huge number of onlookers including top government officials and the international community.

The Regional Law Enforcement Network (LAGA, PALF and AALF) participated at the Central African Sub-region Workshop on Wildlife trafficking and dismantling transnational illicit network in Gabon. They also held a meeting - PALF, AALF and LAGA - in order to outline a strategy for the next few months especially on Investigations.

For further improvement and more operations in regional enforcement, training session continue to be held in Yaounde – Cameroon and trips made to other projects in the sub-region. Also, the regional law library that was created continues 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.

LAGA Annual Report including activities of all the projects (LAGA, PALF, AALF and RALF) was completed, sent to the various donors and posted on the LAGA website. The Annual Financial Reports were also completed, sent to the various donors and also posted on the LAGA website.

The replication of the LAGA model and the transfer of LAGA experience in other countries throughout the sub-region is a continuous process whereby LAGA works with other NGOs.

## **7.2. Gabon**

During this period, 2 Jurists arrived from AALF Gabon to be trained in Yaounde – Cameroon under the regional exchange program. Others that had been trained before include the Coordinator of RALF – CAR, Jurist – PALF Congo, Investigator – PALF Congo, Jurists - AALF Gabon and Investigator AALF - Gabon.

LAGA assists AALF in getting the information pertaining to the burning of ivory in Gabon to the media. AALF - Gabon was one of the organisations that fought for the realisation of this moment. President Ali Bongo of Gabon set fire on the country's entire ivory stockpile of over 4000 kilogrammes worth some millions of dollars amidst a huge number of onlookers including top government officials and the international community.

LAGA and AALF worked on joint investigations in the South of Cameroon.  
For more information on AALF, go to <http://www.conservation-justice.org>

### **7.3. The Republic of Congo**

LAGA assisted PALF in planning and coordinating missions. LAGA and PALF worked on joint investigations in the South of Cameroon. In February, LAGA assisted PALF in planning missions, coordinating and participating in 2 operations arresting 5 dealers in hippo teeth and chimp skin. LAGA also helped PALF and RALF in the legal follow-up of the cases as a result of the arrest operations.

For more information on PALF, go to the new website <http://www.palf-enforcement.org>

### **7.4. Central African Republic – CAR**

LAGA Departments assisted RALF – Central African Republic on activity and financial reports; use of the LAGA Manual especially on Investigations and Operations planification and supervision; legal follow-up of all court cases; and follow-up in publishing and pushing through all the media pieces with all the necessary information posted on the RALF webpage. With very few operations, RALF is called upon to focus more on field operations as opposed to meetings and other administrative work.

LAGA also assisted RALF in planning and coordinating missions. LAGA and AALF worked on joint investigations in the South of Cameroon.

Go to <http://www.laga-enforcement.org/Replication/RALF/tabid/165/Default.aspx> for more information.

### **7.5. Nigeria**

Replication activities in Nigeria did not progress much during this period because of security issues in Nigeria. This will be looked at during the second semester.

### **7.6. Chad**

Special mission continued in Chad concerning the Bouba Ndjida elephant massacre and supervised by LAGA. The mission in the South East of Chad was focused on getting more information and tracking the poachers alleged to come from Sudan who killed more than 300 elephants.

In May, a Jurist was sent to Chad to evaluate and initiate court cases against dealers arrested; discuss with local authorities for the legal follow-up of cases initiated; to recruit a lawyer as well. 2 cases were effectively sent to court against 7 dealers in Amtiman. A lawyer was recruited in N'djamena and discussions held with authorities, Ecoguards of Zakouma national park and NGOs.

### **7.7. Guinea Conakry**

In February, LAGA Director travelled to Guinea – Conakry to initiate replication activities there. His mission confirmed the fact that Guinea which has been of great concern for several years is a wildlife trafficking hotspot; the high scale of corruption and complicity; the astronomical scale of the illegal trade in ivory with huge quantities openly displayed; more than 250 leopard skins and more than 70 lion skins openly sold; Guinean Government documenting past shipments in chimps etc. He held meetings with high level government officials, CITES Management Authority and NGOs.

In March, Guinea had its first ever arrests of wildlife traffickers, and the beginning of its application of its wildlife law. 7 major traffickers were arrested after haven been identified and recorded explaining their international illegal activity, their methods of evading law enforcement authorities around the world, and their vast international networks. They were arrested in a sting operation trying to sell more than 60 Kg of ivory and 10 leopard skins. The operation was taken by the



Interpol team by the order of the Director of Police, a team sent by the Minister of Environment, assisted by the state counsel who was personally present in the operation. One of the agents participating in the operation said in the press conference - "this is the first time we have this since independence".

This operation followed after an initial mission undertaken last month by the LAGA Director and it marks the launching of replication in Guinea. This could have never happened without the direct involvement of the Minister of Environment, the Minister of Justice and the Minister delegate of Security, Director of National Police and Head of Interpol NCB. The recordings of the traffickers are very interesting exposing new modus operandi, networks with representatives in China and Europe, sales in the US, containers etc. As sources to all of Central Africa via Nigeria and Abidjan we had two suspects talking of Zimbabwe and Burundi as sources of ivory. This is very worrying if confirmed as it implies illegal sales of government stock.

### **7.8. Other Countries in Africa**

LAGA Director was invited again by ILEA (International Law Enforcement Academy) to continue with the training of wildlife officers on the corruption and ethics parts that was built in 2011. There will be a follow-up on this as the Director of ILEA proposed that this program should also be taught outside of wildlife. The group was of wildlife officers, police, customs and judiciary from Cameroon, Gabon, Congo, DRC, Kenya and Botswana.

### **7.9. Fostering Activism**

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>

Presentations were given to Peace Corps volunteers on fostering community activism for the development of an educational manual for fostering activism to transform rural communities in Cameroon.

During this period, 3 books were written by some LAGA family members. The Director of LAGA, Ofir Drori published a book titled The Last Great Ape – A Journey Through Africa and a Fight for the Heart of the Continent. It is a story of the fight against extinction and the tragedy of endangered worlds, not just of animals but of people struggling to hold onto their culture. The book reveals the intense beauty and strife that exist side by side in Africa, and Ofir makes the case that activism and dedication to a cause are still relevant in a cynical modern world. This dramatic story is one of courage and hope and, most importantly, a search for meaning.

Books were also published by Sone Nkoke Christopher and Alain Bernard Ononino. Sone's book is titled Cameroon's Wildlife – Endangered Animal Species, a handbook that captures the splendour of Cameroon, its socio-cultural and touristic attractions; national parks and sanctuaries which serve as important habitats for endangered wildlife and most importantly, the identification of Class A animals and the laws aimed at protecting them.

Alain's book is titled 'Lois et Procédures en Matière Faunique' (Laws and Procedures Governing the Wildlife Sector in Cameroon) is a compilation of relevant provisions of all the laws and regulations governing the wildlife sector, an analysis of administrative and legal procedures to be



followed as far as wildlife matters are concerned and how to fight corruption and related offences in the wildlife sector.

In addition to creating other NGOs, the series of thought provoking sessions of presentations and debates for the LAGA Team on corruption and development introduced by the LAGA Director continued during this period.

### **7.10. Fight against corruption**

LAGA was an experiment field for methods of fighting corruption within a law enforcement and application process. Bribing attempts are documented in 85% of our field arrest operations, and 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. <http://www.laga-enforcement.org/Corruption/tabid/180/Default.aspx>

## **8. Strategic Overview of Wildlife Crime in Cameroon and Operations' Impact**

Beyond the number of operations and their effectiveness, there is an even more important factor 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-MINFOF work sheds light on the nature of illegal wildlife trade in the sub-region. The strategic focus over this period was on primates, ivory and other elephant products, ostriches and bushmeat.

### **8.1 Primates**

In January, following more information from another informant, a dealer in primate parts was arrested in Tinto – South West Region with chimp and mandrill skulls. He has been in this trade for long and investigations are still ongoing to get more skulls that he is alleged to have hidden.

In June, 2 well known dealers were arrested with a live baby chimp while trying to illegally trade in it in Bazou - West. They initially resisted arrest, instigating a crowd to intimidate the operations team; fortunately, the team used diplomacy, convinced the crowd on the necessity of getting the statements of offence of the dealers who were thereafter transported to Bangangte. The baby chimp was rescued and transported to Yaounde for upkeep and proper treatment in the Mfou wildlife reserve.

### **8.2 Elephant products**

During this period, networks involving ivory dealers and other elephant products were busted mostly in the East, South and Center Regions. Special missions were carried out in Cameroon, Chad and CAR pertaining to the elephants massacred in the Bouba Ndjida National Park.

In February, a regular dealer in elephant products was arrested in Yaounde – Center with elephant tails. He travelled all the way from Djoum – South, a hotspot area for trade in ivory and other elephant trophies. He claimed that highly placed officials in Djoum are involved in ivory trade with many accomplices found in the Cameroon army. More investigations are ongoing to penetrate the network, target and arrest the high level dealers.

In March, 7 dealers were arrested in 3 different operations in the East Region all involved in dealing in ivory and other elephant products. 1 was arrested in Mindaourou with elephant meat; a network

busted in Messok with 4 dealers arrested and also found in possession of 3 packets of marijuana and 2 hunting rifles; 2 well known dealers arrested in Yokadouma with 12 elephant tusks after killing 6 elephants. One of the dealers is a recidivist who had been arrested before in Abong Mbang and after being granted bail, he went straight back to poaching elephants. The operations were initiated by MINFOF and LAGA was responsible in controlling the adherence to strict legal procedure and on time follow-up of the court cases.

4 operations were carried out in April with 6 dealers arrested. A major dealer was arrested with 5 elephant tails in Lomie – East; 2 regular dealers in ivory were arrested in Messok – East for the killing elephants and trying to trade in its parts; 2 other ivory traffickers were arrested in Lomie – East with 8 elephant tusks, they attempted to bribe the arresting team with 1 million FCFA (about \$2000) for their release, an act that was combated by the LAGA team in the field. Another dealer was arrested in Mintom – South with 8 elephant tails. He claims to have steady customers in Djoum and Sangmelima, some of whom are high government officials. This claim is being investigated.

In Yaounde – Center, a regular dealer from Akonolinga was arrested with elephant products including tails and jaws in June. He proposed 2 million FCFA to the arresting team for his release, an act that was immediately combated by the LAGA team in the field.

In another operation, a major ivory dealer was arrested with 6 elephant tusks and elephant meat in Djoum - South, a hotspot for ivory trafficking. He had 2 guns and ammunition on him. The operation was initiated by MINFOF - National Brigade with LAGA responsible in coordinating, controlling legal procedure and follow-up in court.

### **8.3 Ostriches**

In May, the Delegation of MINFOF Mamfe – South West Region arrested an international trafficker while attempting to illegally enter with 8 ostriches into Cameroon from Nigeria with no official documents or permits. High level government officials of the South West Region were trying to intimidate MINFOF officials for their release and it is alleged that the birds were ordered by a multi-millionaire in the North West Region. LAGA assisted MINFOF to open a case file against the dealer in the Court of First Instance – Mamfe.

### **8.4 Corruption and Wildlife Crime**

LAGA was an experiment field for methods of fighting corruption within a law enforcement and application process. Bribing attempts are documented in more than 85% of our field arrest operations, and 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. These bribery attempts are vigorously fought against and vehemently condemned by LAGA. LAGA is not a watchdog group and not created as an observer, it fight directly whenever corrupt practices or bribery attempts have been observed.

This ongoing fight is being manifested in some results either directly or indirectly. After the arrest of an international trafficker while attempting to illegally enter with 8 ostriches into Cameroon from Nigeria with no official documents or permits; high level government officials of the South West Region were trying to intimidate MINFOF officials for the release of the trafficker and the birds, it is alleged that the birds were ordered by a multi-millionaire in the North West Region who is using his connections with the high government officials.

Attempts and suspicions of bribery were observed during some other arrest operations. This was vivid in January following the arrest of a female dealer in Lomie - East with a giant pangolin and

meat of other wildlife species; it is suspected that she corrupted some Gendarme officers because she was allowed to escape after passing some time in their custody.

In February following the arrest of a dealer in Yaounde – Center with elephant tails after he had travelled from Djoum – South; while taking down his statement of offence, his brother and his mother proposed 250.000 Frs. to MINFOF officials so that the case should not be forwarded to the court. He was caught on tape saying that highly placed officials in Djoum are involved in ivory trade with many accomplices found in the Cameroon army. More investigations are ongoing to penetrate the network, target and arrest the high level dealers.

In April, 2 ivory traffickers were arrested in Lomie – East with 8 elephant tusks, they attempted to bribe the arresting team with 3 million FCFA (about \$6000) for their release, an act that was combated by the LAGA team in the field.

Still in April following the arrest of a dealer known to traffic ivory and other elephant products with 5 elephant tails in Lomie, his father who happens to be a military officer initially tried to intimidate the operations team and later on attempted to bribe the arresting officers for the release of his son to no avail. These issues were vigorously fought against by the LAGA team in the field.

A regular dealer from Akonolinga arrested in Yaounde in June with elephant products including tails and jaws proposed 2 million FCFA to the arresting team for his release, an act that was immediately combated by the LAGA team in the field.

Bribery attempts, suspicion of corruption and wrong court procedures and prosecutions were observed in many other cases. In January, 7 dealers sentenced in Abong-Mbang and Yokadouma in the East Region received very light penalties; appeals have been lodged against all these prosecutions and there is strong suspicion of bribery and corruption for which an investigation has been opened.



**Overview of International Wildlife Traffic in Cameroon and Operations' Sites January-June 2012**





**Annex I – Case Tracking System – January – June 2012**

Case num.	Date of operation	Region	Location	Case			Countries		
				name	Offence	Profile	Remarks	involved	Status
1	24-01-12	South West	Tinto - Mamfe	Bessong Robert Egbe	Dealing in primate parts	Trade in Skulls	Following more information from another informant, a dealer in primate parts was arrested in Tinto – South West Region with chimp and mandrill skulls. He has been in this trade for long and investigations are still ongoing to get more skulls that he is alleged to have hidden.		Locked while on trial
2	28-02-12	Center	Yaounde	Ekovae Mbita Simon	Dealing in Elephant Products	Trade in Elephant Tails	A regular dealer in elephant products was arrested in Yaounde – Center with elephant tails. He travelled all the way from Djoum – South, a hotspot area for trade in ivory and other elephant trophies. He was caught on tape saying that highly placed officials in Djoum are involved in ivory trade with many accomplices found in the Cameroon army. More investigations are ongoing to penetrate the network, target and arrest the high level dealers.		Locked while on trial
3	23-03-12	East	Abong Mbang	Ekoa Simon	Dealing in Elephant Products	Trade in Elephant Meat	A dealer in elephant products arrested with more than 10 large chunks of elephant meat in Ebola - Mindaourou. He is known to be a regular dealer in elephant products including ivory. The operation was carried out with MINFOF agents from the East Regional delegation.		Locked while on trial
4	23-03-12	East	Messok-Lomie	Ndamono Felix	Dealing in Elephant Products	Trade in Elephant products	The leader of a network of dealers of elephant products arrested in Messok - Lomie with 3 other members of his network. They were arrested for the killing of elephants and illegally trading in their products and trophies. During the arrest, they were in possession of 3 packets of marijuana and 2 hunting rifles. The operation was initiated by MINFOF and LAGA was responsible in controlling the legal procedure, assuring the dealers were taken to the court and followed-up the court cases in Abong Mbang - East.		Locked while on trial
5	23-03-12	East	Messok-Lomie	Okala Gervais	Dealing in Elephant Products	Trade in Elephant products	A member of the Messok network arrested for killing and trading in elephant products. He is said to be the main hunter responsible for killing the elephants.		Locked while on trial
6	23-03-12	East	Messok-Lomie	Nguele Jean	Dealing in Elephant Products	Trade in Elephant products	Another member of the Messok network responsible for the drying of the elephant meat, transportation and searching for clients for the meat, ivory and other elephant trophies.		Locked while on trial
7	23-03-12	East	Messok-Lomie	Metsie Atsenkel Symphorien	Dealing in Elephant Products	Trade in Elephant products	Still another member of the Messok network also involved in the drying of the meat, and transportation of the meat, ivory and other elephant trophies		Locked while on trial
8	24-03-12	East	Yokadouma	Ndassa Abdou Ramani	Dealing in Elephant Products	Trade in Ivory	A recidivist arrested in Yokadouma with 12 elephant tusks after killing 6 elephants. He had been arrested before in Abong Mbang and after being granted bail, he went straight back to poaching elephants. The operation was initiated by MINFOF and LAGA was responsible in controlling the legal procedure, assuring the dealers were taken to the court and followed-up the court cases in Yokadouma.		Locked while on trial
9	24-03-12	East	Yokadouma	Nkah Arsene Theiry Auguste	Dealing in Elephant Products	Trade in Ivory	A partner of Ndassa Abdou Ramani with whom he was arrested in Yokadouma. They were arrested for the killing of 6 elephants and illegally trying to traffic 12 elephant tusks.		Locked while on trial
10	24-03-12	East	Yokadouma	Angoula Laurent	Dealing in Elephant Products	Trade in Ivory	Another partner of Ndassa Abdou arrested for killing 6 elephants. He is known to be mainly responsible for selling the elephant meat.		Locked while on trial
11	01-04-12	East	Salapoumbe	Bialsang Jean-Bosco	Dealing in Elephant Products	Trade in Elephant products	A regular dealer in elephant products arrested with 2 others for killing elephants in a protected area and illegally trying to trade in the elephant products. Also arrested with a gun and ammunition used in killing the elephants. The operation was initiated by MINFOF with LAGA coordinating, controlling legal procedure and follow-up in court.		Locked while on trial
12	01-04-12	East	Salapoumbe	Yondo Jean-Paul	Dealing in Elephant Products	Trade in Elephant products	Another dealer arrested for killing elephants in a protected area and illegally trying to trade in the elephant products. Also arrested with a gun and ammunition used in killing the elephants. The operation was initiated by MINFOF with LAGA coordinating, controlling legal procedure and follow-up in court.		Locked while on trial

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13	01-04-12	East	Salapoumbe	Ameudi Beatrice	Dealing in Elephant Products	Trade in Elephant products	Still another dealer in elephant products arrested with 2 others for killing elephants in a protected area and illegally trying to trade in the elephant products.		Locked while on trial
14	15-04-12	East	Lomie	Pa'a Boba	Dealing in Elephant Products	Trade in Elephant tails	Dealer known to traffic ivory and other elephant products. Arrested while trying to sell 5 elephant tails in Lomie. Initially resisted arrest and conducted himself violently while at the Gendarmerie brigade of Lomie		Locked while on trial
15	16-04-12	East	Messok	Abdou Kadiri	Dealing in Elephant Products	Trade in Elephant products	A regular dealer in ivory arrested in PALLISCO timber concession for killing an elephant and trying to trade in its parts. He has a network of hunters whom he supplies with arms and ammunition. He was arrested with one of his poachers.		Locked while on trial
16	16-04-12	East	Messok	Natte Jean	Dealing in Elephant Products	Trade in Elephant products	A well known poacher of Baka origin arrested with Abdou Kadiri for killing an elephant and trying to trade in its parts. He is the main person who hunts to supply ivory and other elephant products to Kadiri.		Locked while on trial
17	17-04-12	East	Lomie	Ali Ahmed	Dealing in Elephant Products	Trade in Ivory	A major ivory trafficker heading a network that supplies ivory from the East to the Northern part of Cameroon. He and his partner were arrested in Lomie with 8 elephant tusks. He attempted to bribe the arresting team with 1 million FCFA (about \$2000) for his release, an act that was combated by the LAGA team in the field.		Locked while on trial
18	17-04-12	East	Lomie	Dairou	Dealing in Elephant Products	Trade in Ivory	A partner of Ali Ahmed arrested in Lomie with 8 elephant tusks. He assists in packaging and transportation of the ivory. They were arrested on their way from Yokadouma to the Northern part of Cameroon.		Locked while on trial
19	28-04-12	South	Mintom	Maya Samuel	Dealing in Elephant Products	Trade in Elephant products	Another major dealer arrested in Mintom with 8 elephant tails while trying to illegally trade in them. He claims to have steady customers in Djoum and Sangmelima, some of whom are high government officials. This claim is being investigated to permit the arrest of the said officials.		Locked while on trial
20	16-05-12	South West	Mamfe	Mohamadou Habibou	Dealing in live Ostriches	Pet trade	An International wildlife trafficker arrested in Mamfe by the Delegation of MINFOF Mamfe – South West Region while attempting to illegally enter with 8 ostriches into Cameroon from Nigeria with no official documents or permits. High level government officials of the South West Region were trying to intimidate MINFOF officials for their release and it is alleged that the birds were ordered by a multi-millionaire in the North West Region. LAGA assisted MINFOF to open a case file against the dealer in the Court of First Instance – Mamfe.	Nigeria	Free while on trial
21	06-06-12	Center	Yaounde	Ze Michel Nazaille	Dealing in Elephant Products	Trade in Elephant products	A regular dealer arrested with elephant products including tails and jaws in Yaounde. He is based in Akonolinga - Center Region and has been supplying elephant products including ivory in Yaounde to other dealers. He claims to be in the business for a long time, getting his products from the East Region. He proposed 2 million FCFA to the arresting team for his release, an act that was immediately combated by the LAGA team in the field.		locked while on trial
22	09-06-12	South	Djoum	Mbia Obounou David	Dealing in Elephant Products	Trade in Ivory	A major ivory dealer arrested with 6 elephant tusks and elephant meat in Djoum - South, a hotspot for ivory trafficking. He had 2 guns and ammunition on him. The operation was initiated by MINFOF - National Brigade with LAGA coordinating, controlling legal procedure and follow-up in court.		Locked while on trial
23	14-06-12	West	Bazou	Nyngui Beka Octave	Dealing in a live chimp	Pet trade	A well known dealer arrested with a live baby chimp while trying to illegally trade in it in Bazou. He and his accomplice initially resisted arrest, instigating a crowd to intimidate the operations team; fortunately, the team used diplomacy, convinced the crowd on the necessity of getting the statements of offence of the dealers who were thereafter transported to Bangangte. The baby chimp was rescued and transported to Yaounde for upkeep and proper treatment in the Mfou sanctuary.		Locked while on trial
24	14-06-12	West	Bazou	Bandou Tangmi Bernard	Dealing in a live chimp	Pet trade	Another regular and the accomplice of Beka Octave arrested in Bazou with a live chimp while trying to illegally trade in it. He also resisted arrest and instigated crowd trouble. They were successfully conveyed to Bangangte for legal procedure and to be locked up. The chimp was rescued and taken to Yaounde.		Locked while on trial