



**EAGLE**

January 2020  
EAGLE Network

# Wildlife Law Enforcement Briefing

- ✓ 8 ivory traffickers arrested in Gabon this month
- ✓ 2 ivory traffickers, one of them corrupt military man, arrested with two tusks
- ✓ 3 ivory traffickers, one of them a teacher, arrested with 7 tusks
- ✓ 3 ivory traffickers including a repeat offender arrested with 2 tusks



3 ivory traffickers, one of them a teacher, arrested with 7 tusks

# Summary

8 ivory traffickers were arrested in Gabon this month

Two ivory traffickers, one of them corrupt military man, were arrested with two tusks in the capital city. One of them brought the tusks from South of the country to sell them and the military man accompanied him to protect him for arrest during the transaction. They are both behind bars facing a sentence of 10 years in jail thanks to the new legislation adopted by Gabonese Parliament last year.

3 ivory traffickers were arrested with 7 tusks in the central part of the country. Two of them were arrested in the attempt to sell the tusks cut in several pieces. After the arrest they denounced the head of the gang, who is a teacher in nearby town. He was swiftly arrested the same day and a hunting gun was found in his house.



3 ivory traffickers including a repeat offender were arrested with 2 tusks



3 ivory traffickers were arrested with 7 tusks in the central part of the country.

3 ivory traffickers including a repeat offender were arrested with 2 tusks in the North of the country. The repeat offender was arrested in August 2013 with support of Conservation Justice with ten tusks. He



Two ivory traffickers, one of them corrupt military man, were arrested with two tusks

## Cameroon – LAGA

- The Deputy Director held a meeting with the Law Enforcement Advisor of the Zoological Society of London who was visiting the country. He discussed with him wildlife law enforcement strategies, techniques and conservation in general. They also explored possible areas of cooperation and assistance.
- He also took part in a meeting organized by the Cameroon Pangolin Working Group that was focused on preparations for the World Pangolin Day planned for the 15th of February.

## Congo – PALF

- The Coordinator participated at the conference “Action for Chimpanzee” which took place in Conakry attended by governments and NGOs from Liberia, Guinea-Bissau, Senegal, Guinea Conakry, Sierra Leone and Ivory Coast. She actively contributed to drafting the Conakry Declaration on the fight against the illegal trade in chimpanzees from West Africa, adopted at the conference.
- The Coordinator held a series of meetings with high authorities including the Deputy US Ambassador, several State Counsels and Department Directors of Forest Economy and others.

## Gabon – AALF

- Two ivory traffickers, one of them corrupt military man, arrested with two tusks in the capital city. One of them brought the tusks from South of the country to sell them and the military man accompanied him to protect him for arrest during the transaction. They are both behind bars facing a sentence of 10 years in jail thanks to the new legislation adopted by Gabonese Parliament last year.
- 3 ivory traffickers arrested with 7 tusks in the central part of the country. Two of them were arrested in the attempt to sell the tusks cut in several pieces. After the arrest they denounced the head of the gang, who is a teacher in nearby town. He was swiftly arrested the same day and a hunting gun was found in his house.
- 3 ivory traffickers including a repeat offender ar-



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rested with 2 tusks in the North-east of the country. The repeat offender was arrested in August 2013 with support of Conservation Justice with ten tusks. He was sentenced to 6 months in absentia as he was released on bail before the court



Two ivory traffickers, one of them corrupt military man, arrested with two tusks

hearing. Although an arrest warrant was issued, he never got back to jail.

- 3 ivory traffickers were sentenced to 3 years in jail. They were arrested in November 2019 with 27 tusks.
- The Coordinator travelled to the Republic of Congo to participate at a meeting with EU representatives to discuss EU financial support to several



3 ivory traffickers arrested with 7 tusks in the central part of the country.

EAGLE projects and regional strategy in Central Africa.

- Two Legal Advisors supported by the Activities Coordinator trained Judicial Police Officers in Tchibanga (Nyanga Province) on the regulations of wildlife conservation and methods of combating wildlife crime.
- The Legal Team and the Coordinator held a series of meetings with the administrative and judicial authorities of the country both for the follow-up of cases and for the strengthening of collaboration, including the Director of Economic and Financial Affairs of the National Police, the Director of Wildlife and Protected Areas, several governors, state counsels, the heads of judicial police units in several provinces and others.



3 ivory traffickers including a repeat offender arrested with 2 tusks

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## Togo – EAGLE Togo

- The Head of the Legal Department held a meeting with the new Head of Forest Resources Division at the Forest Resources Department of the Ministry of Environment to introduce him to the EAGLE project and its activities in the fight against wildlife crime. He also informed him about the collaboration that already exists between EAGLE and the technical services of the Ministry. The Head of the Department expressed his support to the process of bringing the Memorandum of Understanding between EAGLE and the Ministry of Environment to the signature.

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## Senegal – EAGLE Senegal

- The Coordinator held a meeting with the Director of Cabinet of the Minister of the Environment and Sustainable Development and the Director of National Parks of Senegal to discuss the renewal of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry and EAGLE Senegal as well as the obstacles encountered in the implementation of this agreement.
- She held a meeting with the Director of Operations of the Senegalese Customs to discuss a collaboration between the customs services and EAGLE Senegal in the context of the fight against trafficking in products of protected wildlife species.
- The Coordinator held a meeting with the Head of the Internal Security Service of the French Embassy in Senegal to follow up and to discuss support for finishing the MoU between EAGLE Senegal and the Ministry of the Environment. They also established a schedule of wildlife crime training to be provided.
- She held a meeting with the Lieutenant-Colonel of Gendarmerie to discuss organization of a training in wildlife crime for the cadets of the Gendarmerie national.

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## Benin – AALF-B

- The Coordinator trained twenty police officers of the Commissariat of the Republican Police in Agoué on methods of combating wildlife crime.
- The Coordinator and the Legal Team held a series of meetings with high officials, including several State Counsels of different courts, Commissioners and Departmental Police Directors and others.

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## Côte d'Ivoire – EAGLE Côte d'Ivoire

- The EAGLE Côte d'Ivoire team assisted to a movie projection organized by WCF about the Cavally forest, a classified forest of the west under huge human pressure and illegal occupation of lands.
- Intense recruitment process continued to strengthen Investigation and Legal Departments.

# Burkina Faso - EAGLE Burkina Faso

- The Coordinator together with the Technical Director of Conservation Justice met with a representative of NITIDAE, and environmental NGO. They discussed a cooperation within PONASI project, focused on support the enhancement of the natural capital of the landscape and increase the resilience of riparian communities. EAGLE Burkina Faso will provide legal support to the court cases resulting from the project.
- The Coordinator together with the Technical Director of Conservation Justice and a Legal Advisor held a meeting with the Technical Advisor of the Ministry of the Environment, Green Economy

and Climate Change to discuss EAGLE activities in Burkina Faso. They also discussed the partners who supported EAGLE in carrying out its missions as well as the officials who were creating obstacles.

## Headquarters

- Luc Mathot, the Founding Director, travelled to the Republic of Congo to participate at a meeting with EU representatives to discuss EU financial support to several EAGLE projects and regional strategy in Central Africa.

## THE EAGLE Network

EAGLE: Eco Activists for Governance and Law Enforcement, is a network of members across Africa, who are replicating effectively a program and operational model to undertake wildlife law enforcement, which is based on the LAGA-Cameroon model, trailed, practiced and tested since 2003. The EAGLE Network currently operates in nine African countries and keeps expanding.

The over-arching objective of the EAGLE Network is: *Developing civic activism and collaborating with governments and civil society to improve the application of national and international environmental legislation, through a program of activities: investigations, arrests, prosecutions and publicity. Through this, EAGLE aims to generate a strong deterrent against the illegal*

*trade in wildlife, timber and related criminal activities, including corruption.*

### Contacts:

1. Cameroon – LAGA - [ofir@eagle-enforcement.org](mailto:ofir@eagle-enforcement.org)
2. Congo – PALF – [perrine@eagle-enforcement.org](mailto:perrine@eagle-enforcement.org)
3. Gabon – AALF – [luc@eagle-enforcement.org](mailto:luc@eagle-enforcement.org)
4. Togo – EAGLE-Togo – [rens@eagle-enforcement.org](mailto:rens@eagle-enforcement.org)
5. Senegal – EAGLE Senegal - [cebloch@eagle-enforcement.org](mailto:cebloch@eagle-enforcement.org)
6. Benin - AALF-B – [jules@eagle-enforcement.org](mailto:jules@eagle-enforcement.org)
7. Côte d'Ivoire - [rens@eagle-enforcement.org](mailto:rens@eagle-enforcement.org)
8. Burkina Faso - [josias@eagle-enforcement.org](mailto:josias@eagle-enforcement.org)