

The Last Great Ape Organization – LAGA

July 2022 Report



Highlights

- **The Deputy Director held a meeting with two TRAFFIC officials to discuss pangolin conservation and the development of the Cameroon Pangolin Working Group.**
- **He participated at workshop on the training officials of the Nsimalen International Airport. He did a presentation on wildlife law enforcement during the workshop that was organized by TRAFFIC.**
- **Under the framework of The Global Portrait Project, the portrait of the Deputy Director was published online. The portrait was painted by artist James Nickells who is the founder of the Global Portrait Project.**
- **The Head of the Investigation Department held a meeting with the Divisional Officer, the Chief of Wildlife Control Post, the Gendarmerie Brigade Commander, and the Commissioner for the Special Police Station in Ayos to strengthen collaboration.**
- **There were no operations this month and efforts are being made to ensure operations take place next month.**

General

Under the framework of The Global Portrait Project, the portrait of the Deputy Director was published online. The portrait was painted by artist James Nickells who is the founder of the Global Portrait Project. He is painting an environmental activist from each of the 196 countries chosen from around the world. The Deputy Director was selected for Cameroon.

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

The Head of the Investigation Department held a meeting with the Divisional Officer, the Chief of Wildlife Control Post, the Gendarmerie Brigade Commander, and the Commissioner for the Special Police Station in Ayos to strengthen collaboration.

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

Investigations

- **16 investigation missions** out in **6 Regions** out of 10 of Cameroon including Littoral, West, Centre, Adamawa, South and East Regions.
- The Head of the Investigation Department held a meeting with the Divisional Officer, the Chief of Wildlife Control Post, the Gendarmerie Brigade Commander, and the Commissioner for the Special Police Station in Ayos to strengthen collaboration.
- He also met the newly installed Kye ossi.Chief of Wildlife Control Post to strengthen collaboration and information sharing.

Investigations Table

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

- **This month no operations took place, but the department brainstormed and came out with new strategies to ensure arrests next month.**

Legal

- LAGA Legal Department carried out **7 missions** out of Yaounde - Centre Region: 1 in Ebolowa (South), 1 in Sangmelima (South), 2 in Douala (Littoral), 1 in Akonolinga (Centre), 2 in Ngoumou (Centre).
- There are **15 traffickers behind bars this month**: 3 in East Region, 2 in South Region, 2 in Centre, 2 in Littoral Region and 6 in West Region.
- **36 cases** were followed up by the Legal Department this month.
- **31 cases** were scheduled in court this month.
- **1 trafficker** was convicted this month.
- **Prosecutions**: There was 2 court ruling this month.
 - **04/07/2022**: The Douala – Bonassama Court of First Instance found the accused **NUMVI Christopher guilty and sentenced him to 3 months in prison and to pay 100,000 FCFA as fine and 2,000,000 FCFA as damages.**

He was arrested in Douala - Bonaberie on the 08/04/2022 for the illegal possession of one mandrill.
 - **05/07/2022**: The Ngoumou Court of First Instance found the accused **OTTOU ATANGANA Moïse not guilty and acquitted him.**

He was arrested in Yaounde - Bandouma on the 28/03/2022 for the illegal possession of two chimpanzees.

- **Appeal:** An appeal has been filed this month in the case of **OTTOU ATANGANA Moïse** at the Centre Court of Appeal.
- **A legal adviser**

Legal Table

No of Missions (Out of Yaoundé)	No of Court Judgements	No of Traffickers Given Prison Sentence	Prison term (in months)	No of Traffickers Sanctioned (No prison sentence)	No of Appeals lodged	No of Cases Tried in Courts
7	2	1	3	0	1	31

Media

- **20 media pieces** were produced and pushed to the media including: written press, radio, and internet. That is 11 written press (8 in French language and 3 in English language), 5 radio news flashes (3 in English language, 2 in French language), and 4 internet publications (3 in French and 1 in English).
- Giving a total of 13 media pieces produced in the French language and 7 in the English making 65% in English, and 35% French.
- Subjects focused on wildlife law enforcement including: the court hearing of two traffickers arrested with a mandrill in Douala and the court hearing of 3 traffickers at the Court of First Instance of Ekounou for the illegal possession of 386kg of pangolin scales.

Media Table

<i>No of media pieces</i>	TV	Radio	Newspapers	Internet
20	0	5	11	4

External Relations and Policy

- The Deputy Director held a meeting with two TRAFFIC officials to discuss pangolin conservation and the development of the Cameroon Pangolin Working Group.
- He participated at workshop on the training officials of the Nsimalen International Airport. He did a presentation on wildlife law enforcement during the workshop that was organized by TRAFFIC.
- A legal adviser held meetings with the State Counsel of Sangmelima, Akonolinga and Douala – Bonasama respectively to discuss legal strategies concerning cases pending before their courts.
- Another legal adviser held two meetings: one with the Ebolowa State Counsel and the second with the Ngoumou State Counsel to discuss matters at their respective courts.

Management

- The training programme of the former Burkina Faso coordinator went underway and several training and testing activities were carried out in the investigation and legal departments

Activism Front:

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

Documentary Movie The WhistleBlowers: Inside the UN

The team watched a documentary produced by the BBC on whistleblowing inside the United Nations. The shocking revelation on the filth and abuse of power in the UN is exposed in a spell bounding, soft moving movie as cases after cases of abuse are revealed. What shocks is the reaction to this and the cover up. This is because the UN is believed to be an institution that works for virtuosity, virtues and are the moral arbiters in chief. The impunity revealed in the documentary calls for concern.

Finance

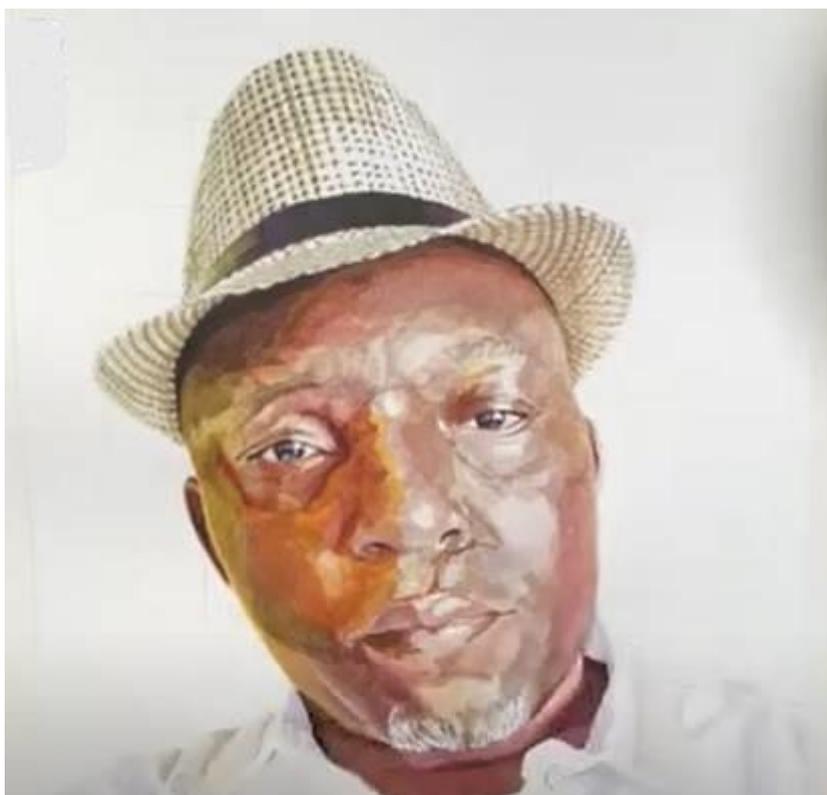
In preparation and would be made available soon as possible on the LAGA website www.laga-enforcement.org .

Link of the month

Camer be, an online news site this month published the story on the court hearing of three suspects arrested with 386kg of pangolin scales at the Mimboman neighbourhood in Yaounde.

<https://www.camer.be/91777/11:1/cameroun-pangolin-scales-traffickers-at-the-ekounou-court-cameroon.html>

Photo of the Month



Portrait of Deputy Director by artist James Nickells of the Global Portrait Project. He is painting an environmental activist from each of the 196 countries.