



ZERO IMPUNITY IN WILDLIFE CRIMINALITY

ACTIVITY REPORT - OCTOBER 2008

Highlights

- The PALF Project Coordinator maintains contacts with the various actors of the wildlife conservation.
- Follow-up of the cases of the 5 dealers arrested on 1st October.

General

This month is marked by a focus on fostering relationships with the competent authorities charged with wildlife law enforcement in the Republic of Congo.

With the aim of strengthening the relations with authorities charged with wildlife law enforcement, more meetings were held with the said authorities. These permanent contacts are aimed at maintaining the bases of the project on the political as well as on the structural level:

1. Political - meetings with the ministerial, diplomatic, and legal authorities.
2. Structural - continuation of the construction of the departments of investigation, operation, legal and to a certain extent communication.

Investigations

- **24 investigations** of varying lengths were carried out this month in 6 out of the 7 districts of Brazzaville -Talangai, Ouenze, Mougali, Poto Poto, Mfilou, and Makeleke.
- One of the investigators on the basis of the experience gained with the project was called-up to continue his activities with the Lusaka Task Force Agreement.

Operations

No operation was carried out this month due to the preoccupation with the reorganization of the operations department.

Legal

- **5 dealers** are behind bars this month in the Department of Brazzaville.
- **6 cases** were followed-up by the legal department this month: IKAMA, OYANKE, BITSINOUE, NKASSA, NSTIBA and BABIAKA.
- **5 cases** are programmed to be presented in court this month.

Media

- **6 media pieces** were produced and pushed through to the radio and written press including: 3 radio news flashes (all in French), 3 written press materials (all in French).
- Subjects focused on wildlife law enforcement; the arrest of an ivory trafficker of Senegalese nationality, the arrest leopard skins, the hand of a mandrill and the hand of a gorilla.
- **6 media pieces** all in French.

External Relations

- Meeting with the coordinator of the program “Etat De Droit” of the European Union in a bid to expose the various legal and political obstacles handicapping the effective functioning of the project and to seek for his assistance in finding appropriate solutions.
- Meetings with the wildlife prosecution lawyer in the Ministry of forestry Economy with an aim of redirecting his interventions and to adopt a common strategy regarding the obvious illegality observed in the procedure of the case related to the 5 dealers arrested on the 1^{er} of October.
- Meeting with the National Coordinator of the Lusaka Agreement (Task Force LATF) on the important role to be played by the LATF in the effective enforcement of the wildlife law in the Republic of Congo.

Management

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- One of the investigators on the basis of the experience gained with the project was called-up to continue his activities with the Lusaka Task Force Agreement.

Finance

PALF Expenditure by Budget Line for October 08

Amount FCFA	Budge Line	Details	Amount USD
124,150	Investigations	24 investigations in 6 districts	\$248.3
280,500	Operations	0 operation	\$561.0
739,025	Legal	6 cases followed-up, 5 dealers behind bars	\$1,478.1
43,900	Media	5 media pieces	\$87.8
	External relations		
197,000	Management	Coordination	\$394.0
5,500	Office		\$11.0
1,390,075	Total expenditure of October		\$2,780.2



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Links of the month

A renowned ivory trafficker of Senegalese nationality arrested for illegally trading in 45 ivory pieces - Radio Television of Congo. He was arrested in the “marche de plateau” in Brazzaville. This market is noted to be an area of illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products especially by West Africans with the main customers being foreigners especially Chinese.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1NaOuA73_hE

