

# The Last Great Ape Organization – LAGA

## January 2023 Report



### Highlights

- **The Deputy Director and the Head of the Legal Department held a meeting with the Advocate General on issues related to the prosecution of wildlife traffickers and the strengthening of collaboration.**
- **They also held a meeting with the newly appointed Regional Delegate of Forestry and Wildlife for the Centre Region to discuss collaboration and strengthen the fight against wildlife crime.**

### General

The Deputy Director and the Head of the Legal Department held a meeting with the Advocate General in Yaounde on issues related to the prosecution of wildlife traffickers and the strengthening of collaboration.

They also held a meeting with the newly appointed Regional Delegate of Forestry and Wildlife for the Centre Region to discuss collaboration and strengthen the fight against wildlife crime.

The Head of the Investigation Department participated at a meeting that focused on Chinese regional cross-border wildlife trafficking and conflicts in Central Africa. The meeting was organized under the framework of the Early Career Program of the USIP – China-Africa Project.

The Head of the Legal Department and legal advisers held meetings with several State Counsels and wildlife officials on building legal strategies on ongoing cases and strengthening collaboration.

**No operations were carried out this month and strategies were put in place to ensure arrests are being carried out next month.**

## Investigations

- **6 Investigation missions** were carried out in 3 **Regions** including the East, Centre, and South Regions.
- The head of department went to Nkoteng to build working relations with the newly appointed officials

*Investigations Table*

<b>Investigation Missions</b>	<b>Regions</b>	<b>No. of Operations</b>	<b>No of traffickers arrested</b>
6	3	0	0

**No operations were carried out this month and strategies were put in place to ensure arrests are being carried out next month.**

## Legal

- LAGA Legal Department carried out **2 missions** out of Yaounde - Centre Region: 1 in Nanga Eboko (Centre) and 1 in Douala (Littoral).
- There are **15 traffickers behind bars this month**: 2 in East region, 2 in South Region, 2 in Centre, 3 in Littoral Region and 6 in West Region.
- **22 cases** were followed up by the Legal Department this month.
- **27 cases** were scheduled in court this month.
- **No traffickers** were convicted this month.
- **Prosecutions**: There were no court rulings this month.

*Legal Table*

<b>No of Missions (Out of Centre Region)</b>	<b>No of Court Judgements</b>	<b>No of Traffickers Given Prison Sentence</b>	<b>Prison term (in months)</b>	<b>No of Traffickers Sanctioned (No prison sentence)</b>	<b>No of Appeals lodged</b>	<b>No of Cases Tried in Courts</b>
2	0	0	0	0	0	27

## Media

- 11 media pieces were produced and pushed to the media including: radio and internet. That is 10 radio broadcast (6 in French, and 4 in English) and 1 internet publication in English.
- Giving a total of 6 media pieces produced in the French language, and 5 in English making 54.5% in French, and 45.5% in English.
- Quotes were from the Executive Director of Support Humanity Cameroon, Founder of Congo Basin Institute and Deputy Director of LAGA
- Subjects focused on wildlife law enforcement including: the court hearing of three traffickers arrested with 120kg of pangolin scales in Nanga.
- 

*Media table*

<i>No of media pieces</i>	<b>TV</b>	<b>Radio</b>	<b>Newspapers</b>	<b>Internet</b>
	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

## External Relations and Policy

- The Deputy Director and the Head of the Legal Department held a meeting with the Advocate General Yaounde on issues related to the prosecution of wildlife traffickers and the strengthening of collaboration.
- They also held a meeting with the newly appointed Regional Delegate of Forestry and Wildlife for the Centre Region to congratulate him on his appointment, discuss and lay down groundwork for a smooth collaboration and strengthen the fight against wildlife crime.
- The Head of the Investigation Department participated at a meeting that focused on Chinese regional cross-border wildlife trafficking and conflicts in Central Africa. The meeting was organized under the framework of the Early Career Program of the USIP – China-Africa Project.
- A legal adviser held meetings with the State Counsel in Yaounde – Centre Administratif and the State Counsel in Nanga Eboko, respectively to discuss legal strategies concerning matters pending before their courts.
- .

## Management

- The annual financial and activity reports were successfully completed. The activity report was published online alongside the second semester report.

- The Team returned from a three-week long vacation that started in December 2022 and activities fully resumed.

### **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>.

### **Finance**

**In preparation and would be made available soon as possible on the LAGA website [www.laga-enforcement.org](http://www.laga-enforcement.org) .**

### **Link of the month**

Thampersmedia. net, an online news site this month published on the alarming rate of the disappearance of Cameroon’s biodiversity. Illegal trade remains a major threat to the existence of totally protected species. Get more by clicking on the link below...

[Local Initiatives, NGOs Alarmed at Cameroon’s Disappearing Biodiversity - Thampers Media](#)