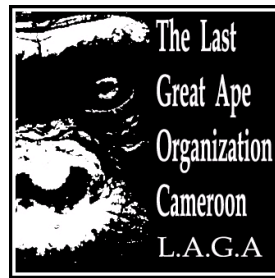


THE LAST GREAT APE ORGANIZATION, CAMEROON LAGA

ANNUAL REPORT JANUARY – DECEMBER 2011



Executive Summary

Significant progress was made over this period on all 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. There was more focus on the fight against corruption, beginning of replication in Chad, and regional enforcement in Congo – Brazzaville, Central African Republic and Gabon.

For every 6.5 days a major wildlife dealer was arrested, 89% stayed behind bars from the day of arrest and corruption was observed and fought in many of the cases. For every single day a media piece was put on national news and recorded. 35 dealers were prosecuted and over \$100,000 was to be paid as damages to MINFOF. Focused operations were on ivory, primates and wildlife trade over the Internet. Changes in personnel were carried out in line with the objective of being more cost effective with matching performance.

This year, LAGA won another award - The Future for Nature Award in the Netherlands, given to individuals for internationally outstanding species protection efforts. LAGA made a breakthrough in the collaboration with Interpol in an Interpol Regional meeting in Chad with recommendations between and LAGA to be formalized. In regional enforcement - in Congo, PALF obtained the heaviest punishment ever laid on a Chinese ivory trafficker in Africa – 4 years prison term, AALF - Gabon carried out the biggest apes operation in Africa with 5 traffickers arrested with 13 ape heads and 32 ape hands among other contraband wildlife, and 2 dealers arrested with a lion skin by RALF – CAR. Replication prospects advanced in Nigeria and Chad, and regional collaboration increased with LAGA Director meeting with Conservation Justice Director in Gabon. LAGA was invited by International Law Enforcement Academy to train in the first anti-corruption program. The French version of the LAGA Manual was produced and printed.

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



OVERVIEW OF ACHIEVEMENTS

Investigations

- A total of 237 investigation missions were conducted in 9 Regions of Cameroon.
- 1 Investigator was kidnapped and recovered safely regarding the case of 3 ivory dealers.
- PALF- Congo and AALF-Gabon Investigators end training in LAGA with good results.
- Investigators more involved in writing reports on illegal trade of protected wildlife.

Operations

- Operations were carried out in 7 Regions against 56 suspects resulting in 56 court cases – a rate of one major dealer every 6.5 days.
- The rate of imprisonment for suspects apprehended reached 89%.
- More focus was on ivory, primates, sea turtle shells, and Internet Wildlife Investigation.
- The biggest wildlife exporter arrested in Yaounde – Center and transferred to Douala.

Legal

- 56 new cases were brought to court and represented.
- 35 dealers sentenced and over \$100,000 was to be paid as damages.
- An outstanding prosecution was achieved in February, a dealer sentenced to 2 years imprisonment. 11 major wildlife dealers sentenced to imprisonment in August month.
- Corruption observed and combated in more than 80% of the cases.

Media

- A total of 371 media pieces were produced and pushed into national media (television, radio and press) - a rate of more than one media piece per day.
- 11,245 visits to the LAGA website and You Tube channel reached 78,000 views this year.
- ARTE.TV – a French International TV network made a report on LAGA's fight against ivory trade.
- Unprecedented number of media pieces obtained in November - 64 in total.

Strategic Highlights

- Special focus on trade in ivory, primates and primate parts in East and South of Cameroon.
- LAGA continued with the crackdown in Internet wildlife dealers - international collaboration with the US Fish and Wildlife Service resulted in the arrest of 2 cyber wildlife traffickers.
- Fighting corruption and bribing attempts documented in 85% of our field arrest operations, and 80% of all court cases within the legal system.

Government and External Relations

- LAGA wins another award - The Future for Nature Award in the Netherlands, given to individuals for internationally outstanding species protection efforts.
- LAGA makes a breakthrough in the collaboration with Interpol in an Interpol Regional meeting in Chad.
- A series of meetings held in Kenya with the steering committee of the Pan African Alliance for Animal Welfare.
- LAGA participated at 61st meeting of the Standing Committee of CITES in Geneva – Switzerland.

Management

- Departments effectively put in place plans to reconstruct and on measures to cut costs while maintaining the good results.
- LAGA carried out changes in personnel in line with the objective of being more cost effective with matching performance.
- The French version of the LAGA Manual produced and distributed.

Replication of LAGA Activities

- Good operations carried in all regional enforcement projects – LAGA, PALF, RALF and AALF.
- Biggest apes operation in Africa carried out by AALF Gabon with 5 traffickers arrested with 13 ape heads and 32 ape hands among other contraband wildlife.
- 1 PALF Investigator, 1 AALF Investigator and 1 AALF Jurist trained in LAGA - Yaounde.
- LAGA Director was invited by International Law Enforcement Academy to train in the first anti-corruption program for wildlife enforcers.
- In Congo, PALF obtained the heaviest punishment ever laid on a Chinese ivory trafficker in Africa – 4 years was given to the wildlife criminal arrested in the airport a few months earlier.
- 2 dealers arrested with a lion skin by RALF – CAR and later sentenced to 6 months imprisonment, the maximum punishment for a wildlife crime in that country.

CONTENTS

This report refers to activities from January till December 2011. The organization experienced a major climb in the political level and operational levels. This report includes: the activities in each department (Investigations, Operations, Legal, and Media), strategic overview of our operations and their impact on wildlife crime, progress in relations with the Cameroonian Government, the international arena, and in management.

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Further documents also available:

- Annual financial statement 2011
- Monthly financial and activity reports January - December
- 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 237 investigation missions in 9 Regions of Cameroon. The department continued with structural reorganization culminating in high improvement in its professional output. Field testing and high screening of new investigators continued within this period. Training of Investigators on operations procedure continued and Investigators also started to be more involved in writing reports on illegal trade of protected wildlife and wildlife products. One investigator wrote a report on ivory trade in Cameroon and all are encouraged by the LAGA Director to undertake more of such initiatives.

There was a special investigation focus on corruption in international trafficking of Parrots that led to the arrest of the biggest wildlife exporter in Yaounde – Center and transferred to Douala after the case against him was rebuilt and a warrant issued for his arrest. Other focal areas include trade in primates and their parts, networks involved in ivory trade, trade in leopard skins, foreigners dealing in sea turtle shells, and Internet Investigations targeting wildlife dealers who trade over the Internet. Attention also shifted to the Northern part of the country after a long time without focused missions.

The strategy involving the recruitment of informants in the main wildlife trade hotspots in Cameroon continued. Informants were recruited the Southern and Eastern Regions. This exercise will be carried out in all the Regions of Cameroon and will permit real time information on illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products.

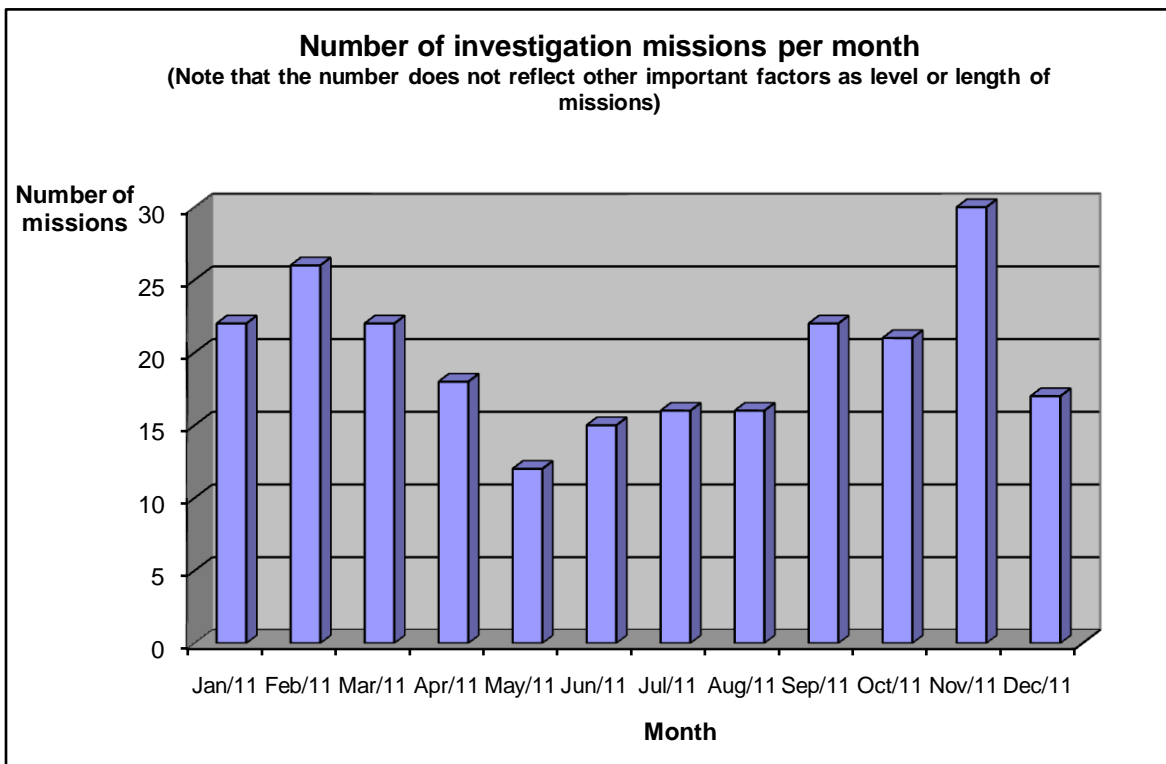
Investigators from other projects involved in replication were trained in Yaounde under the regional exchange program. PALF - Republic of Congo and AALF – Gabon Investigators were trained on procedures of Investigations, Operations, Legal follow-up on court cases and how to produce and push through media pieces. They also received training on how to work on the Investigations Organic system and how to write good field activities and financial reports. Some of their field missions resulted in operations e.g. in Kribi – South in the arrest of 2 main dealers with 9 sea turtle shells. Training and exchange of Investigators will continue with the other projects. In addition to the training, LAGA Investigations Unit is more involved in investigations and operations procedures in the replication projects especially PALF – Congo and RALF – CAR and AALF – Gabon leading to good registered successful operations with many dealers arrested.

In February, 1 Investigator was kidnapped regarding the case of 3 ivory dealers. This was a reminder of the danger accompanying our work and the importance of following strict measures and procedures in the field to deal with such events in a professional manner. LAGA managed to rescue him and get 5 dealers arrested in their Mercedes Benz but his life was probably saved due to sticking to procedures built for such scenarios. He was sent to infiltrate an increasingly resilient network - Douala's ivory dealers. He had recorded by his hidden camera the dealers with ivory tusks as they explain the different ways they export ivory concealed in carved armchairs, and as they brought him to a woman that “produces permits” for illegal ivory through “her contacts in the Ministry -

MINFOF”. At one point they started suspecting the investigator, and as they involved more ivory dealers they have concluded he is a LAGA investigator and kidnapped him. Since our investigators operate with strict communication procedures we understood very fast that we have a problem. We called his phone using his local dialect, again according to procedure we are all drilled with. From that we gathered he is kidnapped though we could not get his exact location. Trying to lure the dealers to different locations and searching for the dealers’ Mercedes in three different towns, we finally managed to arrest them and recover our investigator who was unharmed, though quite surprised he came out of this alive. The five are still behind bars as the international community helps our anti-corruption efforts to deflect the many corruption attempts for their release. The kidnapping of a LAGA staff showed us the importance of following strict measures and procedures in the field to deal with such events in a professional manner. This event was dealt with in a professional calculated manner and also stands to show the criminal nature of wildlife offenders.

April month saw one Investigator, i33 continuing his studies in South Africa. The challenge will be to continue engaging him in activism while in South Africa. He is still getting information back to the LAGA Investigations Department on his targets and he will be engaged in more investigations work especially on international trade.

The months of May and June witnessed a low number of missions mainly because of the Investigator i33 continuing his studies in South Africa. More investigators will be recruited and field tests done but only those who place high value on LAGA’s mission will be selected.



2. Operations

LAGA and the Government of Cameroon carried out 56 operations in 7 Regions resulting in 56 court cases – one for every 6.5 days of the year. Operations became more sophisticated over the period and the rate of imprisonment of the accused individuals while awaiting trial reached 89% of the cases. More than half of the operations were on the busting of networks dealing in ivory and other elephant products (54%). Other focal areas were trade in live primates and meat of primates especially gorilla parts (25%) and wildlife trade over the Internet. There were concentrated strike operations in the South especially Djoum and East notably Lomie.

The main attention regarding parrots was on the biggest wildlife trafficker in Cameroon who was arrested in Yaounde – Center and transferred to Douala after the case against him was rebuilt and a warrant issued for his arrest.

In January, 2 operations were carried against 3 subjects. A regular dealer of Nigerian nationality with no official residential documents for Cameroon was arrested while trying to illegally trade in 7 sea turtle shells. In another operation, 2 well known dealers were arrested in Ebolowa - South while trying to trade in a live mandrill. They claim to be related to a highly placed official of MINFOF and their unprocedural release after the taking of the statement of offence lays credence to this claim. The MINFOF Delegate for the Southern Region refused to write a remand warrant for them to be locked up and presented to the State Prosecutor the following day. Also, the dealers and the MINFOF officials were observed speaking in their dialect after the arrest and during the writing of the statement of offence. This unprocedural and irregular behaviour was reported to the Minister who asked the said Delegate to fully collaborate with the LAGA team so as to present the dealers to the Prosecutor and for normal procedures to follow suit.

In February, 3 operations were carried out against 5 major dealers. A dealer and the owner of a shop who has been dealing in primates for more than 5 years was arrested in Yaounde – Center Region with a life Mandrill. He resisted arrest and instigated a crowd to be violent during his arrest. While in the Gendarmerie Brigade, he attempted on several occasions to negotiate with the arresting officers through bribe for his release. In another good operation, a regular dealer was arrested in Bangangte – West Region with a live baby chimp while trying to trade in it. He is also reputed for selling bushmeat in Bazou – West and also has some main buyers / customers in Bafoussam - West. Still in February, 3 major dealers in ivory and products of other protected wildlife species were arrested in Kribi – South for trying to trade in 4 elephant tusks, kidnapping and violent attempts on a LAGA staff and a collaborator. One of them is also a recidivist who had been arrested before for other crimes and from records, affirms that he had gone to Nigeria several times to sell ivory. During the investigation phase, they kidnapped the investigator and forcefully transported him from Douala - Littoral to Kribi where they were arrested. The investigator was saved by adhering to procedure and the quick reaction of the whole LAGA team that rapidly put together officials of the forces of law and order that arrested the dealers and rescued the investigator and the collaborator.

In March, the biggest wildlife exporter was arrested in Yaounde – Center and transferred to Douala after the case against him was rebuilt and a warrant issued for his arrest. He was first arrested in 2007 and this uncovered issues of complicity and corruption within the Ministry trying to export 720 parrots to Bahrain, an illegal destination. This again validated information we had before about the organized chain of complicity in the parrot trade and how white-collar criminals thrive on this complicity gaining a legitimate cover and eliminating the risk factor. The parrots' cases uncovered corruption at a very high level; insisting to tackle it got us many new enemies, threats, and warnings that we are “stepping on the wrong toes” and that it will send us on “a one way ticket out of Cameroon”. In a special corruption report LAGA submitted to the Minister we highlighted our evidence for the role played by a highly placed ministry official in collaborating with the offenders, issuing false declarations on CITES permits, and attempting to block our cases. The operation quickly intensified the backlash to our anti-corruption work alienating the ministry official in question and most of the involved officials in one side and LAGA and the Minister on the other. With the involvement of the British High Commissioner and other members of the diplomatic community the ministry official was removed. This in did not stop the wildlife trafficker in question and through more corruption and bribery, he succeeded to make the case file against him disappear and later in court, he claimed that no case was ever opened against him.

It should be noted that in 2009, LAGA received a strong letter of support from 7 Ambassadors as LAGA faced threats in line of their work in wildlife law enforcement and the fight against corruption. LAGA deals regularly with many threats – physical, political and legal. Basically this biggest wildlife dealer in Cameroon seems to have been trying to influence the court through corruption to put the LAGA Director behind bars as revenge and to escape justice after his arrest in 2007. But the debate that opened in court seemed to have little to do with reason or with law. The dealer lied under oath at least three times. Both the State Counsel and the Judge were unexplainably hostile. Nevertheless, the international community took quick and unprecedented action to stand by LAGA and the LAGA Director as no fewer than seven ambassadors signed a strong letter of support sent to the Minister of Forest, Minister of Justice and the Prime Minister. Afterwards, the Minister of Forestry and Wildlife wrote a strong letter of support himself. The Ambassadors stated in their letter that they have supported the Director and LAGA's work for a number of years and see the success in fighting wildlife trafficking as one of Cameroon's anti-corruption success stories.

In April, 5 operations were carried out against the 14 main dealers; 3 of the operations were carried out within 3 days with 6 dealers arrested. 2 regular dealers in chimp parts were arrested in Kumba – South West while trying to collect 400.000 FCFA (\$800) for 2 chimp heads and 8 chimp limbs. The chimps were reportedly killed in the Korup National Park in the South West Region and it was not the first time they have been apprehended for trading in products of protected wildlife species. After their arrest, they tried to get the Assistant Divisional Officer for Kumba to intervene on their behalf, but this was quickly squashed by the operating team. Still in April, 2 main dealers were arrested in Kribi – South while trying to trade in 9 sea turtle shells. They claimed to have traded in ivory before with suppliers from the northern part of Cameroon and buyers from Equatorial Guinea. They resisted arrest and tried to fight with the operations team. In another

operation, 2 other dealers were arrested in Kribi – South while trying to sell a live baby chimp. They have been trafficking live primates for long using a motor-bike to carry out their business. They called on former Member of Parliament from the Ocean Division to intervene on their behalf but he refused after getting the details of the case from the operations team. The live baby chimp was rescued and sent to the Limbe wildlife Center for proper care.

In other operations in April, 2 dealers in protected wildlife products arrested in Bafang – West with a very large leopard skin. They were arrested with a military uniform and a motor-bike which they use to carry out the trade. One of them is a recidivist and claims to have connections to the Bafang royal family. Another major operation in April saw a network of elephant poachers/dealers busted in Bengbis – South. 6 of them were arrested for killing an elephant in the Dja Reserve and trying to trade in its parts. They were arrested with 2 elephant tusks (about 4 kg), a gun and smoked elephant meat. They are connected to a main dealer of Malian nationality and investigations are still ongoing for his arrest. The operation was carried out by some Ecoguards of former ECOFAC. LAGA was involved in writing the complaint reports (PV), ensuring that the culprits were transported and locked-up in Sangmelima while at the same time following up the cases in the Court of First Instance in Bengbis and carrying out more investigations in order to arrest the main dealer of Malian nationality who is the main driving force behind the killings of elephants in that area.

In May, 2 operations were carried out against 5 major dealers. 2 major ivory dealers known by the authorities for being involved in illegal ivory trafficking for a long time were arrested in Douala Littoral with 34 kg and more than 364 worked ivory pieces. They were arrested and the ivory seized in a well known workshop in Akwa – Douala wherein other operations had been carried out before and an area difficult to penetrate. One of the dealers who had been arrested in 2006 for ivory trafficking claimed to have been in the ivory business for more than 25 years which he learned from his father and grandfather. The other dealer attempted to bribe one of the arresting officers with about \$400 and was captured in LAGA's camera; the bribery attempt was vigorously combated. Amongst the worked ivory pieces were Hankos (Chinese name seals) and this lays credence to the fact that the worked ivory pieces were destined for the foreign market especially the Chinese market which has been in the limelight for the past years.

Still in May, a network of 7 elephant poachers/dealers was busted in Mintom-Djoum – South. 3 of them have been arrested with a hunting rifle and ammunition in the Dja - Reserve while preparing to kill elephants in the reserve. LAGA was involved in the arrest of the suspects and has been in charge in writing the complaint reports (PV), ensuring that the culprits were transported and locked-up in Djoum while at the same time following up the cases in the Court. Investigations are still ongoing and operations planned to arrest the other members of the network.

June saw another member of the network of elephant dealers was arrested in Mintom – South. This network of 7 elephant poachers / dealers was busted in May 2011. With LAGA continuing investigations, more dealers were arrested including the most recent one. They were arrested with a hunting rifle and ammunition in the Dja - Reserve while

preparing to kill elephants in the reserve. LAGA was involved in the arrest of the suspects after receiving information from some Ecoguards, and has been in charge in writing the complaint reports (PV), ensuring that the culprits were transported and locked-up in Djoum while at the same time following up the cases in the Court.

In other operations in June, a leopard skin dealer was arrested in Yaounde with a leopard skin and a leopard skull. He has a group of suppliers from Tonga – West and sells in the main cities of Yaounde – Center and Douala – Littoral. His father is his accomplice in whose house he hides the products of the protected wildlife species. 2 dealers were arrested while trying to trade in chimp parts and other wildlife species in Mindaurou – East. They were arrested with arms, ammunition and traps. Unprocedural court process was observed in this case in the court in Abong Mbang. This led the State prosecutor to reverse his decision of closing the dealers during the trial by granting bail to them. This is the second time to observe this problem within 3 months.

In July 4 dealers were arrested in Djoum – South in 2 separate operations within 2 days. In the first operation, 3 dealers were arrested with elephant tusks, arm and ammunition. This operation was initiated by some Ecoguards and LAGA was involved in the investigations, operational phases and legal procedure. In the second operation, a dealer in primates was arrested with a live mandrill while trying to illegally trade in it. His father who happens to be a military officer stationed in Djoum initially tried to intimidate the operations team and later on attempted to bribe the arresting officers for the release of his son which was combated. These attempts were vigorously fought against by the LAGA team in the field.

The month of August also saw 2 dealers arrested in Djoum – South with elephant tusks, arm and ammunition used in the killing of elephants and other protected wildlife species by officers of the Djoum police station. LAGA is involved in further investigations and legal follow-up, ensuring that the suspects are locked up.

In September following a report to LAGA and international collaboration with the US Fish and Wildlife Service, 2 well-known Internet wildlife dealers were arrested in Ekona and Muea in the South West Region after offering for sale rhinoceros horns through the Internet to a customer in USA. They had in their possession a falsified export permit, an official document. They had scanned a national identity card, and then proceeded to falsify the scanned copy which was then posted over the Internet to lure and convince victims to send money while pretending to be credible sellers. They have been engaged in this form of falsification and trade for more than 3 years. No horns were actually found. Their link to other forms of fraud is being investigated. This case again proves that while the Internet trade in Cameroon is connected to fraud, it does not mean that actual transactions do not take place.

In October, there were many difficulties in getting arrest operations due to the limited number of field missions as a result of the presidential elections. Movement was limited and collaborators in the Ministry in charge of Wildlife could not travel, also, officers of the forces of law and order used in operations were all on security alert, therefore not available to go to the field. Despite the elections, a baby gorilla was rescued and plans are

underway to arrest the dealer/poacher who captured it after killing the mother according to investigations. The dealer is known to illegally trade in other protected wildlife and wildlife products especially ivory.

Still in October, 2 fugitive dealers that were sentenced to six months imprisonment term each by the Court of First Instance of Abong Mbang - East for illegal detention of 20 ivory tusks in September 2011 were arrested at Salapoumbe around Lobeke National Park (East Region of Cameroon). LAGA assisted in their transfer to Abong Mbang prison and putting the right legal procedures in place so that they could effectively serve imprisonment term.

Very good operations were carried out in November with 5 dealers arrested in 3 different operations; 2 of the operations took place within 2 days in Lomie – East that resulted in the arrest of 4 dealers. In the first operation in Lomie, the dealer who also works in the Lomie Treasury was arrested with gorilla parts and other protected wildlife were taken from a deep freezer in his house in which he kept the meat of the protected wildlife species before supplying a network of customers in bigger cities notably Yaounde. In the second operation in Lomie, a network of bushmeat dealers was busted resulting in the arrest of 3 dealers with totally protected wildlife species. They supply the main towns of Bertoua, Ngaoundere and Garoua.

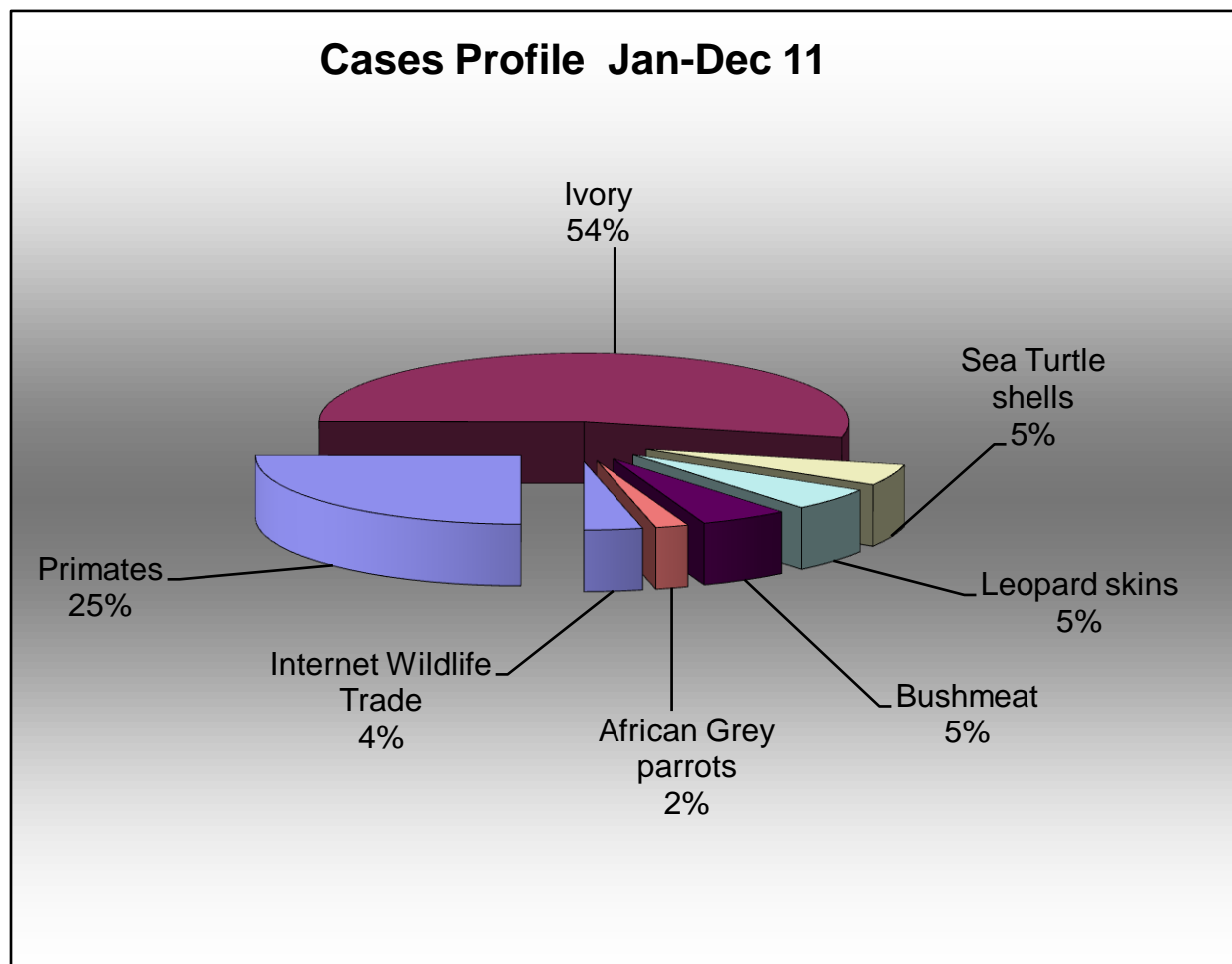
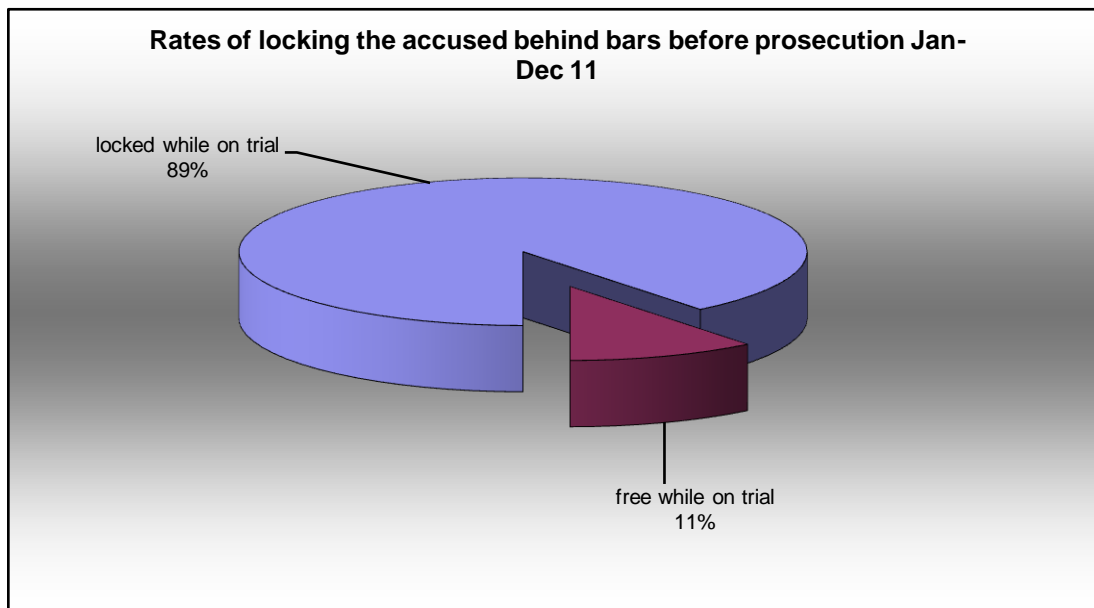
In another operation, a regular dealer was arrested while trying to trade in a live mandrill in Ambam - South. He is well known for trading in live protected animals and he has a bike that he uses to transport the animals. The mandrill was rescued and taken to the Mvog-Betsi Zoo in Yaounde for proper follow-up and upkeep.

December was also a good month with 7 dealers arrested in 3 different operations. In Mindourou – East, a female dealer of Baka origin and the Director of an NGO known as CADDAP (Action Centre for the Sustainable Development of Indigenous Communities) was arrested with her accomplice while trying to traffic 4 elephant tusks, 2 elephant tails and 2 elephant teeth. She uses the cover of the NGO to traffic ivory products.

In another operation, 4 dealers belonging to a network of ivory traffickers were arrested in Moloundou – East with 44 elephant tusks weighing 107 kg and 2 elephant tails stashed between bags of cocoa. The elephants were killed in the Lobeke National park. One of the dealers attempted to bribe the arresting officers with 5 million FCFA (about \$10,000) to no avail. The operation was headed by the Conservator of the Lobeke National Park. LAGA was instrumental in assuring that the right legal procedures were followed and the suspects conveyed to the Court of First Instance in Yokadouma. LAGA also planned and arrested another member of the network in Yokadouma.

In Mvangan – South, a dealer in live primates was arrested with a live chimp while trying to illegally trade in it. He got the baby chimp after the mother had been killed. He is also reputed for selling bushmeat in the main town of Ebolowa. After his arrest, an unprocedural court process was observed. Instead of legally deciding on the steps to be

taken, the State Counsel decided to send the file back to MINFOF stating that a transaction should be carried out with the dealer in question.



3. Legal

56 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 subjects are imprisoned throughout the process instead of being allowed to move freely and conduct further criminal acts.

The sentences being handed down continue to be more severe although the process of bringing the case to trial is becoming more time consuming due to corruption. Despite that, outstanding prosecutions were achieved this year, 16 cases were prosecuted with 35 dealers sentenced. Over \$100,000 was to be paid as damages to MINFOF. Corruption and trade of influence was observed in many of the cases though we think it will be more because most of the cases are still ongoing.

An outstanding prosecution was achieved in February. The Court of First Instance of Abong-Mbang – East sentenced one dealer to 2 years imprisonment and to pay \$1960 as damages. He was arrested in Abong-Mbang for killing and trading in elephant parts.

A very good prosecution was obtained in March whereby the court of First Instance of Abong-Mbang sentenced 2 dealers to 10 months of prison term and to pay \$2500 each as damages. They were arrested in Somalomo - East for killing and trading in elephant products. Still in March, the Court of First Instance of Bangangte - West sentenced a dealer to 1 year of prison suspended sentence during three years and to pay \$250 as damages for detaining 1 baby chimp and trying to trade in it.

Still in March, the Legal Department was following up cases in Abong Mbang – East against a network of 6 ivory dealers that was busted in Bertoua – East. They were arrested for trying to trade in 20 elephant tusks, hiding the tusks amongst bags containing cocoa being transported from Bertoua to Douala and the tusks were destined for Nigeria according to the dealers. The operation was initiated by WWF. The dealers attempted to bribe the Ecoguards who arrested them with a sum of 2 million Frs. CFA (about \$4000).

In April, the court of First Instance of Douala – Littoral sentenced a regular dealer to six (6) months of prison and to pay \$4845 as damages and fine. He was arrested in Douala for illegal detention and trying to sell a leopard skin.

In May, the court of First Instance of Bafang - West sentenced a major dealer to 1 year suspended sentence during three years and to pay \$1070 as damages and fine. He was arrested in Bafang for the illegal detention and trying to trade in 1 leopard skin. LAGA has appealed against this ruling and the case follow-up is continuing so as to obtain a better court sentence.

In July, 3 cases were sentenced against 4 dealers. The court of First Instance of Douala-Littoral sentenced 2 ivory dealers to pay \$10,202 suspended for five years and to pay \$650 as damages as fines. The court of First Instance of Kribi sentenced a dealer in sea turtle shells to pay \$1,200 as damages and fine. And the Court of First Instance of Fouban sentenced an ivory dealer to pay \$10,949 as damages and fine.

In August, 3 cases prosecuted and 11 major wildlife dealers sentenced to imprisonment. The court of First Instance of the Administrative Center – Yaounde sentenced 3 major ivory dealers, one of them of Egyptian nationality and 2 Cameroonians to 2 years of imprisonment and to pay \$10.950 as damages and fine each.

The court of First Instance of Bengbis - South sentenced 6 dealers belonging to a network of ivory traffickers and other elephant products to 1 year of prison term and to pay \$7.290 as fine and damages each. They were arrested for illegal killing and trading in elephant products especially ivory inside Dja Biosphere Reserve.

The court of First Instance of Bafang - West sentenced 2 well known dealers in leopard skins to 1 year of imprisonment and to pay \$3.460 as fine and damages each.

10 major wildlife dealers were sentenced in September, 7 to serve prison terms and 3 to pay fines and damages. The Court of First Instance of Abong-Mbang – East sentenced 3 ivory dealers to 6 months of prison term each and 2 others to pay \$60 each as fines. They were also sentenced to pay jointly \$7600 as damages. In another case, the Court of First Instance of Ebolowa – South sentenced 1 primate dealer to 2 months of imprisonment and to pay \$300 as fine, and another to pay \$200. They were also sentenced to pay jointly \$1000 as damages. Also, the Court of First Instance of Djoum – South Region sentenced 3 ivory dealers to 2 months of prison term each and to pay \$1300 as fines and damages.

In October, 2 dealers were sentenced; the court of First Instance of Abong-Mbang - East sentenced a chimp dealer to 1 year suspended sentence for 3 years and to pay about \$1000 as damages. Also, the Court of First Instance of Muyuka – South West sentenced an ivory dealer to 1 year 8 months suspended sentence for 3 years and to pay about \$1000 as fines and damages.

2 prosecutions were obtained in November with 2 dealers were sentenced. The Court of First Instance of Djoum - South sentenced a dealer in live primates to pay \$200 as fine and \$1000 as civil damages. Still in Djoum, an ivory dealer was sentenced to pay \$80 as fine and \$1700 as civil damages. He will be retained in jail for 6 months in default of payment of fine.

For further improvement and more operations in regional enforcement, training session continued to be held in the regional headquarters in Cameroon. A Jurist from AALF – Gabon ended a 5 weeks training in Yaounde under the regional exchange program. 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 (Central African Republic), Jurist – PALF Congo, and Jurist - AALF Gabon.

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.

247 missions were done out of the Center Region for follow-up, new cases and the creation of relations with judiciary authorities. There were relations opening with Provincial Attorney Generals and State Attorneys all with positive cooperative outcomes and expressions of their readiness and commitment to work with LAGA in Cameroon. Other missions were on the replication of LAGA activities and wildlife law enforcement.

4. Media

A total of 371 media pieces was produced and pushed into national media, including numerous articles in all media – radio, television and written press, a rate of 1.02 media piece per day. There were few media pieces in March and October due to lack of produced operations, and December because of holidays, but this was compensated in the November with an unprecedented number of media pieces obtained - a total of 64.

The capacity, professionalism, and matching results in this department have been growing steadily. A program of intensified media campaigning continued with efficient wildlife sensitization/awareness messages, which involved many stakeholders as guests.

Subjects were on a broad range of wildlife law enforcement issues including all of LAGA-MINFOF operations, prosecutions and replication, prominent amongst which are: Interpol meeting – Chad, replication Chad - Cameroon accord; CITES meeting and decision on elephants; 14 wildlife traffickers slammed a total of 18 years in jail; 3 dealers arrested with 700 parrots in Buea, 4 countries simultaneously clamped down on wildlife traffickers in the sub region, Yoyo arrest of a Nigerian sea turtle dealer, Bangui arrest of dealer in lion skin, gorilla parts dealer arrest Lomie; Buea Internet wildlife dealers arrest; baby chimp trafficker arrested in Bangangte, Abong Mbang arrest of 6 ivory traffickers, Kribi 2 wildlife dealers arrest in chimp trade, ivory dealers arrested in Douala; prosecution of Cameroonian traffickers in Gabon; arrest of three ivory traffickers in Djoum; Bengbis judgment of ivory dealers; leopard skin crackdown in the sub region etc.

Guests amongst others included: Minister of Forestry and Wildlife, the Director of LAGA, The Secretary General of CITES - John E. Scanlon, the Coordinator of the great ape project of USFWS, Director of Wildlife – MINFOF, MINFOF South West Regional Delegate, , North West Regional Delegate of MINFOF, South West Legion Commander of the Gendarmerie, LAGA Legal Head of Department; the former Information Officer at the US Embassy; Director of Wildlife School Garoua – North Region, Conservator of Edea-Douala reserve, Lecturer in the University of Dschang and Researcher on lions, former MINEP Technical Adviser; PALF Project Coordinator, Chief of Station of the Donga Mantung Community Radio etc.

LAGA activities were reported by ARTE.TV – a French International TV network.

Guillaum Dumant reports that the Future of Elephants is assured by a group of dedicated members of an NGO in Cameroon known as LAGA; he gives an account of the big ivory market of China and the consequent trafficking of ivory from Africa which is on the rise,

fuelled by a well organized mafia. This high level network of traffickers is being infiltrated by LAGA agents who work undercover leading to the arrest of these traffickers.

This was seen in Douala where 2 high level traffickers known by the authorities for being involved in illegal ivory trafficking for a long time were arrested in Douala Littoral with 34 kg and more than 364 worked ivory pieces. They were arrested and the ivory seized in a well known workshop in Akwa – Douala wherein other operations had been carried out before and an area difficult to penetrate. One of the dealers attempted to bribe an arresting officer with about \$400 and was captured in LAGA’s camera; the bribery attempt was vigorously combated.

<http://global.arte.tv/fr/tag/guillaume-dumant>

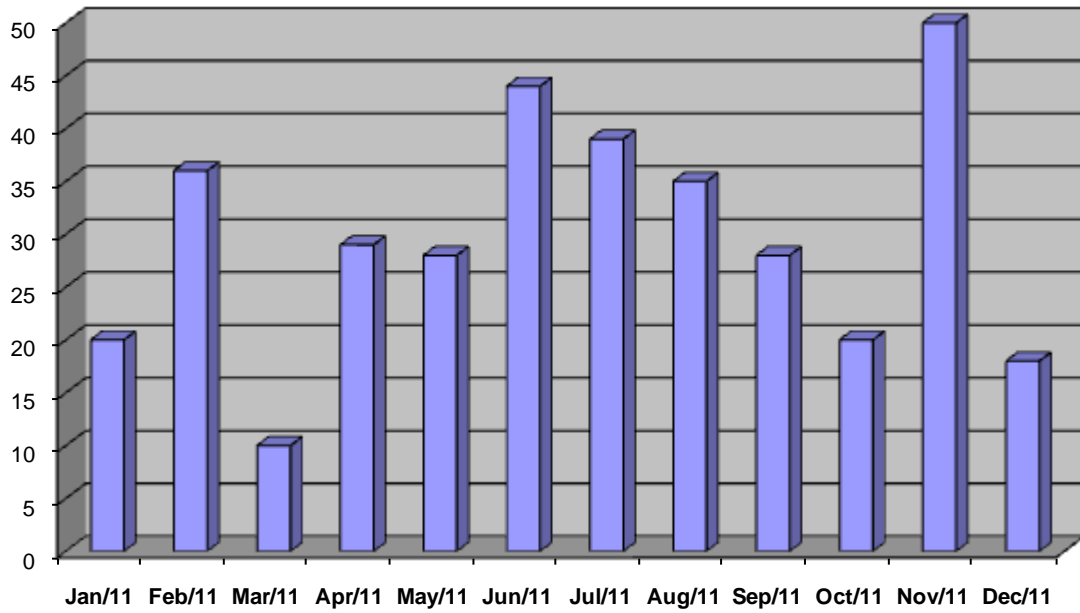
The distribution of the 7th edition of Wildlife Justice continued, and it focuses on Replication and Regional Law Enforcement. It looks at the impact of transnational wildlife trade and on ways governments should be working together to combat this trade. It extensively shows how government and NGOs can work in collaboration to apply wildlife law enforcement using the LAGA model that is actually spreading to other countries of the sub-region with the goal of creating a coordinated sub-regional response to trans-border wildlife crime. Wildlife Justice is a thematic journal that focuses on wildlife law enforcement and conservation issues.

LAGA Website Analysis January - December 2011:

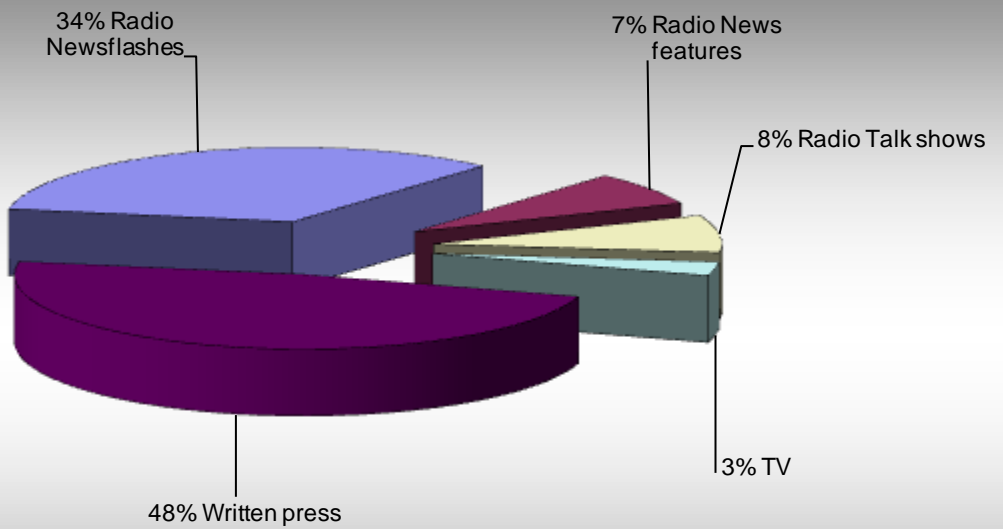
Page Views	11,245
You Tube Views	78,061
Channel Views	3,829

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

Number of Media Pieces Produced and Pushed



Split of Media Pieces



5. 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's work sheds light on the nature of illegal wildlife trade in the entire sub-region. The strategic focus over this period was on great apes and other threatened primates, ivory, African grey parrots, feline skin trade, Internet wildlife trade, sea turtle shells and meat of protected wildlife (bushmeat). Corruption and Wildlife Crime is another focal area that LAGA is combating.

5.1. Apes & other threatened primates

14 dealers in live primates who sell them as pets and for dealing in meat and parts of primates were arrested. This period also saw the rescue of a live baby gorilla, 3 live chimps and 4 live mandrills that were sent to specialized structures for up keeping.

In January, 2 well known dealers were arrested in Ebolowa - South while trying to trade in a live mandrill. They claim to be related to a highly placed official of MINFOF and their unprocedural release after the taking of the statement of offence lays credence to this claim. This unprocedural and irregular behaviour was reported to the Minister who asked the said Delegate to fully collaborate with the LAGA team so as to present the dealers to the Prosecutor and for normal procedures to follow suit.

In February, a major dealer and the owner of a shop who has been dealing in primates for more than 5 years was arrested in Yaounde – Center with a live Mandrill. He also attempted on several occasions to negotiate with the arresting officers. Still in February, another regular dealer was arrested in Bangangte – West Region with a live baby chimp while trying to trade in it. He is also reputed for selling bushmeat in Bazou – West and also has some main buyers / customers in Bafoussam - West.

In April, 2 regular dealers in chimp parts were arrested in Kumba – South West while trying to collect 400.000 FCFA (\$800) for 2 chimp heads and 8 chimp limbs. The chimps were reportedly killed in the Korup National Park in the South West Region and it was not the first time they have been apprehended for trading in products of protected wildlife species. After their arrest, they tried to get the Assistant Divisional Officer for Kumba to intervene on their behalf, but this was quickly squashed by the LAGA team.

Still in April, 2 other dealers were arrested in Kribi – South while trying to sell a live baby chimp. They have been trafficking live primates for long using a motor-bike to carry out their business. The live baby chimp was rescued and sent to the Limbe wildlife Center for proper care.

In June, 2 dealers were arrested while trying to trade in chimp parts in Mindaourou – East. LAGA took over the legal procedure from the writing of the complaint reports (PVs), ensuring that the culprits are still locked up, taking the case to the court and the follow-up of the cases in the court. Here too, unprocedural and irregular behaviour was observed

with the unprocedural release of the dealers by the State Counsel of Abong Mbang – East. Measures are being taken by LAGA through the MINFOF lawyer and the Ministry to put the case back in its normal track.

In July, a dealer in primates was arrested with a live mandrill in Djoum - South while trying to illegally trade in it. His father who happens to be a military officer stationed in Djoum initially tried to intimidate the operations team and later on attempted to bribe the arresting officers for the release of his son which was combated. These issues were vigorously fought against by the LAGA team in the field.

There were many difficulties in getting arrest operations in October due to the limited number of field missions as a result of the presidential elections. Movement was limited and collaborators in the Ministry in charge of Wildlife could not travel, also, officers of the forces of law and order used in operations were all on security alert, therefore not available to go to the field. Despite this, a baby gorilla was rescued and plans are underway to arrest the dealer/poacher who captured it after killing the mother according to investigations. The dealer is known to illegally trade in other protected wildlife and wildlife products especially ivory.

In November, a dealer who also works in the Lomie Treasury was arrested in Lomie – East with gorilla parts and other protected wildlife were taken from a deep freezer in his house in which he kept the meat of the protected wildlife species before supplying a network of customers in bigger cities notably Yaounde. In another operation, a regular dealer arrested while trying to trade in a live mandrill in Ambam - South. He is well known for trading in live protected animals and he has a bike that he uses to transport the animals. The mandrill was rescued and taken to the Mvog-Betsi Zoo in Yaounde for proper follow-up and upkeep.

In December in Mvangan – South, a dealer in live primates was arrested with a live chimp while trying to illegally trade in it. He got the baby chimp after the mother had been killed. He is also reputed for selling bushmeat in the main town of Ebolowa. After his arrest, an unprocedural court process was observed. Instead of legally deciding on the steps to be taken, the State Counsel decided to send the file back to MINFOF stating that a transaction should be carried out with the dealer in question.

5.2 Ivory and other Elephant Products

This year was marked by a special focus on trade in Ivory and other elephant products. Operations were carried out to crack down on ivory trade with the busting of 7 networks in the South and East Regions of Cameroon. 30 dealers in total were arrested.

In February, the Kribi network kidnapped the investigator who was trying to infiltrate it and a collaborator. At one point they started suspecting the investigator, and as they involved more ivory dealers they concluded he is a LAGA investigator and kidnapped him. The 3 major dealers in ivory and products of other protected wildlife species were arrested in Kribi – South for trying to trade in 4 elephant tusks.

One of them is also a recidivist who had been arrested before for other crimes and from records, affirms that he had gone to Nigeria several times to sell ivory. During the

investigation phase, they kidnapped the investigator and forcefully transported him from Douala - Littoral to Kribi where they were arrested. The investigator was saved by adhering to procedure and the quick reaction of the whole LAGA team that rapidly put together officials of the forces of law and order that arrested the dealers and rescued the investigator and the collaborator.

In April, a network of elephant poachers/dealers was busted in Bengbis – South. 6 of them were arrested for killing elephants in the Dja Reserve and trying to trade in their parts. They were arrested with 2 elephant tusks (about 4 kg), a gun and smoked elephant meat. They are connected to a main dealer of Malian nationality and investigations are still ongoing for his arrest. The operation was carried out by some Ecoguards of former ECOFAC. LAGA was involved in writing the complaint reports (PV), ensuring that the culprits were transported and locked-up in Sangmelima while at the same time following up the cases in the Court of First Instance in Bengbis and carrying out more investigations in order to arrest the main dealer of Malian nationality who is the main driving force behind the killings of elephants in that area.

In May, 2 major ivory dealers known by the authorities for being involved in illegal ivory trafficking for a long time were arrested in Douala Littoral with 34 kg and more than 364 worked ivory pieces. They were arrested and the ivory seized in a well known workshop in Akwa – Douala wherein other operations had been carried out before and an area difficult to penetrate. One of the dealers attempted to bribe one of the arresting officers with about \$400 and was captured in LAGA's camera; the bribery attempt was vigorously combated. Amongst them were Hankos (Chinese name seals) and this lays credence to the fact that the worked ivory pieces were destined for the foreign market especially the Chinese market which has been in the limelight for the past years.

Still in May, a network of 7 elephant poachers/dealers was busted in Mintom-Djoum – South. 3 of them have been arrested with a hunting rifle and ammunition in the Dja - Reserve while preparing to kill elephants in the reserve. LAGA was involved in the arrest of the suspects after receiving information from some Ecoguards, and has been in charge in writing the complaint reports (PV), ensuring that the culprits were transported and locked-up in Djoum while at the same time following up the cases in the Court. Another member of the network was arrested in June and Investigations are still ongoing and operations planned to arrest the other members of the network.

In July, 3 dealers were arrested with elephant tusks, arm and ammunition. This operation was initiated by some Ecoguards and LAGA was involved in the investigations and operational phases, as well as legal and court procedures. In August, 2 dealers were arrested in Djoum – South with elephant tusks, arm and ammunition used in the killing of elephants and other protected wildlife species by officers of the Djoum police station. LAGA is involved in further investigations and legal follow-up, ensuring that the suspects are locked up.

In October, 2 fugitive dealers that were sentenced to six months imprisonment term each by the Court of First Instance of Abong Mbang - East for illegal detention of 20 ivory tusks in September 2011 were arrested at Salapoumbe around Lobeke National Park (East

Region). LAGA assisted in their transfer to Abong Mbang prison and putting the right legal procedures in place so that they could effectively serve imprisonment term.

December saw a total of 6 ivory traffickers arrested in 2 different operations. In Mindourou – East, a female dealer of Baka origin and the Director of an NGO known as CADDAP (Action Centre for the Sustainable Development of Indigenous Communities) arrested with her accomplice while trying to traffic 4 elephant tusks, elephant tails and teeth. She uses the cover of the NGO to traffic ivory products.

In another operation, 4 dealers belonging to a network of ivory traffickers were arrested in Moloundou – East with 44 elephant tusks weighing 107 kg and 2 elephant tails stashed between bags of cocoa. The elephants were killed in the Lobeke National park. One of the dealers attempted to bribe the arresting officers with 5 million FCFA (about \$10,000) which was combated. The operation was headed by the Conservator of the Lobeke National Park. LAGA was instrumental in assuring that the right legal procedures were followed and the suspects conveyed to the Court. LAGA also planned and arrested another member of the network in Yokadouma.

5.3 African Grey Parrots

This year, the biggest wildlife exporter arrested in Yaounde – Center and transferred to Douala after the case against him was rebuilt and a warrant issued for his arrest. He was first arrested in 2007 and this uncovered issues of complicity and corruption within the Ministry trying to export 720 parrots to Bahrain, an illegal destination. This again validated information we had before about the organized chain of complicity in the parrot trade and how white-collar criminals thrive on this complicity gaining a legitimate cover and eliminating the risk factor. The parrots' cases uncovered corruption at a very high level; insisting to tackle it got us many new enemies, threats, and warnings that we are “stepping on the wrong toes” and that it will send us on “a one way ticket out of Cameroon”.

In a special corruption report LAGA submitted to the Minister we highlighted our evidence for the role played by a highly placed ministry official in collaborating with the offenders, issuing false declarations on CITES permits, and attempting to block our cases. The operation quickly intensified the backlash to our anti-corruption work alienating the ministry official in question and most of the involved officials in one side and LAGA and the Minister on the other. With the involvement of the British High Commissioner and other members of the diplomatic community the ministry official was removed. This in did not stop the wildlife trafficker in question and through more corruption and bribery, he succeeded to make the case file against him disappear and later in court, he claimed that no case was ever opened against him.

It should be noted that in 2009, LAGA received a strong letter of support from 7 Ambassadors as LAGA faced threats in line of their work in wildlife law enforcement and the fight against corruption. LAGA deals regularly with many threats – physical, political and legal. Basically this biggest wildlife dealer in Cameroon seems to have been trying to influence the court through corruption to put the LAGA Director behind bars as

revenge and to escape justice after his arrest in 2007. But the debate that opened in court seemed to have little to do with reason or with law. The dealer lied under oath at least three times. Both the State Counsel and the Judge were unexplainably hostile. Nevertheless, the international community took quick and unprecedented action to stand by LAGA and the LAGA Director as no fewer than seven ambassadors signed a strong letter of support sent to the Minister of Forest, Minister of Justice and the Prime Minister. Afterwards, the Minister of Forestry and Wildlife wrote a strong letter of support himself. The Ambassadors stated in their letter that they have supported the Director and LAGA's work for a number of years and see the success in fighting wildlife trafficking as one of Cameroon's anti-corruption success stories.

5.4 Sea Turtle Shells

This year was marked by a continuation of the crackdown in the illegal trade of sea turtles. These operations, following those of 2010 concretize the fact that illegal trade in sea turtle shells has been ongoing for long and still very strong.

In January, a regular dealer of Nigerian nationality with no official residential documents for Cameroon was arrested while trying to illegally trade in 7 sea turtle shells. He is also a fisherman and has 2 other brothers he claims help him to carry out the business.

In April, 2 other major dealers were arrested in Kribi – South while trying to trade in 9 sea turtle shells. They claimed to have traded in ivory before with suppliers from the northern part of Cameroon and buyers from Equatorial Guinea. They resisted arrest and tried to fight with the operations team.

5.5 Internet Wildlife Trade

As far as we know, LAGA was instrumental in bringing forward the first cyber-crime court cases in Cameroon and also showing the link between fraud and real trade. During this period, LAGA was able to conduct operations against 2 internet wildlife dealers in Buea – South West Region. Studying the worrying growth of Internet wildlife fraud in Cameroon in the last three years we noticed the link between wildlife and other forms of fraud including illegal immigration and adoption scams.

Following a report to LAGA and international collaboration with the US Fish and Wildlife Service, 2 well-known Internet wildlife dealers were arrested in Ekona and Muea in the South West Region after offering for sale rhinoceros horns through the Internet to a customer in USA. They had in their possession a falsified export permit, an official document. They had scanned a national identity card, and then proceeded to falsify the scanned copy which was then posted over the Internet to lure and convince victims to send money while pretending to be credible sellers. They have been engaged in this form of falsification and trade for more than 3 years. No horns were actually found. Their link to other forms of fraud is being investigated. This case again proves that while the Internet trade in Cameroon is connected to fraud, it does not mean that actual transactions do not take place.

5.6 Leopard Skins

Operations were carried out against dealers clamping down on leopard skins trade in sensitive West Region. In April, 2 dealers in protected wildlife products arrested in Bafang – West with a very large leopard skin. They were arrested with a military uniform and a motor-bike which they use to carry out the trade. One of them is a recidivist and claims to have connections to the Bafang royal family.

In June, a leopard skin dealer was arrested in Yaounde with a leopard skin and a leopard skull. He has a group of suppliers from Tonga – West and sells in the main cities of Yaounde – Center and Douala – Littoral. His father is his accomplice in whose house he hides the products of the protected wildlife species.

5.7 Bush meat

Investigations have showed an increase in illegal trade of meat of protected animal species in Lomie. This problem necessitated LAGA's intervention in hitting main actors with crackdown operations.

In addition to the dealer who was arrested with gorilla parts in a deep freezer in Lomie – East; other dealers were arrested in the same town in separate operations within 2 days. 3 dealers including a man and his wife were arrested in Lomie in November for dealing in protected wildlife species including Agile Mangabeys, Preuss's Monkeys, Yellow-backed Duiker, Forest Tortoise among other wildlife species. They were also arrested with a gun and ammunition that they give to poachers who kill the animals for them. These dealers supply the major cities of Bertoua, Ngaoundere and Garoua.

5.8 Corruption and Wildlife Crime

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. Corruption is also observed and combated in the regional enforcement activities.

This ongoing fight is being manifested in some results either directly or indirectly. In March, the biggest wildlife exporter was arrested in Yaounde – Center and transferred to Douala after the case against him was rebuilt and a warrant issued for his arrest. He was first arrested in 2007 and this uncovered issues of complicity and corruption within the Ministry trying to export 720 parrots to Bahrain, an illegal destination. The parrots' cases uncovered corruption at a very high level; insisting to tackle it got us many new enemies, threats, and warnings that we are “stepping on the wrong toes” and that it will send us on “a one way ticket out of Cameroon”.

In a special corruption report LAGA submitted to the Minister we highlighted our evidence for the role played by a highly placed ministry official in collaborating with the

offenders, issuing false declarations on CITES permits, and attempting to block our cases. The operation quickly intensified the backlash to our anti-corruption work alienating the ministry official in question and most of the involved officials in one side and LAGA and the Minister on the other. With the involvement of the British High Commissioner and other members of the diplomatic community the ministry official was removed. This in did not stop the wildlife trafficker in question and through more corruption and bribery, he succeeded to make the case file against him disappear and later in court, he claimed that no case was ever opened against him.

Attempts and suspicions of bribery were observed during some other arrest operations. This was vivid in May in Douala during the arrest of 2 well known ivory traffickers that resulted in the seizure of 34 kg and more than 364 worked ivory pieces. One of the dealers attempted to bribe one of the arresting officers with about \$400 and was captured in LAGA's camera; the bribery attempt was vigorously combated.



Bribery attempt observed and captured in LAGA's camera during the ivory operation in Douala. On the left is an officer of law and order collaborating with LAGA during the operation that resulted in the arrest of 2 major dealers, one of whom is attempting to bribe as seen in the picture. This attempt was vigorously combated by the LAGA team in the field.

Bribery attempts, suspicion of corruption and wrong court procedures were observed in many other cases. In January, 2 well known dealers arrested in Ebolowa - South while trying to trade in a live mandrill claimed to be related to a highly placed official of MINFOF and their unprocedural release after the taking of the statement of offence lays credence to this claim. The MINFOF Delegate for the Southern Region refused to write a remand warrant for them to be locked up and presented to the State Prosecutor the following day. Also, the dealers and the MINFOF officials were observed speaking in their dialect after the arrest and during the writing of the statement of offence. This unprocedural and irregular behaviour was reported to the Minister who asked the said Delegate to fully collaborate with the LAGA team so as to present the dealers to the Prosecutor and for normal procedures to follow suit.

In February in Yaounde - Center, a major dealer and the owner of a shop arrested with a live mandrill attempted on several occasions to negotiate with the arresting officers through bribe for his release. He also tried to bring in some highly placed relatives in the Cameroon military to intervene on his behalf to no avail.

In April in Kumba – South West, 2 regular dealers in chimp parts were arrested in Kumba – South West while trying to collect 400.000 FCFA (\$800) for 2 chimp heads and 8 chimp limbs tried to get the Assistant Divisional Officer for Kumba to intervene on their behalf, but this was quickly squashed by the operating team. Still in April in Kribi –

South, 2 other dealers arrested while trying to sell a live baby chimp called on former Member of Parliament from the Ocean Division to intervene on their behalf but he refused after getting the details of the case from the operations team.

In June in Abong Mbang – East involving 2 dealers that were arrested while trying to trade in chimp parts in Mindaourou – East, an unprocedural and irregular behaviour was observed with the unprocedural release of the dealers by the State Counsel of Abong Mbang. A relative of the dealers and a friend of President of the court interfering in the process; this made the State prosecutor to reverse his decision of locking-up the dealers during the trial by granting them bail. Measures are being taken by LAGA through the MINFOF lawyer and the Ministry to put the case back in its normal track.

Following the arrest of a dealer in primates in Djoum – South in July, his father who happens to be a military officer stationed in Djoum initially tried to intimidate the operations team and later on attempted to bribe the arresting officers for the release of his son, an act that was vigorously fought against by the LAGA team. Still in Djoum during his forwarding to the State Counsel an ivory dealer attempted to bribe one arresting officer with 3,000,000 CFA (about \$6000) for his release.

The Internet wildlife dealers arrested in Ekona – South West wanted to negotiate with the operations team so that they could not be taken to the court offering as much as 3 million FCA (about \$6000) for their release.

Bribery attempts and suspicion of corruption are also observed in legal and court procedures. After the arrest of a chimp dealer in Mvangan – South, an unprocedural court process was observed. Instead of legally deciding on the steps to be taken, the State Counsel decided to send the file back to MINFOF stating that a transaction should be carried out with the dealer in question.

In the December operation that resulted in the bursting of a network of 4 ivory dealers Moloundou – East arresting them with 44 elephant tusks. One of the dealers attempted to bribe the arresting officers with 5 million FCFA (about \$10,000) which was combated.

Some dealers use the cover of legally recognized institutions to launder illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products. This was seen in Mindourou – East whereby the Director of an NGO known as CADDAP uses the cover of the NGO to traffic ivory products.

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.

Overview of International Wildlife Traffic in Cameroon and Operations' Sites 2011



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 highly placed government authorities within and outside of Cameroon, meetings with traditional rulers, cooperated with local NGOs, and participated in conferences.

This period was also rich in meetings with the Minister MINFOF and other MINFOF officials on issues related to a broad range of wildlife law enforcement issues including all of LAGA-MINFOF operations, prosecutions and fighting corruption.

LAGA also met with other government officials – with the Head of Follow-up Cell in the Ministry of Justice and the Director of Criminal Affairs in the Ministry of Justice concerning the pending wildlife cases and ensuring good governance in the court.

In January, LAGA participated in the national agro-pastoral show – a show that brings together every sector of the country into one large space. LAGA occupied a stand to present some aspects of its work especially the need for urgent action against the eminent extinction of endangered species in the country and the sub-region.

LAGA was invited to present its vision of law enforcement in an Anti poaching strategy and regional law enforcement meeting. LAGA's representative followed discussions during the meeting and included methods to increase effective control and presence by Ministry officials in checking the illegal exportation of wildlife products.

7. International Arena

This year, precisely in April, LAGA won another award - **The Future for Nature Award** in the Netherlands, given to individuals for internationally outstanding species protection efforts. The award acknowledges individuals who embody an approach to conservation that is entrepreneurial, in that it is innovative, impactful and shapes the future of conservation. Recognizing that approaches need to change, this award recognizes the power of individuals and their influence on conservation. The award was received by the LAGA Director, Ofir Drori in Holland.

The award is the fourth 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. The ceremony was attended by about 500 invitees, and the Director of LAGA had the opportunity to give a presentation and use the occasion to send across the messages of the need for transparency and accountability and the diversity needed in participation in conservation.

The presentation ended with three main messages that LAGA tries to put on the map –

- **Anti-poaching in protected areas is not wildlife law enforcement** – While over the last few decades we have enormously increased the amount of data we possess on the nature of poaching and trade, we are still using the same old strategy, unchanged. So the ample data we have of the nature of the problem has not been integrated to our solution. Poaching is just a small part of the problem and therefore anti-poaching should be just a small part of a larger strategy for the solution.
- **Activism** – Our challenge did not necessitate a project it demanded a fight. There was no skill or degree we could search for, we had to search for and foster activism – internally motivated individuals who want to bring a change to the realities in their country. It highlights a larger problem of conservation - while striving to become more of a profession, maybe conservation has lost along the way some of its base values. We need to get back to what it is all about - not a job, but a mission, and get values back to the front seat of conservation.
- **Fight corruption** – Conservation should start getting serious at tackling head-on its no. 1 obstacle. Some of the systems we try to work with are dysfunctional and if we work with them we must be ready to work to change them. That means confrontation and it is an integral part of conservation work.

LAGA made a breakthrough in the collaboration with Interpol in an Interpol Regional meeting in Chad. A collaborative partnership recommended between Interpol Central African Regional Bureau and LAGA on the fight against wildlife crime in Central Africa was adopted and formalized by the Committee of Heads of Police of Central Africa during the Interpol Conference held in Ndjamena – Chad. The convention should be extended to the other members of the Central African Wildlife Law Enforcement Network and will enable further actions such as joint operations in border areas and increase the sharing of information through the Ecomessage system.

LAGA met with the Head of Interpol Central Africa Region Bureau and finalized collaboration in preparation of simultaneous sting operations in four countries by the projects – Cameroon, Gabon, Republic of Congo and CAR.

In July LAGA Director held a series of meetings in Kenya with the steering committee of the Pan African Alliance for Animal Welfare producing strategic vision for the attempt of creating an Animal Welfare movement which is African and based on African values. LAGA represents central Africa on the steering committee. He met with the Ushahidi team in Nairobi on using SMS crowd-sourcing in Central Africa. There was a meeting with Dr. Roz Reeve on vision for wildlife law enforcement in Africa and forest corruption; with ACPPP platform for empowering civil society in front of donor agencies and governments and on various issues of activism and reform in the development business; and with WSPA in Tanzania discussing future support for LAGA.

LAGA participated at 61st meeting of the Standing Committee of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) with discussions mostly focused on elephant conservation, the international trade in ivory, and China's increasing involvement in the illegal ivory trade, new financial mechanisms, elephant conservation, measures to reduce current levels of rhino poaching, tigers and

other big cats, mahogany and other timber species, sturgeon and caviar trade, and the sourcing of reptile skins used in the leather industry. LAGA equally gave a presentation on a new vision for conservation in CITES and how conservation NGOs are losing every year as trade industry take control over the conservation convention.

LAGA Director visited Gabon and had the following meetings: with the French and US Ambassadors on law enforcement; the Minister of Justice on evaluation of wildlife prosecutions; with the Head of cabinet of the Gendarmerie Search Brigade on procedures to arrest and prosecute corrupt officers; with civil society activists; with Paul Elkan of WCS regional evaluation Officer – on Gabon, Nigeria, Chad and Southern Sudan; with Richard Ruggiero head of Wildlife without Borders of FWS on regional strategy; with WCS MIST coordinator and WWF Program Manager Minkebe park; with Legal Adviser of the Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife on the Accord of CJ with the Ministry and engagement with lawyers that are not state lawyers; with WCS country director for Gabon civil society and conservation context; with the Director of Wildlife and his deputy on obstacles for operations; with Secretary General of the Ministry of Justice on evaluation of wildlife prosecutions; with Head of ANPN – Gabon National Agency of National Parks; and with CI representative in Equatorial Guinea on law enforcement challenges in that country.

Many meetings were held with the Diplomatic community – With the U.S Embassy, British High Commission, German Embassy, Spanish Embassy and European Commission. Discussions were focused on wildlife law enforcement, the fight against corruption, the replication of LAGA activities, the fight against child trafficking using LAGA's model, APT-AID principles of increasing accountability and transparency in development projects, civil society in Africa as a whole among others.

Several meetings were held with other International and national organizations – with Dirck Byler of U.S Fish and Wildlife Service, the World Bank, WWF, WCS, Global Witness, CIFOR, Transparency International, CHOC, GIZ, BDCP, Ape Alliance, TRAFFIC, Freedom House etc. Issues centered on strategies in developing wildlife law enforcement and replication strategy creating regional law enforcement, the fight against corruption using LAGA's experience, replication of LAGA experience, engaging the international community to ensure good governance in the legal system, increasing accountability and transparency in development project, using technological tools to monitor distribution of subsidized health using the beneficiaries as auditors, forest crime, combating electoral fraud etc.

LAGA also met with individuals – with Johnnie Carson, Under Secretary of Africa Affairs in US State Department and the US Ambassador to Cameroon on democracy and corruption; with Tayler Guitars and collaborators on setting an exemplary model of Ebony extraction, the challenges of corruption in Cameroon and ways forward; with an Associate Analyst for Africa of Control Risks concerning corruption and stability in Cameroon; with communication consultant from Norway on upcoming great apes media campaign stressing a new approach has to be taken to create African conservation based on Africa values to deal with the justified negative sentiments towards western

conservation; with a German Journalist of Focus Magazine discussing the LAGA experience; corruption in conservation, and problems relating to FSC etc.

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. Another presentation was given to a group of American university students on development, corruption, wildlife law enforcement among others.

8. Management

The year 2011 ended with excellent results - all the departments meeting up with the set targets despite some obstacles especially the Presidential elections that contributed in limited field missions and operations.

Work on the reconstruction of LAGA continued as well as work on action plans for departments. The various Departments effectively put in place measures to reconstruct and strategies to cut costs while maintaining the good results – for instance, choosing lawyers whose offices are close to areas of jurisdiction of cases they are handling, grouping cases passing in the same town as much as possible in one or a maximum of two dates, paying lawyers’ fee as per performance, fielding targeted investigation missions etc.

This year, LAGA carried out changes in personnel. In line with the objective of being more cost effective with matching performance, 2 members were let go, one from the Legal Department and the other from the Media Department. This came after a long period of evaluation of 1 year and 2 years respectively and the conclusion was that they failed to step up to the next level in terms of performance and output. It is hoped that they will stay in touch with the LAGA family, and participate in some of our events. The test period of another volunteer in the Legal Department was also terminated after 2 months for unsatisfactory results.

Volunteers were tried in the Legal and Investigations Department with 1 retained in the Legal Department. She was judged to have met up with the standards set by LAGA. Conversely as part of the measure to reduce cost in Management, the functions of a volunteer in that department were terminated with LAGA. It was judged that she was not effective enough and that her activities could still be carried out easily by others.

The French version of the first edition of the LAGA Manual was completed and printed in October. The manual valorizes LAGA’s work with all procedures and evaluation factors well spelled out from all Departments. It is intended to serve as a blueprint for not only the replication of LAGA activities and to facilitate capacity building of the networks’ projects, but for other organizations that intend to take up wildlife law enforcement and other conservation activities, the fight against corruption and activism with well spelt out values, transparency and accountability. It is worth noting that this manual was entirely written and translated into French by the LAGA family.

The series of thought provoking sessions of presentations and debates for the LAGA Team on corruption and development introduced continued. 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. 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 February, 1 Investigator was kidnapped regarding the case of 3 ivory dealers. This was a reminder of the danger accompanying our work and the importance of following strict measures and procedures in the field to deal with such events in a professional manner.

In April, LAGA Director traveled out of the country for 3 weeks in Holland and Morocco. In his absence, there were excellent results in all fronts especially in the arrest of 8 dealers in 4 different operations within 10 days. This was further proof of the growing capacity and independence of the departments.

April saw Investigator i33 continuing his studies in South Africa. The challenge will be to continue engaging him in activism while in South Africa. He is still getting information back to the LAGA Investigations Department on his targets while in South Africa and he will be engaged in more investigations work especially on international trade.

May month saw the Investigator, i35 getting married. There LAGA family comprising of a delegation of 12 actively took part in the marriage and the newly wedded couple was assisted materially, morally and financially showing that the family as a unit is always there not only for work but for happy and sad moments.

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 Kribi – South. Families travelled together to enjoy many activities with the main one being swimming. It was the first time many people entered into the sea. The general consensus was that it was an enjoyable experience, the initiative well lauded and that there should be more of such trips. 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.

9. Replication of LAGA Activities

9.1. – 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. The LAGA model is currently operating in 4 countries – Democratic Republic of Congo, Republic of Congo (Brazzaville), Central African Republic (CAR) and Gabon. Much groundwork has been covered in Chad and Nigeria and the operational part of the replication will start forthwith. 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>

This year saw effective arrests in Cameroon, Gabon, Congo and CAR against trade in great apes, lion skins, ivory, primates, leopard skins etc. Prosecution rate was good and exceptionally high.

But the most important theme common to all four countries was complicity and involvement of local authorities in the trade. This was seen in poor court judgments in Kribi in Cameroon becoming systematic, enough to inform the Minister of Justice of suspicion of corruption; and a project official of a conservation project suspected to have activated elephant poachers. In Congo widespread corruption in Ouessou is investigated by the Anti-Corruption Commission, In CAR an arrest led to an Ex-Minister and in Gabon a well organized system putting local authorities on “pay-rolls” to insure impunity of illegal activities. The identified corruption was combated in all countries variously.

Regional collaboration among the projects increased with a regional meeting of country coordinators in Gabon planning regional crackdowns. The meeting resulted in a regional collaborative arrest operation between Gabon and Congo. The regional meeting covered among others - strategic planning, identifying priorities for improvement in the projects, boosting Gabon's efforts of AALF.

This year, LAGA made a breakthrough in the collaboration with Interpol in an Interpol Regional meeting in Chad. A collaborative partnership recommended between Interpol Central African Regional Bureau and LAGA on the fight against wildlife crime in Central Africa was adopted and formalized by the Committee of Heads of Police of Central Africa during the Interpol Conference held in Ndjamená – Chad. Collaboration was also finalized with the Head of Interpol Central Africa Region Bureau in preparation of simultaneous sting operations in four countries by the projects.

LAGA Director was invited by ILEA (International Law Enforcement Academy) to create and train the first anti-corruption program for law enforcement officials in Africa in Botswana. He also met the head of the academy who in addition to wildlife, wants to integrate the anti-corruption program in other sectors on which ILEA focuses such as security, drugs, trafficking, terrorism, arms trade etc. It was generally agreed that LAGA will train every year, and that anti-corruption has to become a major part of their program. The LAGA Director was one of the trainers on surveillance techniques and made suggestions on more topics such as internet trade, and many other aspects especially on procedures of operations.

LAGA participated and presented its vision for Regional Wildlife Law Enforcement of enforcement without borders in the regional Interpol meeting organized by Interpol Central African Regional Bureau in Yaounde. Collaboration was established with Head of Interpol Central Africa Region Bureau in preparation of regional crackdown operations in four countries by the projects (Cameroon, CAR, Gabon and Republic of Congo) in regional wildlife law enforcement strategy.

Both LAGA Director as well as PALF-Congo Coordinator participated in the CITES standing Committee meeting in Geneva that was used to promote effective wildlife law enforcement. The Central Africa Wildlife Law Enforcement Network has been acknowledged in the Secretariat's documents for the meeting and mentioned as a positive development. LAGA Director also spent valuable time to train Naftali Honig, the project coordinator of PALF on CITES issues.

Replication prospects advanced in Nigeria and Chad. Meetings were held with high level authorities, NGOs, Heads of Security, the International Community etc; to ascertain that a proper base is formed for replication to effectively go operational.

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. During this period, an Investigator from PALF – Republic of Congo, Investigator from AALF Gabon and Jurist AALF – Gabon were all trained in Yaounde under the regional exchange program. 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, and Jurist - AALF Gabon.

The French version of the first edition of the LAGA Manual was completed and printed and the distribution of the English version continued. The manual valorizes LAGA's work with all procedures and evaluation factors well spelled out from all Departments. It is intended to serve as a blueprint for not only the replication of LAGA activities and to facilitate capacity building of the networks' projects, but for other organizations that intend to take up wildlife law enforcement and other conservation activities, the fight against corruption and activism with well spelt out values, transparency and accountability. It is worth noting that this manual was entirely written and translated into French by the LAGA family.

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.

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. On a daily basis all LAGA Departments assist in the various activities of the replication projects (PALF – Congo, AALF – Gabon and RALF – Central African Republic etc.) on all managerial and financial issues especially reports; Investigations and Operations planification and supervision; legal follow-up of all court cases; and publishing and pushing through all the media pieces with all the necessary information posted on the various project websites amongst others.

9.2. Gabon

9 operations were carried out resulting in the arrest of 41 major dealers. In January, LAGA helped to save the AALF case of the 5 traffickers arrested with 13 ape heads, 32 ape hands, 12 leopard skins, part of a lion skin, and 5 elephant tails among other contraband wildlife products in Gabon. This was done by building of strategies with lawyer to put the case back to track; legal follow up and supervision of activities of the Legal Assistant and to appoint a Lawyer; draft of request for reopening of debates sent to lawyer; Press release prepared and sent to the Coordinator; discussion with Head of Legal Unit of the Gabonese Ministry of Forestry on lawyer's appointment; review and correction of case analysis; draft of civil claim (damages) sent to lawyer and regular updates to the Project Coordinator.

The grisly haul represents the slaughter of a small population of great apes and proves that the illegal trade in primates is still thriving. All five dealers, four Nigerians and a woman from Benin, who are currently behind bars, have confessed to dealing in ape parts for several years. This undercover operation was carried out in a in the Gabonese capital of Libreville by activists from law-enforcement agency AALF and officials from MINEF (Ministry of Water and Forests). The AALF antenna in Oyem became operational and effective, assisted and advised ANPN in four very interesting cases concerning 3 ivory dealers, 2 Baka elephant poachers and an official of MEF arrested with ivory.

Prosecutions were obtained with 10 dealers being sentenced to serve prison terms. A good prosecution saw an ivory dealer being sentenced to 6 months imprisonment in Libreville and to pay a fine of about \$21000 as damages to MINEF, the maximum penalty under the law.

Regional collaboration increased with LAGA Director travelling to meet with Conservation Justice Director in Gabon on evaluation of wildlife prosecutions, combating and prosecuting corrupt officers, regional strategy, obstacles to operations etc. Series of meetings were held in Gabon with the diplomatic community, USFWS, high government officials such as the Minister of Justice; Interpol and the forces of law and order and NGOs among others. The procedures in the Manual are geared to facilitate capacity building of the networks' projects.

For further improvement and more operations in regional enforcement, training sessions continue to be held in the regional headquarters in Cameroon. During this period, an Investigator and a Jurist from AALF – Gabon ended a 5 weeks training in Yaounde under the regional exchange program. 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, and Jurist - AALF Gabon.

3,000 legal books, posters and flyers have been produced and are distributed to police officers, judges and other relevant authorities. Two other guides have been achieved about the complete legal process, and the offenses often linked with wildlife traffic: corruption and ammunition illegal detention. These two guides have still to be printed and largely diffused.

The communication department demonstrated positive results as 83 articles concerning the application of wildlife law were published in national and international newspapers, Gabonese TV channels and the Internet. The main media organisms concerned were The New York Times, The London Times, The Daily Mail, BBC and CNN.

Links and Pictures (from projects results)

www.conservation-justice.org

<http://edition.cnn.com/2011/WORLD/africa/01/21/gabon.animal.poaching/>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-12238900>

<http://dotearth.blogs.nytimes.com/2011/01/18/from-whales-to-apes-small-conservation-steps/>

<http://www.africa1.com/spip.php?article5619>

http://gaboneco.com/show_article.php?IDActu=20701

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2010/dec/12/africa-wildlife-ivory-smuggling>

<http://www.gabonews.ga/index.php/actualite/provinces/estuaire/5144-fait-divers--trois-gabonais-arretes-avec-25-kilos-divoire-au-village-de-remboue>



Heads of a gorilla and 12 chimpanzees, the hands of two gorillas and 30 chimpanzees, 12 leopard skins, part of a lion skin and five elephant tails among products recovered in an operation carried out by AALF and officials of MINEF - Gabon. The grisly haul represents the slaughter of a small population of great apes and proves that the illegal trade in primates is still thriving. All five dealers, four Nigerians and a woman from Benin, who are currently behind bars, have confessed to dealing in ape parts for several years.

9.3. The Republic of Congo

52 dealers were arrested and channeled to court with the assistance of the PALF Project at a rate of 1 case per week. These cases were centered on wildlife crimes, corrupt officials relating to wildlife cases and criminals involved with illegal arms relating to wildlife cases. Prison sentences of 12 months and more were handed down to 18 dealers; and there were 337 media pieces concerning the application of wildlife law and the fight against corruption.

An unprecedented prosecution was obtained concerning the case of a Chinese trafficker condemned to 4 years in prison. The Chinese was arrested in the Brazzaville airport with large quantities of ivory which he attempted to conceal with metal sheets. The 35 year old man was caught attempting to smuggle to China 5 large elephant tusks, 80 ivory chopsticks, Hankos (traditional name seals), 3 ivory carvings and many other small ivory items. Still in Congo, 2 significant prosecutions took place – 4 years prison for a criminal with an AK and 211 rounds and 3 years prison sentence for a chimp poacher.

China's involvement in the illegal ivory trade has been described as the strongest factor affecting the rise in this criminal activity. Authorities around the world commended the efforts by PALF to reach such a well needed precedence. The prosecution of the Chinese ivory dealer was a high point for wildlife law enforcement in the Central African sub-region and an important step in the fight against illegal ivory trade across the African continent, which has seen a rapid increase in the illegal trade in recent years. Several law enforcement NGOs are operating in a network, with an innovative approach of fighting corruption to get the wildlife law applied in the rainforests of Central Africa where there is still much wildlife to save.

In addition to the arrest of national and international ivory dealers, operations also targeted dealers in leopard skins, sea turtle shells, mandrills amongst others. Authorities such as the police providing AK munitions to poachers and Ecoguards helping to fuel illegal wildlife trade were targeted and arrested.

The recurring story in both operational and legal procedures is that complicity with authorities is still an important element of wildlife traffic in the Republic of Congo, one of the reasons why PALF continues to work with the National Anti-corruption Commission (CNLCCF) of Congo to combat this systemic problem.

In February, LAGA Director travelled to the Republic of Congo and held meeting with enforcement officials and anti-corruption commission as well as to evaluate the replication efforts in that country.

In March, PALF Investigator from the Republic of Congo arrived Yaounde – Cameroon and was trained in LAGA for 1 month. The training ended in April and he was trained on procedures of Investigations, Operations, Legal follow-up on court cases and how to produce and push through media pieces. He also received training on how to work on the Investigations Organic system and how to write good field activities and financial reports. He also carried out field missions resulting in a successful operation in Kribi – South in the arrest of 2 main dealers with 9 sea turtle shells.

LAGA assisted in the setting up of PALF Investigations Department, giving directives on recruitment and coordinating the field testing of 2 Investigators with encouraging results as 1 investigator has given an operation.

9.4. Central African Republic – CAR

LAGA in order to remedy the situation of the non-application of the wildlife law in that country, created the programme for the reinforcement of the application of wildlife law-RALF in a bit to reproduce and inculcate into the Central African authorities in charge of the application of wildlife law, the Cameroonian model of the effective application of wildlife law which has been strongly acclaimed by the international community. Despite prosecutions of dealers, there was a general lack of results with only 7 dealers arrested for the year 2011. The project needs to move away from conferences and down to the field to improve on these results which are far below the regional target.

Prominent operations were 2 dealers arrested with a lion skin, four leopard skins, and skins of Bongo and crocodile, highlighting the trade in trophies and trade in lions, soon to become extinct in the region. Another dealer was arrested with 28 wart hog tusks. 2 wildlife dealers were while trying to sell a badger skins and a female dealer was arrested attempting to sell elephant meat in Bangui.

Among other court sentences, this period saw another landmark prosecution of a wildlife dealer has achieved in CAR. He was sentenced to one and a half year imprisonment, the maximum punishment under CAR law. The year and half imprisonment term judgment is exceptionally high for this country.

There was also good support of Ministry of Justice in producing circulars for courts around the country for strict application of wildlife law; similar support was expressed in a letter from the Ministry of Water and Forests. Also, a working visit was carried out by the US Ambassador in the RALF project. The Ambassador pledged to assist the project in improving relations with the judiciary.

RALF Project Coordinator participated in a training program held in Brazzaville on regional intelligence and criminal analysis organized by the Lusaka Agreement Task Force and Interpol. The stay in Brazzaville allowed a regional interaction between RALF-CAR and PALF-Congo analyzing the CAR project's obstacles for producing results. For more information, go to the website

<http://www.laga-enforcement.org/Replication/RALF/tabid/165/Default.aspx>.

9.5. Chad

Replication activities started in Chad this year. A visit of LAGA Head of Legal Unit paved the beginning of the project when he travelled to Chad in November. A series of meetings were held with key governmental authorities including the Secretary General of the Ministry of Environment, the Director of Wildlife and the Technical Adviser of Prime Minister. Contacts were made with two NGOs: APROCOFF (Association pour la Promotion et la Conservation de la Faune et de la Flore) and APN (African Parks Network). Meetings were also held with the Police (including Interpol National Central

Bureau); the State Counsel of N'Djamena Court of first instance; the European Union and US Embassy. Before that, LAGA Director had met with SOS elephant of Chad in Nairobi towards the replication in Chad.

This was followed-up with another replication concretization mission to Chad in December by the LAGA Head of Legal Department. He had a meeting with the Chadian Minister of Environment for an authorization to kick-start the projects. Other meetings were held with APROCOFF and APN on putting in place field procedures and starting investigations to identify major dealers. Another meeting was with the European Union to rally support from the International community.

LAGA directly supervised and pushed for the legal procedure to be followed pertaining to the case of 2 Chinese arrested with ivory in Chad by talking directly with the concerned authorities.

IFAW is ready to finance the replication in Chad and LAGA is assisting in getting a more serious and credible NGO to pilot the activities in Chad.

9.6. Nigeria

Replication further advanced during this year in Nigeria. A meeting was held in Geneva with the Director General of the Special Unit in Nigeria; she was very serious and agreed on the possibility of starting replication activities.

In July, the Head of Legal Department travelled to Nigeria and held a series of meetings with the Federal Ministry of Environment, Nigerian Environmental Standard and Regulation Enforcement (NESREA), and WCS – Nigeria which agreed to host the new replication project. A formal request for collaboration with WCS-LAGA was sent to Nigerian Federal Ministry of Environment and Director General of Nigerian Environmental Standards and Regulations Enforcement Agency (NESREA) ahead of the official beginning of LAGA model replication activities in that country.

Naftali Honig – PALF Coordinator had a good meeting with WCS – Nigeria and they are ready to open an office in Abuja for a start and discussions are presently on budget and other practicalities.

9.7. East and Southern Africa

LAGA Director was invited by ILEA (International Law Enforcement Academy) to create and train the first anti-corruption program for law enforcement officials in Africa in Botswana. He also met the head of the academy who in addition to wildlife, wants to integrate the anti-corruption program in other sectors on which ILEA focuses such as security, drugs, trafficking, terrorism, arms trade etc. It was generally agreed that LAGA will train every year, and that anti-corruption has to become a major part of their program. The LAGA Director was one of the trainers on surveillance techniques and made suggestions on more topics such as internet trade, and many other aspects especially on procedures of operations.

In July, LAGA Director held a series of meetings in Kenya with the steering committee of the Pan African Alliance for Animal Welfare producing strategic vision for the attempt of creating an Animal Welfare movement which is African and based on African values. LAGA represents central Africa on the steering committee. There were more meetings in Nairobi on the vision for wildlife law enforcement in Africa and fighting forest corruption; and with ACPPP platform in Nairobi for empowering civil society in front of donor agencies and governments and on various issues of activism and reform in the development business.

9.8. Fostering Activism

During this period, LAGA continued to foster activism internally and externally. The NGO is not a technical institute in charge of mere execution of Program. The NGO should foster activism and act in the spirit of fighting for a cause and undertake a secondary goal to produce activist, leaders and bring a positive change to their country beyond the service of the NGO. The NGO should instill specified values in its members. Staff is recruited not according to merely skills but examined in their values and potentials to become independent activists. The rarest quality of personnel is honesty and the desire to bring a change in one's country. Any recruit has to pass a period of volunteering where these aspects (values) are thoroughly examined. The post in the NGO should not be regarded as a job but as a mission and therefore demanding exceptional devotion, commitment, sacrifice, initiatives, self discipline fitting a fight for a cause. At any point of time, when a member of the organization does not prove these qualities, he/she will be removed. LAGA members are encouraged to carry any external activities connected to a cause and some NGO's time will be given to do so.

Fostering Community Activism is a field that is largely ignored in education work in the developing world context. Guidelines and lesson plans in educating communities in anything from healthcare, to agriculture; but teaching skills for individuals is different from developing a community. Community activism relates to the social capital of a community – the shared norms or values that promote social cooperation, instantiated in actual social relationships. Transfer of skills is therefore not all that is needed in order to develop a community. We need to instill a spirit of community service valuing the public interest. When we refer to “Strengthening a Community”, “Developing Community Leadership”, “Mobilizing a Community” - we do not refer to mere transfer of skills. We do not refer to human capital but to social capital.

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.

2 NGOs created by LAGA members continued to function normally during this period—one is known as Action for Citizen and Community Development (ACCOD) which has already secured funding. ACCOD aims at working with grass root communities, through education and information dissemination programmes, geared towards its principal mission which is building informed and participatory citizens necessary for a democracy, as well as development to grow. The other NGO known as SCATI (Stop Child Abuses and Trafficking Initiatives) aims at putting into synergy individuals and organizations with specific technical skills in one or several precise domains of action (health, community empowerment, law enforcement, policy making, social work, social mobilization etc.) enabling them to act in favour of the eradication of the causes, the factors and the consequences of child abuses and trafficking; by throwing or at facilitating any initiatives which contribute to put an end to the practices of the traffic of the children on the Cameroonian territory .

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.

9.9. Child Trafficking

As part of LAGA lessons given outside of wildlife law enforcement, LAGA Director gave a presentation in Catholic Relief Service (CRS) on how to use LAGA's model to combat child trafficking and to solve the problem of lack of prosecution of child traffickers by fighting corruption.

Projects are still being created to obtain major prosecutions by fighting corruption. One such project was created by a LAGA family member known as SCATI (Stop Child Abuses and Trafficking Initiatives) aims at putting into synergy individuals and organizations with specific technical skills in one or several precise domains of action (health, community empowerment, law enforcement, policy making, social work, social mobilization etc.) enabling them to act in favour of the eradication of the causes, the factors and the consequences of child abuses and trafficking; by throwing or at facilitating any initiatives which contribute to put an end to the practices of the traffic of the children on the Cameroonian territory . The first project drafted aims at putting in place a platform of organizations which will work together to fight child trafficking from the denunciation of traffickers to the judgment through the withdrawal of victims and their coverage at different level.

ANNEX 1- CASE TRACKING SYSTEM – JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2011

Case num.	Date of operation	Region	Location	Case name	Offence	Profile	Remarks	Countries	
								involved	Status
1	21-01-11	Littoral	Yoyo-Edea	Dele Toumolo	Dealing in Sea Turtle Shells	Trade in sea turtle shells	A regular dealer of Nigerian nationality with no official resident documents for Cameroon. He is also a fisherman and has 2 other brothers he claims help him to carry out the business. He was arrested while trying to illegally trade in 7 sea turtle shells.	Nigeria	Locked while on trial
2	27-01-11	South	Ebolowa	Minko Nkomo Alain	Dealing in a live mandrill	Pet trade	A well known dealer arrested in Ebolowa - South while trying to trade in a live mandrill. He and his accomplice claim to be related to a highly placed official of MINFOF and their unprocedural release after the taking of the statement offence lays credence to this claim. The MINFOF Delegate for the Southern Region refused to write a remand warrant for them to be locked up and presented to the State Prosecutor the following day. Also, the dealers and the MINFOF officials were observed speaking in their dialect after the arrest and during the writing of the statement of offence. This unprocedural and irregular behaviour was reported to the Minister who asked the said Delegate to fully collaborate with the LAGA team so as to present the dealers to the Prosecutor and for normal procedures to follow suit.		Locked while on trial
3	27-01-11	South	Ebolowa	Ango Jacques Desire	Dealing in a live mandrill	Pet trade	Another well known dealer arrested in Ebolowa - South while trying to trade in a live mandrill. He and his accomplice claim to be related to a highly placed official of MINFOF and their unprocedural release after the taking of the statement offence lays credence to this claim. The MINFOF Delegate for the Southern Region refused to write a remand warrant for them to be locked up and presented to the State Prosecutor the following day. Also, the dealers and the MINFOF officials were observed speaking in their dialect after the arrest and during the writing of the statement of offence. This unprocedural and irregular behaviour was reported to the Minister who asked the said Delegate to fully collaborate with the LAGA team so as to present the dealers to the Prosecutor and for normal procedures to follow suit.		Locked while on trial
4	02-02-11	Center	Yaounde	Dongmo Pierre	Dealing in a live mandrill	Pet trade	The owner of a shop who has been dealing in primates for more than 5 years. He resisted arrest and instigated a crowd to be violent during his arrest. While in the Gendarmerie Brigade, he attempted on several occasions with the arresting officers to negotiate through bribe for his release. He also tried to bring in some highly placed relatives in the Cameroon military to intervene on his behalf.		Locked while on trial
5	03-02-11	West	Bangangte	Njafa Njamen Gislain	Dealing in a live chimp	Pet trade	A regular dealer arrested with a live baby chimp while trying to trade in it. He is a well known dealer reputed for selling bushmeat in Bazou – West and also has some main buyers / customers in Bafoussam - West.		Locked while on trial
6	09-02-11	South	Kribi	Fotso Dieudonne Ngassa	Dealing in ivory	Ivory trade	A major dealer in ivory and products of other protected wildlife species. He is also a recidivist who had been arrested before for other crimes and from records, affirms that he had gone to Nigeria several times to sell ivory. During the investigation phase, he and some members of his network kidnapped the investigator and forcefully transported him from Douala to Kribi where they were arrested. The investigator was saved by adhering to procedure and the quick reaction of the whole LAGA team that quickly put together officials of the forces of law and order who arrested the dealers and rescued the investigator.	Nigeria	Locked while on trial

7	09-02-11	South	Kribi	Basso Kadjou Hergatte	Dealing in ivory	Ivory trade	The wife and an accomplice of Fotso. She participates in the selling of the protected wildlife products. She was also involved in the kidnapping of the LAGA investigator. She openly threatened the Investigator, saying she will kill him if it happens that they are arrested.		Locked while on trial
8	09-02-11	South	Kribi	Njouxa Oumarou	Dealing in ivory	Ivory trade	Another accomplice and a member of the Fotso network. He runs the shop where products are kept before trading in them or before being taken to Nigeria. He actively participated in the kidnapping of the LAGA investigator and help in forcefully transporting him from Douala to Kribi.		Locked while on trial
9	01-03-11	Center	Yaounde	Sama Jonathan	Dealing in African Grey Parrots	Pet trade	The biggest wildlife exporter arrested in Yaounde – Center and transferred to Douala after the case against him was rebuilt and a warrant issued for his arrest. He was first arrested in 2007 and this uncovered issues of complicity and corruption within the Ministry trying to export 720 parrots to Bahrain, an illegal destination. The parrots' cases uncovered corruption at a very high level; insisting to tackle it got us many new enemies, threats, and warnings that we are "stepping on the wrong toes" and that it will send us on "a one way ticket out of Cameroon". Through more corruption and bribery, he succeeded to make the case file against him disappear and later in court, he claimed that no case was ever opened against him.	Bahrain	Locked while on trial
10	18-04-11	South West	Kumba	Oke George Beta	Dealing in chimp parts	Chimp trade	A regular dealer in chimp parts arrested in Kumba - South West while trying to collect 400.000 FCFA (\$800) for 2 chimp heads and 8 chimp limbs. He is reputed to be a regular dealer in protected wildlife and the chimps were reportedly killed in the Korup National Park. After his arrest, he tried to get the Assistant Divisional Officer for Kumba to intervene on their behalf but this was quickly squashed by the operating team.		Locked while on trial
11	18-04-11	South West	Kumba	Tabi Emmanuel Ekoko	Dealing in chimp parts	Chimp trade	Another regular dealer and the accomplice of Oke George. He was also arrested in Kumba - South West while trying to collect 400.000 FCFA (\$800) for 2 chimp heads and 8 chimp limbs. He is also reputed to be a regular dealer in protected wildlife and the chimps were reportedly killed in the Korup National Park.		Locked while on trial
12	20-04-11	South	Kribi	Edjenguele Paul	Dealing in Sea Turtle Shells	Trade in sea turtle shells	A well known dealer arrested in Kribi - South while trying to trade in 9 sea turtle shells. He claims to have traded in ivory before with customers in Equatorial Guinea and a network of suppliers from the Northern part of Cameroon. He resisted arrest and tried to fight with the operations team.	Equatorial Guinea	Locked while on trial
13	20-04-11	South	Kribi	Bondjekoue Thomas	Dealing in Sea Turtle Shells	Trade in sea turtle shells	Another well known dealer an accomplice of Edjenguele Paul arrested in Kribi - South while trying to trade in 9 sea turtle shells. He also resisted arrest and tried to fight with the operations team.	Equatorial Guinea	Locked while on trial
14	21-04-11	South	Kribi	Alphonse Messi	Dealing in a live chimp	Pet trade	A poacher/dealer arrested in Kribi - South while trying to trade in a live chimp. He is well known in Lolodorf - South for wildlife trade. He resisted arrest and tried to get a former Member of Parliament to intervene on their behalf after their arrest without success. A female baby chimp was rescued and sent to the Limbe Wildlife Center for safekeeping and care.		Locked while on trial
15	21-04-11	South	Kribi	Ndengue Mekeme	Dealing in a live chimp	Pet trade	Another dealer and the accomplice of Alphonse Messi arrested in Kribi - South while trying to trade in a live chimp. He owns and rides the motorbike they use in carrying out their illegal deals. He resisted arrest and tried to fight with a member of the operations team.		Locked while on trial
16	27-04-11	West	Bafang	Bouba Michel	Dealing in Leopard skin	Skin Trade	A dealer in protected wildlife products arrested with a very large leopard skin in Bafang - West. He is also a recidivist who claims to be connected to the Bafang royal family. They were arrested with w military uniform which they use to carry out their illegal deals.		Locked while on trial

17	27-04-11	West	Bafang	Tedemnou Patrick	Dealing in Leopard skin	Skin Trade	Another dealer arrested with Bouba Michel with a very large leopard skin in Bafang - West. He owns and rides the motorbike with which they were arrested, and which they use to carry out the illegal trade in protected wildlife species.		Locked while on trial
18	27-04-11	South	Bengbis	Atangana Amougou Ignace	Dealing in Elephant Products	Ivory trade	A main dealer and driver behind a network of elephant poachers and ivory dealers busted in Bengbis - South. He is in charge of supplying arms and ammunition, and was arrested with 5 other members of a network that kills elephants in the Dja Reserve and trades in their products. They were arrested with 2 small elephant tusks, a gun and smoked elephant meat. This operation was carried out with ECOFAC - Western Section. One of their main buyers is a Malian.	Mali	Locked while on trial
19	27-04-11	South	Bengbis	Mbita Valentin	Dealing in Elephant Products	Ivory trade	Another member of a network of elephant poachers / ivory dealers busted in Bengbis - South. He is one of those charged with the drying of meat from the killed elephants in the Dja Reserve. This operation was carried out with ECOFAC - Western Section.	Mali	Locked while on trial
20	27-04-11	South	Bengbis	Kede Armand	Dealing in Elephant Products	Ivory trade	Member of a network of elephant poachers / ivory dealers busted in Bengbis. He is also one of those charged with the drying of meat from the killed elephants in the Dja Reserve.	Mali	Locked while on trial
21	27-04-11	South	Bengbis	Onono Thomas	Dealing in Elephant Products	Ivory trade	The main person charged with the killing of elephants in the Dja Reserve. He is a member of a network of elephant poachers / ivory dealers busted in Bengbis - South. He also participates in the smoking of the elephant meat.	Mali	Locked while on trial
22	27-04-11	South	Bengbis	Ndjele Lucas	Dealing in Elephant Products	Ivory trade	Another member of a network of elephant poachers / ivory dealers busted in Bengbis - South. He is the main person responsible for the transportation of the smoked elephant meat, also in getting clients for the meat.	Mali	Locked while on trial
23	27-04-11	South	Bengbis	Bessala Jean Pierre	Dealing in Elephant Products	Ivory trade	A member of a network of elephant poachers / ivory dealers busted in Bengbis - South. He is one of those charged with the drying and transportation of the meat from the killed elephants in the Dja Reserve. He also looks for clients for the smoked meat.	Mali	Locked while on trial
24	27-04-11	South	Bengbis	Ango Ntyene	Dealing in Elephant Products	Ivory trade	Member of a network of elephant poachers / ivory dealers busted in Bengbis - South. He is one of those responsible for the drying and transportation of the smoked elephant meat, also in getting clients for the meat.	Mali	Fugitive under chase.
25	25-05-11	Littoral	Douala	Djandako Simeon Alain	Dealing in Elephant Products	Ivory trade	A well known ivory dealer in whose workshop operations had been carried out before. He is in charge of the sale especially to foreigners and trafficking to foreign markets, notably China. During his arrest, he attempted to bribe one of the arresting officers with about \$400 for his release but LAGA fought against this vigorously. He has been in the business for more than 20 years with his partner. They were arrested with 364 ivory pieces weighing 34 kg.	China	Locked while on trial
26	25-05-11	Littoral	Douala	Mengue Ango Jean Gilbert	Dealing in Elephant Products	Ivory trade	Another well known ivory dealer arrested in the difficult Akwa neighbourhood in Douala with 364 ivory pieces weighing 34 kg. He is a recidivist who had been arrested before in connection to ivory trafficking. He claims to have been in the business for more than 25 years and that it has been in the family for generations starting with his grandfather and then his father. He was in charge of the transformation of raw ivory into worked pieces.	China	Locked while on trial
27	25-05-11	South	Mintom	Opkwa'a David	Dealing in Elephant Products	Ivory trade	A member of a network of elephant poachers / ivory dealers busted in Mintom - South. He is reported to be one of the main poachers involved in the killing of elephants in the Dja Reserve. He was one of the first suspects to be arrested and provided information on how to arrest the other members of the network. They were arrested with a hunting gun and ammunition.		Locked while on trial

28	25-05-11	South	Mintom	Emane Emame	Dealing in Elephant Products	Ivory trade	Another member of a network of elephant poachers / ivory dealers busted in Mintom - South. He is said to be the leader of the network planning when and where to kill elephants in the Dja Reserve. Investigations still ongoing to arrest him.		Fugitive under chase.
29	25-05-11	South	Mintom	Nkema Jean Pierre	Dealing in Elephant Products	Ivory trade	A member of the network of elephant poachers / ivory dealers busted in Mintom - South. He is one of those charged with the drying and transportation of the meat from the killed elephants in the Dja Reserve. He also looks for clients for the smoked meat. Investigations still ongoing to arrest him.		Fugitive under chase.
30	25-05-11	South	Mintom	Ndjo David	Dealing in Elephant Products	Ivory trade	Another member of the network of elephant poachers / ivory dealers busted in Mintom - South. He is said to be mainly charged with the transportation of the meat whenever an elephant is killed. Investigations still ongoing to arrest him.		Fugitive under chase.
31	25-05-11	South	Mintom	Bidoulan Paul	Dealing in Elephant Products	Ivory trade	Another member of the network of elephant poachers / ivory dealers busted in Mintom - South. He is said to be the main person charged with the killing proper of the elephants.		Fugitive under chase.
32	26-05-11	South	Mintom	Akoulou Achille Noel	Dealing in Elephant Products	Ivory trade	Another member of the network of elephant poachers / ivory dealers busted in Mintom - South. He is the main supplier of arms and ammunition used in the killing of elephants in the Dja Reserve. He was arrested following the information given by another arrested member of the network.		Locked while on trial
33	01-06-11	South	Mintom	Mongpomo Paul	Dealing in Elephant Products	Ivory trade	Another member of the network of elephant poachers / ivory dealers busted in Mintom - South; involved in the killing of elephants in the Dja Reserve. He was also arrested following the information given by other arrested members of the network. He stated on the statement of offence (PV) that they have been carrying out poaching and trading in elephant products for a long time and that he has killed many elephants before.		Locked while on trial
34	16-06-11	Center	Yaounde	Nyolong Bitmbia Cedric	Dealing in Leopard skin	Skin Trade	A major leopard skin dealer arrested in Yaounde with a leopard skin and leopard skull. He has a group of suppliers from Tonga - West and sells in the main cities of Yaounde - Center and Douala - Littoral. His father is his accomplice in whose house he keeps the products of protected wildlife species before selling them.		Locked while on trial
35	24-06-11	East	Mindaourou	Binini Bile Armand	Dealing in chimp parts	Bushmeat trade	A regular dealer in chimp and chimp products arrested while trying to trade in chimp parts in Mindaourou – East by another project. LAGA has now taken over the legal procedure from the writing of the complaint reports (PVs), ensuring that the culprits are still locked up, taking the case to the court and the follow-up of the cases in the court. Here too, unprocedural and irregular behaviour was observed with the unprocedural release of the dealers by the State Counsel of Abong Mbang – East. Measures are being taken by LAGA through the MINFOF lawyer and the Ministry to put the case back in its normal track.		Locked while on trial
36	24-06-11	East	Mindaourou	Djambane Joublaing Jackson	Dealing in chimp parts	Bushmeat trade	Another dealer in chimp and chimp products arrested while trying to trade in chimp parts in Mindaourou – East by another project. LAGA has now taken over the legal procedure from the writing of the complaint reports (PVs), ensuring that the culprits are still locked up, taking the case to the court and the follow-up of the cases in the court. Here too, unprocedural and irregular behaviour was observed with the unprocedural release of the dealers by the State Counsel of Abong Mbang – East. Measures are being taken by LAGA through the MINFOF lawyer and the Ministry to put the case back in its normal track.		Locked while on trial

37	19-07-11	South	Djoum	Ntyame Endante Jislain	Dealing in Elephant Products	Ivory trade	A well known dealer and poacher at the same time arrested with 2 other accomplices in Djoum for killing and trying to trade in elephant tusks and meat. They were arrested with arms and ammunition used in killing the elephants. He was seriously injured by the elephant when he shot it. This operation was carried out with some ecoguards of former ECOFAC.		Locked while on trial
38	19-07-11	South	Djoum	Salla Ntyame Serge	Dealing in Elephant Products	Ivory trade	Another well known dealer-poacher, an accomplice and brother of Ntyame Endante Jislain. He is charged with the sale of ivory and meat of killed elephants.		Locked while on trial
39	19-07-11	South	Djoum	Eva Mathurin	Dealing with Elephant Products	Ivory trade	Another dealer and poacher at the same time arrested with 2 other accomplices in Djoum for killing and trying to trade in elephant tusks and meat. He is charged with the transportation of the meat of the killed elephants.		Locked while on trial
40	21-07-11	South	Djoum	Ze ze Bedell	Dealing in live Mandrill	Pet trade	A dealer in live primates arrested with a live mandrill in Djoum while trying to illegally trade in it. His father who happens to be a military officer stationed in Djoum 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. The mandrill was rescued and taken to the Mvog-Betsi Zoo in Yaounde for proper up-keep.		Locked while on trial
41	14-09-11	South West	Ekona/Buea	Theophilus Tanjong	Falsification of official documents	Internet Wildlife Trade	A principal Internet Wildlife dealer engaged in fraud and illegal wildlife trade over the Internet for more than 3 years. He was acting with an accomplice, both arrested in collaboration with US authorities after offering rhino horns for sale with falsified official documents. He was responsible for the falsification of the official document they used to lure a victim in USA. No rhino horns were actually found.	USA	Locked while on trial
42	14-09-11	South West	Ekona/Buea	Techa Elvis Penn	Falsification of official documents	Internet Wildlife Trade	Another principal Internet Wildlife dealer and accomplice of Theophilus engaged in fraud and illegal wildlife trade over the Internet for more than 3 years. He was arrested in collaboration with US authorities after offering rhino horns for sale with falsified official documents. He was charged with the falsification of the ID card sent to the victim in USA and was to go and receive money that was to be sent by the victim. No money was sent and no rhino horns were found in his residence.	USA	Locked while on trial
43	29-10-11	East	Salapoumbe	Oumarou Bouba	Dealing in Elephant Products	Ivory trade	An ivory dealer belonging to a network that was busted in 28/02/2011. He was a fugitive under chase but received a sentence of 6 months imprisonment for illegally detaining and trying to trade in 20 elephant tusks. Arrested in Salapoumbe and transferred to Abong-Mbang prison to serve out his sentence. Connection to Congo still being examined because of the common borders.	Congo	Locked while on trial
44	29-10-11	East	Salapoumbe	Abo Mohamadou	Dealing in Elephant Products	Ivory trade	Another ivory dealer belonging to a network that was busted in 28/02/2011. He was a fugitive under chase but received a sentence of 6 months imprisonment for illegally detaining and trying to trade in 20 elephant tusks. Arrested in Salapoumbe and transferred to Abong-Mbang prison to serve out his sentence. Possible connection to Congo being investigated.	Congo	Locked while on trial
45	09-11-11	East	Lomie	Ngombel Wouaboufe	Dealing in gorilla parts	Bushmeat trade	A well known dealer working with the Lomie Treasury. He has a network of poachers and suppliers who kill animals for him; and he in turn supplies bushmeat sellers in major cities especially Yaounde. He was arrested with gorilla parts and meat of other protected wildlife species stacked in a deep freezer in his residence at Lomie.		Locked while on trial

46	10-11-11	East	Lomie	Nguiliwou Madeleine	Dealing in primate parts	Bushmeat trade	A female bushmeat dealer arrested with primates including agile mangabeys and Preuss's monkeys and other wildlife species. She supplies poachers with arms and ammunition who kill for her. She has a ready market in Bertoua for the bushmeat. Her husband is also part of the business who transports the bushmeat to the various customers. She was arrested in Lomie with her husband.		Locked while on trial
47	10-11-11	East	Lomie	Ateba Jean-Pierre	Dealing in primate parts	Bushmeat trade	Husband and collaborator of Nguiliwou Madeleine arrested in Lomie for dealing in protected primates and other wildlife species. He is responsible for transporting the meat to the main cities especially Bertoua.		Locked while on trial
48	10-11-11	East	Lomie	Mohamadou Bello	Dealing in protected wildlife meat	Bushmeat trade	Dealer in bushmeat arrested in Lomie with parts of yellow-backed duiker and other wildlife species. He was also arrested with a gun and ammunition that he gives to poachers who kill the animals for him. He supplies the bush meat to the main towns of Ngaoundere and Garoua.		Locked while on trial
49	25-11-11	South	Ambam	Zouame Zouam Gothard	Dealing in live Mandrill	Pet trade	A regular dealer arrested while trying to trade in a live mandrill in Ambam - South. He is well known for trading in live protected animals and he has a bike that he uses to transport the animals. The mandrill was rescued and taken to the Mvog-Betsi Zoo in Yaounde.		Locked while on trial
50	04-12-11	South	Mvangan	Mengue Engo Richard	Dealing in live chimp	Pet trade	A dealer in live primates arrested with a live chimp in Mvagan - Ebolowa. He got the baby chimp after the mother had been killed. He is also reputed for selling bushmeat in the main town of Ebolowa. After his arrest, unprocedural court process was observed and it is suspected that some corrupt court officials were bribed.		Free while on trial
51	07-12-11	East	Mindourou	Aye Mondo Helene	Dealing in Elephant Products	Ivory trade	A female dealer of Baka origin and the Director of an NGO known as CADDAP (Action Centre for the Sustainable Development of Indigenous Communities) that is supposed to help in the development of the Baka community and the protection of wildlife. She and her accomplice arrested while trying to traffic 4 elephant tusks, 2 elephant tails and 2 elephant teeth. She uses the cover of the NGO to traffic ivory products. This operation was carried out with the collaboration of MINFOF post - Mindourou.		Locked while on trial
52	07-12-11	East	Mindourou	Melolodom Richard	Dealing in Elephant Products	Ivory trade	A regular dealer and the accomplice of Aye Mondo arrested while trying to traffic 4 elephant tusks, 2 elephant tails and 2 elephant teeth. She uses the cover of the NGO to traffic ivory products. This operation was carried out with the collaboration of MINFOF post - Mindourou.		Locked while on trial
53	12-12-11	East	Moloundou	Muhamadou Sani Bello	Dealing in Elephant Products	Ivory trade	A well known dealer who has a network and fuels ivory trade by providing arms and ammunition to poachers. He was arrested with 3 members of his network in Moloundou while trying to traffic 3 bags of ivory hidden in a truck carrying bags of cocoa. 44 elephant tusks weighing 107 kg and 2 elephant tails were seized. The operation was carried out by MINFOF Moloundou headed by the Conservator of the Lobeke National park where the elephants were killed. He attempted to bribe the conservator with 5 million FCFA (about \$10,000) to no avail. Their connection to Congo is still being investigated because of the common border in that area.	Congo	Locked while on trial
54	12-12-11	East	Moloundou	Chin Basile Lemgha	Dealing in Elephant Products	Ivory trade	A truck driver and member of the Sani network arrested in Moloundou with 44 elephant tusks and 2 elephant tails. He is responsible for the transportation of ivory using his truck and hiding the ivory amongst bags of cocoa.	Congo	Locked while on trial
55	12-12-11	East	Moloundou	Ghoghyi Plus Yondo	Dealing in Elephant Products	Ivory trade	Another member of the Sani network arrested with 44 elephant tusks and 2 elephant tails in Moloundou. He is charged with collecting the ivory and packaging them in bags for transportation.	Congo	Locked while on trial
56	12-12-11	East	Moloundou	Souley Njeba	Dealing in Elephant Products	Ivory trade	Still another member of the Sani network arrested with 44 elephant tusks and 2 elephant tails in Moloundou. He is also responsible for collecting and packing the ivory prior to transportation.	Congo	Locked while on trial