



EAGLE

The EAGLE Network

1st Semester 2021 Report



- ✓ *Despite the challenges posed by the Covid-19 pandemic and several other difficulties, the EAGLE teams pushed forward. 84 significant wildlife traffickers and other criminals were arrested in 9 countries*
- ✓ *At least in 6 of the operations, corruption was so flagrant that it was exposed on the day of operation or shortly after*
- ✓ *45 ivory traffickers were arrested with 327.67 kg of ivory, which includes 125 tusks and 181 ivory pieces*
- ✓ *22 big cat traffickers were arrested with 22 leopard skins*
- ✓ *7 pangolin scales traffickers arrested with more than 351 kg of scales*
- ✓ *6 primate traffickers were arrested, 4 in Cameroon with 2 mandrills and a baby chimp and 2 in Congo with a mandrill rescued*
- ✓ *3 human bones traffickers arrested in Congo in a crackdown operation*
- ✓ *82% of the arrested traffickers remained behind bars*
- ✓ *1,331 media pieces were published in national media*

1. Summary

Despite the challenges posed by the Covid-19 pandemic and several other difficulties, the EAGLE teams pushed forward with 84 significant wildlife traffickers and other criminals arrested in 9 countries. It is a good example of how team spirit and inner motivation plays a strong role in getting results and finding way through the obstacles created by the Covid-19 regulations - and still comply with all of them. EAGLE Network also continued to apply strict internal measures which were adopted from the onset and during the pandemic to prevent spreading the infection within teams

Travel restrictions in some countries were eased facilitating more mobility for the teams. The number of investigation missions increased significantly compared with the same period last year. It creates a good basis for increasing the number of arrests after the pandemic is over. Also, online investigations were pushed forward to produce more targets where field investigators could not find targets easily.

Public services in some countries were limited, affecting the way normal business of court functions but the situation improved this year as opposed to last year at the same period. It continued to influence the decisions of state counsels who were reluctant to send people to jail for fear of high risk of infections in prisons. The international travel restrictions hampered missions of CCU members to the countries or team members between the countries, but a mission to Congo was very successful. Two members also successfully travelled to Nairobi for training sessions. CCU and Steering group extensively used videoconferencing instead of travelling, to keep the quality of the work of all teams high.

1,135 investigation missions were carried out to identify the criminals. 82% of the arrested traffickers remained in prison at least in the beginning of their trial. During the semester 86 traffickers were prosecuted and 66 of them handed imprisonment sentences of various time, while others remain behind the bars awaiting trial.

Corruption is prevalent in all levels of the enforcement and judicial process. At least 6 cases of corruption were so flagrant that it was exposed on the day of operation or later. In May, corruption attempts by a high ranking gendarmerie commander were fought off by the team in Congo. The official tried to get the release of a trafficker using the false pretense of sickness. He had been in prison for one year for ivory trafficking. The team fought hard and the court ordered a counter medical examination that proved that the medical diagnosis presented was false.

Traffickers in ivory and other elephant parts represent the vast majority of arrests, while traffickers of big cat skins are in second place, pangolin scales traffickers, third and primates traffickers came fourth.

Trafficking Ivory and other elephant products represents most of the focus during this period resulting in the largest number of arrested traffickers. 45 ivory traffickers were arrested in 17 operations in 7 countries with 327.67 kg of ivory, which includes 125 tusks and 181 ivory pieces.

5 traffickers were arrested in Côte d'Ivoire in February with 60 ivory tusks dismantling a network involving Ghana, Togo and Burkina Faso. They were arrested in the interior of the country close to the Ghana border in a very small room. The tusks were of mostly very young elephants and some were fresh with blood stains showing the elephants were recently massacred.

22 big cat traffickers were arrested in 10 operations in 4 countries. 22 leopard skins were seized. 11 of the traffickers were arrested in Senegal with 12 skins seized.

2 traffickers were arrested in Senegal in January with a leopard skin, 14 hippo teeth and an AK-47 assault rifle that they attempted to trade. Following the arrest of the first trafficker, a house search at the second trafficker's residence swiftly followed with his arrest and seizure of the assault rifle for sale and a magazine containing 14 cartridges.

7 pangolin scales traffickers were arrested in four operations; 3 in Cameroon and one in Côte d'Ivoire. More than 350 kg of scales were seized.

A trafficker was arrested in Cameroon with 109 kg of pangolin scales in March. He was arrested as he offloaded two bags of pangolin scales from his car. A search of his home by the arresting team found smaller quantities of pangolin scales concealed in a black plastic bag and hidden inside his kitchen. He activated a gang of several poachers in a number of localities in the area and regularly supplied the scales in the bigger cities.

3 traffickers were arrested in May with 110 kg of pangolin scales in Côte d'Ivoire. This seizure alone represents the killing of up to 550 pangolins (depending on the species). They posed no resistance as the arresting team moved in to apprehend them in the capital city. The traffickers belong to a regional network. 2 of them collected the scales and the third assisted with transporting them.

6 primate traffickers were arrested, 4 in Cameroon with 2 mandrills and a baby chimp and 2 in Congo with a mandrill rescued.

2 primate traffickers were arrested in March and a small mandrill rescued in Congo. They arrived on a motorbike with the young and fragile animal concealed in a cardboard box and hidden inside a black backpack. They brought the animal from over 175 km to the place of transaction, where they were arrested. The dirty looking mandrill was handed over to the Jane Goodall Institute's Tchimpounga Sanctuary where he will be given a special care.

A trafficker was arrested in May with a baby chimp in Cameroon. The baby chimp was rescued during a high risk, nerve-racking cross river operation. He traveled dozens of kilometers to the banks of the Sanaga River (the longest in Cameroon) and camped there holding our investigator captive, refusing to cross over from the wild and lawless side of the river. It needed tremendous courage and initiative of our Head of Operations to cross the river on a canoe and confront the trafficker saving our investigator from possible kidnap or harm.

A trafficker was arrested in Burkina Faso with 30 crocodile skins in March. The skins were smuggled into the country from Ghana. He is part of a smuggling ring bringing in contraband from Ghana.

Investigations into wildlife trafficking led to the uncovering of a human bones trafficking network and the arrest of 3 in Congo with a human skull. The first trafficker was arrested with a human skull. This led to the arrest of the second who was hiding around a nearby hotel. The third trafficker, who is the owner of the plot where the remains were dug out, was arrested immediately following the first two arrests.

In order to provide a deterrent effect, 1,331 media pieces were published in national media. The distribution of the media pieces on national media were 47% on internet, 26% in print media, 20% in radio and 7% on TV.

Content:

This report refers to activities from January till June 2021. This report includes: the activities in each area of our fight - Investigations, Operations, Legal, Media and External Relations; progress in developing the Network.

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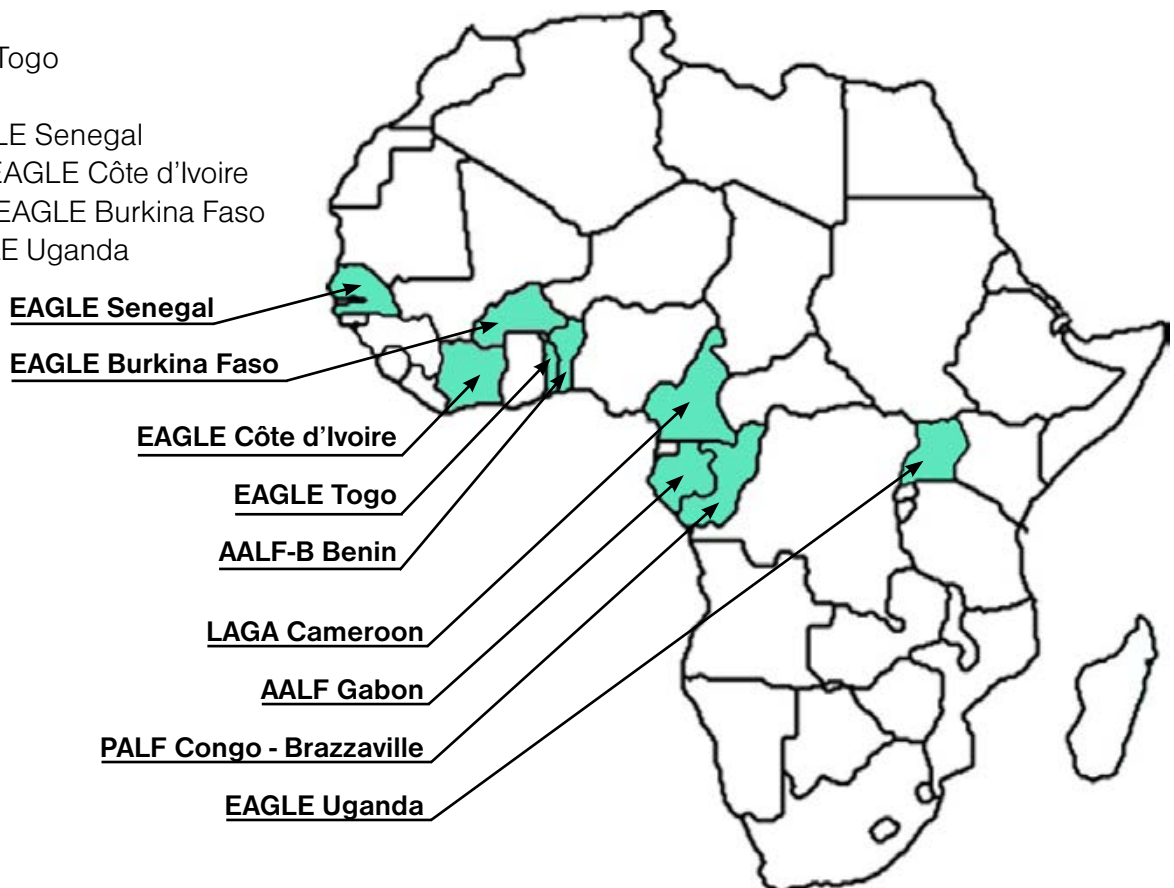
2. Structure of the Network

EAGLE: Eco Activists for Governance and Law Enforcement is a network of members across Africa, who are effectively replicating a program and operational model to undertake wildlife law enforcement, 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.*

The Central Coordination Unit is located in Nairobi.

The EAGLE Network operates in these countries:

1. Cameroon - LAGA
2. The Republic of Congo - PALF
3. Gabon - AALF
4. Togo - EAGLE Togo
5. Benin - AALF-B
6. Senegal - EAGLE Senegal
7. Côte d'Ivoire - EAGLE Côte d'Ivoire
8. Burkina Faso - EAGLE Burkina Faso
9. Uganda - EAGLE Uganda



3. Investigations

1,135 different investigation missions were carried out in all 9 countries, leading to the arrest of 84 traffickers in the first semester of 2021.

The investigations focused mainly on ivory trafficking but also on primate trafficking, illegal trade with big cat skins, pangolin scales and reptiles' skins.

**Numbers of investigations
in January - June 2021**

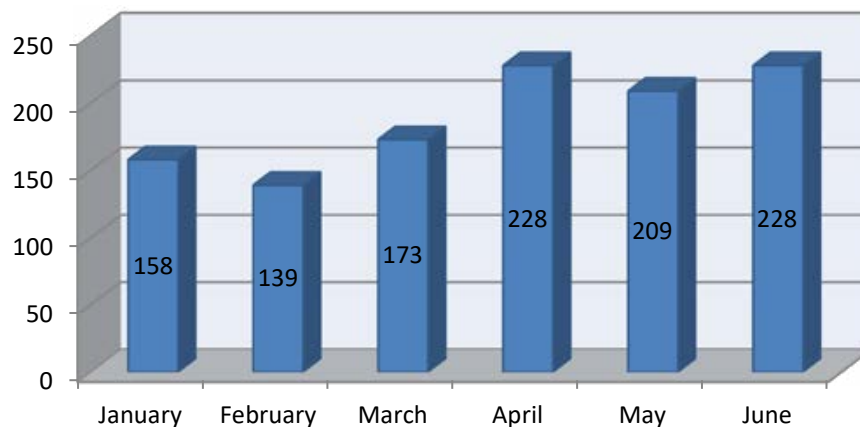


Fig. 1: Numbers of investigations in January – June 2021

The COVID-19 pandemic and strict government measures continued to present obstacles in investigations, but there was a substantial increase in the number of investigation missions and much higher than the previous year. It creates a good basis for increasing the number of arrests after the pandemic is over. The growing number of investigations is also a result of intense recruitment process, leading to strengthening the teams and investigation departments. New investigators were tested in all countries and some joined the teams. The recruitment processes continue in all the countries to find more good investigators.

4. Arrest Operations

84 significant wildlife traffickers and other criminals were arrested. EAGLE Network members carried out 39 operations in all 9 countries.

**Number of Arrested Traffickers
in January - June 2021**

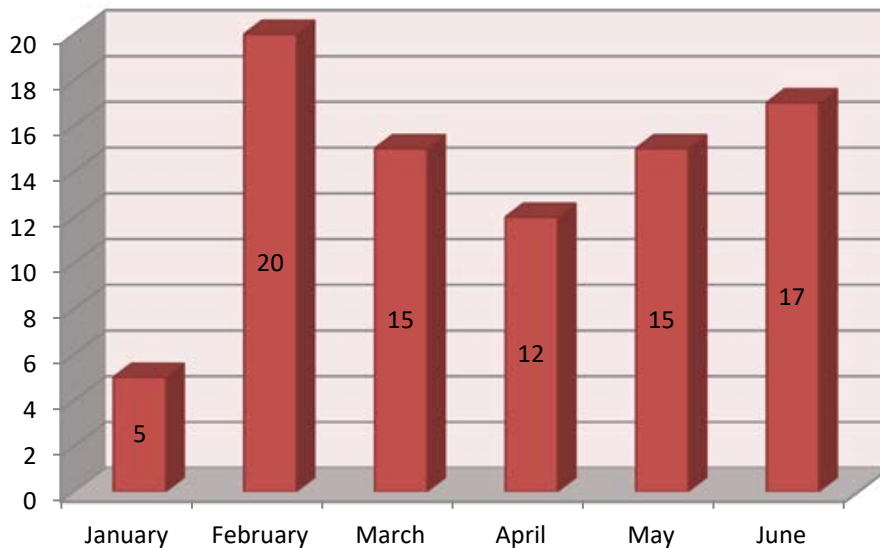


Fig. 2: Number of arrested traffickers in January - June 2021

Vast majority of the arrested traffickers - 54 % were traffickers of ivory. The second largest number concerned traffickers in big cat skins and other body parts - 26 %. Third in focus of arrests were pangolin scales traffickers with 8 % of all the arrests. There was a substantial number of primates traffickers arrested and this represented the fourth position with 7 %.

Distribution of the Arrested Traffickers According to Species

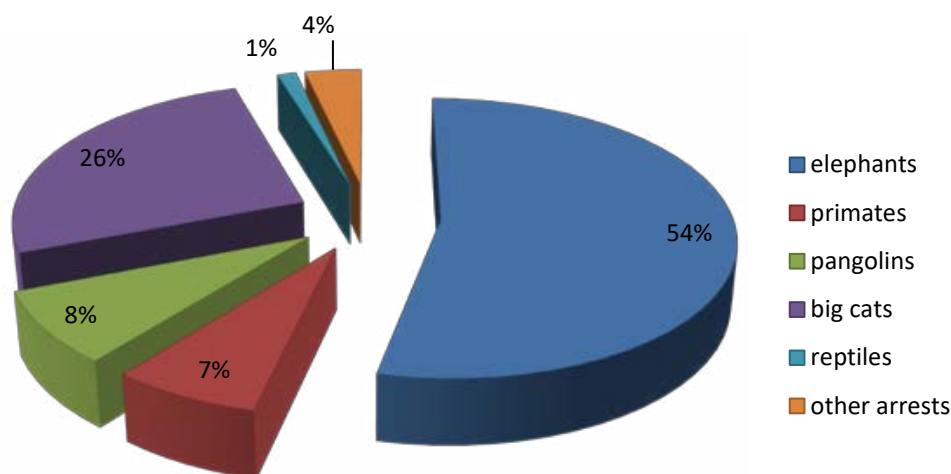


Fig. 3: Distribution of Arrested Traffickers According to the Species

Corruption

Corruption is prevalent in all levels of the enforcement and judicial process. At least in 6 of the operations, corruption was so flagrant that it was exposed on the day of operation or later. Attempts by a high-ranking gendarmerie official to release a jailed trafficker in Congo was exposed and combatted and attempts by a mayor to free arrested traffickers in Senegal was vigorously aborted. The examples are presented here:

- A corrupt customs official was arrested with a live mandrill in Cameroon in February. He was arrested in the South of the country, close to the border with Gabon and Equatorial Guinea. He travelled with the mandrill clinging on him, as he drove his car for over 40km to sell the animal. He kept the animal in iron chains in a small and unsuitable cage for over one year. He had earlier illegally traded another mandrill in the same town to a live animal trafficker who travelled about 400km for the deal. He bought the two mandrills from an area of intense trafficking, in the South of the country. He was actively searching for a baby gorilla to buy before his arrest. The hungry and frail looking mandrill was immediately taken care off following its rescue and moved to the Yaoundé zoo for further care.

- 2 corrupt men in uniform, a gendarmerie officer and a military man were arrested in February with 3 ivory tusks in Congo. The 2 traffickers were arrested after the arrest of 4 other traffickers with an ivory tusk by the gendarmerie. The legal team followed up new information on the ivory trafficking ring and this led to the arrest of the gendarme officer with two ivory tusks and the military man with one ivory tusk. The gendarmerie officer is well known for selling carved ivory and the military man admitted to killing the elephant himself.
- In May, corruption attempts by a high ranking gendarmerie commander were fought off by the team in Congo. The official tried to get the release of a trafficker using the false pretense of sickness. He had been in prison for one year for ivory trafficking. The team fought hard and the court ordered a counter medical examination that proved that the medical diagnosis presented was false.
- In June, 2 traffickers, including a military officer, were arrested in Congo with 3 tusks and 5 kg of giant pangolin scales. The tusks were chopped off from a slaughtered elephant mother and her baby. Tiny tusks were pulled out from deep inside the mouth of the baby elephant. The first traffickers admitted to the slaughter and described that the mother was killed with five shots and the baby with three, in the Lesio Luna Natural Reserve. He concealed the products in a military bag to avoid detection and deceive the vigilance of the authorities. He transported the contraband from Inioni to Brazzaville where they ivory was concealed at the home of the second trafficker, the corrupt military official for several weeks. The gendarmerie went to great lengths to retrieve the rifle used in the killing of the elephants and hidden at his home. He admitted that this was the fourth gun seized from him. The military officer was arrested when he came visiting the detained trafficker. He had concealed the contraband and protected the trafficker at his home.
- During an operation carried out in Senegal in April, a mayor tried to release two who were arrested for trafficking in 4 leopard skins but the team worked hard and fought back to stem the mayor from succeeding. The same would happen again during a second operation in June when 3 traffickers were arrested with 2 leopard skins and the team used the same fight to stop the traffic of influence.

Elephants

Trafficking ivory and other elephant products represents most of the focus during this period resulting in the largest number of arrested traffickers. 45 ivory traffickers were arrested in 17 operations in 7 countries with 327.67 kg of ivory, which include 125 tusks and 181 ivory pieces. Some examples are presented here:

- 5 traffickers were arrested in Côte d'Ivoire in February with 60 ivory tusks dismantling a network involving Ghana, Togo and Burkina Faso. They were arrested in the interior of the country close to the Ghana border in a very small room. The traffickers violently attacked the arresting force and continued to resist even as they were handcuffed. The tusks were of mostly very young elephants and some were fresh with blood stains showing the elephants were recently massacred. The 30 slaughtered elephants in the seizure are a mere snapshot of the regular decimation of elephants generated by this illegal network.

- 3 traffickers were arrested in Côte d'Ivoire in February with 166 pieces of sculpted ivory in a crackdown against a vast Guinean syndicate. The traffickers attempted to escape but were swiftly caught. The arrest was difficult because the team had to do it at their shop in a busy part of the town. The owner of the ivory who is a carver, attempted to sell the ivory in the back court of the shop. The shop that is located in an area of intense trafficking in the commercial capital, was raided and a search found 56 items of ivory jewelry. The search of another shop next door found locked metal boxes containing several other ivory pieces.
- A gendarmerie officer and a military man were arrested in Congo in February with 3 ivory tusks. The 2 traffickers were arrested after the arrest of 4 other traffickers with an ivory tusk by the gendarmerie. The legal team followed up new information on the ivory trafficking ring and this led to the arrest of the gendarme officer with two ivory tusks and the military man with one ivory tusk. The gendarmerie officer is well known for selling carved ivory and the military man admitted to killing the elephant himself.
- A trafficker was arrested in Congo in February with 8 tusks and 2 ivory pieces weighing 28 kg. He transported the ivory on a motorbike to the capital city where he was arrested as he attempted to trade the contraband. Interrogations uncovered other criminal activities the trafficker carried out including trading in radioactive substances
- 3 traffickers from Mali and Guinea were arrested in Gabon in February with 2 ivory tusks. The first two traffickers, of Malian nationality, were arrested in the North of the country as they attempted to sell the tusks. Soon after the arrest, they denounced the third trafficker, a Guinean, who was arrested in another town.
- 2 traffickers were arrested in Benin in February with 2 ivory tusks. They were arrested in the act as they attempted to sell the ivory in the North of the country. They travelled to the place of transaction on a motorbike with the ivory carefully concealed in a jute bag, to avoid detection. A third trafficker is on the run as the Team fights to apprehend him.
- 3 traffickers were arrested in March in connection with the trafficking of 4 elephant tusks in Gabon. The first 2 were arrested attempting to sell 4 ivory tusks. They were taken to the police station where they denounced the third trafficker, a woman, who was arrested 4 days later. She handed the ivory tusks to the two.
- 3 traffickers were arrested in March in connection with the trafficking of 2 tusks in Gabon. The first trafficker was arrested as he arrived his barbing salon with a bag containing the ivory. The arresting team had patiently waited for several hours and he suddenly came in from darkness, moving cautiously to his salon. On realizing the arresting team was closing in on him, he dashed out and tried to flee but was quickly closed down and arrested. He denounced his accomplices, who were arrested 5 days later.
- An ivory trafficker was arrested in Benin in March with 2 elephant tusks. He was arrested after he arrived at the place of transaction on a motorbike with a jute sack that concealed the ivory tusks. The contraband was smuggled from Burkina Faso.
- 2 traffickers were arrested in March with 3 elephant tusks in a successful kick off of a new project in Uganda. 2 traffickers arrested with 3 ivory tusks. The two, Rwandese, transported the ivory concealed in a brown sugar sack and placed in the trunk of their car. One of them drove the car to the place of transac-

tion and on arrival the second moved the sack from the trunk and was immediately arrested. He resisted but was quickly closed down and handcuffed. The bag contained freshly marked ivory tusks weighing 14kg. The base of one of the tusks was cut off using a hand saw. They belong to a network of ivory traffickers in the country. They are connected to other network involved in gold and human skulls trafficking.

- 3 traffickers were arrested in Togo in April with 6 elephant tusks. The ivory has been trafficked from Burkina Faso, as the nationality of the owner, and stocked in Ghana. The 2 other traffickers are Togo and Niger nationals. One of the traffickers attempted to escape during the operation and was chased down and captured by the arresting team.
- 4 traffickers were arrested in Togo in April with 4 elephant tusks. 2 traffickers came from Benin and served as intermediaries to the Benin-based traffickers. They used a motorbike all the way from Benin to smuggle the ivory concealed in a used grain bag and kept inside a backpack. The other 2 were Togolese intermediaries in the illegal deal.
- 3 traffickers were arrested in April with 2 elephant tusks in Burkina Faso. 2 of the traffickers concealed the elephant tusks in a used grain bag, to avoid detection. They arrived on motorbikes in a town close to the border with Ghana, where they were arrested. Soon after the arrest, they denounced the third trafficker who was immediately arrested. He killed the elephant in the Nazinga Game Ranch in the South of the country. He is a repeat offender and had been arrested for poaching a defassa waterbuck in the past.
- 3 traffickers were arrested in May with 8 elephant tusks and some pieces of ivory in Togo, dismantling an international ivory trafficking network. The network of Togolese, Malian and Nigerien nationalities used trafficking routes crisscrossing Burkina Faso and Benin. 5 of the tusks were smuggled from Burkina Faso and received by the Togolese who was also in charge of searching for buyers in Togo. The remaining 3 elephant tusks were smuggled from Benin and motorbikes were used to moving the ivory around the three countries.
- A trafficker was arrested in May with 5 elephant tusks and 14 ivory pieces in Gabon. Information on the illegal activity was first received by the General Research Directorate (DGR). The trafficker concealed the contraband carefully inside his backpack when arrested. He was later transported to the Libreville Special Tribunal and remanded in custody.
- 2 traffickers, including a military officer, were arrested in June with 3 tusks and 5 kg of giant pangolin scales in Congo. The tusks were chopped off from a slaughtered elephant mother and her baby. Tiny tusks were pulled out from deep inside the mouth of the baby elephant. The first traffickers admitted to the slaughter and described that the mother was killed with five shots and the baby with three, in the Lesio Luna Natural Reserve.
- 2 traffickers were arrested in Gabon in June with 2 elephant tusks and an ivory piece. They were arrested in the act during an attempt to sell the contraband. One of the traffickers who is a worker with a logging company travelled with the contraband from Ndjolé some 100 km to Kango. He spent 3 nights with his accomplice in Kango before moving to the place of transaction as they attempted to sell the ivory tusks.
- 2 traffickers were arrested in June with 4 tusks in Uganda. The 4 large ivory pieces that weighed 25 kg were wrapped in polythene and concealed inside a bag they took to the place of transaction. One of the traffickers is a renowned middleman for the ivory trafficking network.

Big Cats

22 big cat traffickers were arrested in 10 operations in 4 countries. 22 leopard skins were seized. Some examples are presented here:

- 2 traffickers were arrested in Senegal in January with a leopard skin, 14 hippo teeth and an AK-47 assault rifle that they attempted to trade. Following the arrest of the first trafficker, a house search at the second trafficker's residence swiftly followed with his arrest and seizure of the assault rifle for sale and a magazine containing 14 cartridges. The assault rifle that was being sold is suspected to have been used in the slaughter of many leopards and hippos for over a decade. They both remain in jail, awaiting trial.
- A wildlife trafficker was arrested in January with a leopard skin in Senegal. The trafficker works for a state organ that supports the national police. The arrest was carried out two days after the arrest of 2 with a leopard skin in the same town as the team stayed behind to push forward for the operation.
- 2 traffickers were arrested in January with a leopard skin in Congo. They were arrested in the act in the capital city.
- 3 traffickers were arrested in Gabon in February with 3 leopard skins. The traffickers were arrested during an intense sequence of arrests in a crackdown on this illegal trade. When the first trafficker who arrived the place of transaction with a leopard skin concealed inside a bag was arrested, two more arrests swiftly followed.
- 2 traffickers were arrested in Senegal in March with 3 leopard skins, a hyena skin and 17 hippo teeth. One of the traffickers was a taxi driver who was an accomplice. He used his taxi for the transaction and moved the contraband around. The car was impounded. One of the leopard skins is of a leopard about only 5 months old.
- 2 traffickers were arrested in Senegal in April with 4 leopard skins. 3 of the skins were from baby leopards, less than 3 months old. It seems an entire family, a mother and her young ones, were slaughtered in Guinea Conakry where the skins were smuggled from. The Ramadan-fasting team travelled close to 1000 km to the South of the country where the arrest was done under the sizzling heat of a hot Senegalese day. The traffickers are specialized not only in skins but in the illegal trade in live animals as well.
- 2 traffickers were arrested in May with a leopard skin and a piece of ivory in Congo. The contraband was rolled up very tightly in a black plastic bag and concealed inside a backpack to avoid detection by law enforcement. They arrived the scene of transaction carrying the parcel.
- 4 traffickers were arrested in Cameroon in June with 3 leopard skins and a crocodile skin. The traffickers belong to a network of experienced leopard skin traffickers. The traffickers belong to a network of experienced leopard skin traffickers. One of them was recently arrested but she bribed her way out of jail. They arrived the place of transaction individually on bikes, with two grain bags containing the skins. They obtained the skins from other regions in the country. The region is notorious for skins trafficking and traffickers use traditional titles and functions to cover their illegal trade in leopard skin. One of the traffickers is a traditional ruler.

- A trafficker was arrested in Senegal in June with 2 leopard skins. He doubles as a heavy duty truck driver and used the position to regularly smuggle wildlife products between Mali and Senegal. The leopard skins were wrapped in bed sheets and concealed in a plastic bag.
- 3 traffickers were arrested in Senegal in June with 2 leopard skins. The skins were trafficked by a ring involved in timber trafficking. The traffickers arrived on motorbikes for the illegal transaction and the skins were concealed in a grain bag and a back pack. The number of leopard skins the Team seized during arrests from the beginning of the year reached 10 - a shocking testament to the magnitude of the illegal trade that drives leopards to extinction.

Pangolins

7 pangolin scales traffickers were arrested in four operations; three in Cameroon and one in Côte d'Ivoire. More than 350 kg of scales were seized. They are currently the most trafficked animals in the world. Pangolin scales traffickers are intensifying their illegal trade following the Covid 19 pandemic that disrupted several activities for a while. The examples are presented here:

- A trafficker was arrested in Cameroon with 109 kg of pangolin scales in March. He was arrested as he offloaded two bags of pangolin scales from his car. A search of his home by the arresting team found smaller quantities of pangolin scales concealed in a black plastic bag and hidden inside his kitchen. He activated a gang of several poachers in a number of localities in the area and regularly supplied the scales in the bigger cities. Depending on the species, this seizure represents up to 250 massacred pangolins.
- 3 traffickers were arrested in May with 110 kg of pangolin scales in Côte d'Ivoire. This seizure alone represents the killing of up to 550 pangolins (depending on the species). They posed no resistance as the arresting team moved in to apprehend them in the capital city. They were taken to Abidjan to be auditioned. The traffickers belong to a regional network. 2 of them collected the scales and the third assisted with transporting them.
- 2 traffickers were arrested in May with 72 kg of pangolin scales in Cameroon, representing up to 360 slaughtered pangolins (depending on the species). When the arresting team arrived the home of one of the traffickers, they found a grain bag full with pangolin scales in the living room. The traffickers operated at a strategically important road junction, a gateway to the towns in the south of the country where wildlife traffickers are very active.
- A trafficker was arrested in Cameroon in June with 60 kg of pangolin scales. This seizure is a mere snapshot of the regular two-weeks activity of the trafficker. This one sack represents the killing of up to 300 pangolins (depending on the species). He is an experienced pangolin scales trafficker who posed as a hawker in second hand dresses. He bought pangolin scales from smaller traffickers and poachers he activated in several localities.

Primates

6 primate traffickers were arrested, four in Cameroon with two mandrills and a baby chimp and two in Congo with a mandrill rescued. The examples are presented here:

- A customs official was arrested in February with a live mandrill in Cameroon. He was arrested in the South of the country, close to the border with Gabon and Equatorial Guinea. He travelled with the mandrill clinging on him, as he drove his car for over 40 km to sell the animal. He kept the animal in iron chains in a small and unsuitable cage for over one year. He had earlier illegally traded another mandrill in the same town to a live animal trafficker who travelled about 400 km for the deal. He bought the two mandrills from an area of intense trafficking, in the South of the country. He was actively searching for a baby gorilla to buy before his arrest. The hungry and frail looking mandrill was immediately taken care of following its rescue and moved to the Yaoundé zoo for further care.
- 2 primate traffickers were arrested in March and a small mandrill rescued in Congo. They arrived on a motorbike with the young and fragile animal concealed in a cardboard box and hidden inside a black backpack. They brought the animal from over 175 km to the place of transaction, where they were arrested. The dirty looking mandrill was handed over to the Jane Goodall Institute's Tchimpounga Sanctuary where he will be given special care. Two pieces of lead, probably from the bullet that killed his mother, were removed from his head. He was lucky because the scraps did not touch the skull and was just beneath the skin. But the wounds were badly infected and full with puss.
- A trafficker was arrested in May with a baby chimp in Cameroon. The baby chimp was rescued during a high risk, nerve-racking cross river operation. Courage and initiative saved our investigator and the chimp from the hands of a trafficker. He traveled dozens of kilometers to the banks of the Sanaga River (the longest in Cameroon) and camped there holding our investigator captive, refusing to cross over from the wild and lawless side of the river. It needed tremendous courage and initiative of our Head of Operations to cross the river on a canoe and confront the trafficker saving our investigator from possible kidnap or harm.
- A trafficker was arrested in Cameroon in June with a baby mandrill. The plan was to rescue two mandrills but one died the day before the operation, showing how crucial it is to rescue these baby primates fast as they live on borrowed time. The trafficker admitted that a third mandrill she tried to sell died as well. She added that her father who is a traditional chief lends his gun to poachers that he activates and he is her supplier, while she has a regular buyer for live primates. He has been accused and stands prosecution.

Reptiles

- A trafficker was arrested in Burkina Faso with 30 crocodile skins in March. The skins were smuggled into the country from Ghana. He is part of a smuggling ring bringing in contraband from Ghana. They cross the borders in the night using bush roads which are not easily identified by authorities. The contraband was concealed inside corn flour while crossing the borders.

Other arrests

Investigations into wildlife trafficking led to the uncovering of a human bones trafficking network and the arrest of three.

- 3 traffickers were arrested in Congo in May with a human skull. The first trafficker was arrested with a human skull. This led to the arrest of the second who was hiding around a nearby hotel. The third trafficker, who is the owner of the plot where the remains were dug out, was arrested immediately following the first two arrests. They belong to a vast network, trafficking and smuggling various contraband including human bones, wildlife products and hard drugs such as cocaine. A piece of leopard skin and a tomb cross were found under the bed of one of the members of the network. The network seems to be spread across the country with many members based in Brazzaville. These arrests indicate that wildlife traffickers are often involved in other illegal activities and networks. Human body parts are in high demand in the Central Africa sub region to be used by occultists for sacrifices in black magic

5. Legal Follow up

The EAGLE Network legal teams in the 9 countries followed up the court cases of the 84 arrested traffickers. All the court cases were followed fighting corruption and ensuring imprisonment terms handed. 82 % of the arrested traffickers remained behind bars while on trial, at least for its beginning.

During the semester 86 traffickers were prosecuted and 66 of them convicted to imprisonment sentences of various time. The majority of the 20 others were either handed suspended prison sentences with or without fines and damages. Some examples of good court decisions include:

- An ivory trafficker was sentenced to 3 years in jail in Gabon in January. He was arrested in November 2020 with 5 elephant tusks and 15 ivory pieces.
- A Malian arrested in Gabon in November with 6 ivory tusks was sentenced to 3 years in prison in January.
- 2 ivory traffickers were sentenced to one year in prison. They were arrested in December 2020.
- 2 ivory traffickers were sentenced in March to a one-year of imprisonment for the first and 10 months for the second. They were arrested in January this year in Gabon.
- 2 ivory traffickers, a Guinean and a Burkinabe, were sentenced to one year in prison in March in Gabon. They were arrested in December 2020.
- A leopard skin trafficker was sentenced in March in Gabon to 10 months in prison. He was arrested in January.
- An ivory trafficker was sentenced to 10 months of imprisonment in April in Gabon. He was arrested in September 2020
- 2 ivory traffickers were sentenced in April to 2 years in prison in Gabon. They were arrested in January 2021.
- 2 traffickers in ivory were in sentenced in April to 2 years in prison. They were arrested in January 2021 in Gabon.
- 2 ivory traffickers were sentence to 2 years of imprisonment in April. They were arrested in Gabon in February 2021
- 2 ivory traffickers were sentenced to one year in prison in April in Gabon. He was arrested in March 2021
- 5 ivory traffickers were sentenced to one year in jail in Cote d'Ivoire in March. They were arrested in February 2021 with 60 tusks.
- A pangolin scales trafficker was sentenced to one year in prison in Cameroon in April. He was arrested in March 2021 with 109 kg of pangolin scales.

- 2 ivory traffickers were sentenced to one year in prison in May in Gabon. They were arrested in April 2021.
- 2 ivory traffickers were sentenced in May in Gabon to one and a half years in prison. They were arrested in April 2021
- An ivory trafficker was sentenced to 4 years in prison in May in Benin. He was arrested in March 2021.
- In a landmark decision in Burkina Faso, 3 ivory traffickers were sentenced to 12 months in prison in June. They were arrested in April 2021.
- An ivory trafficker was sentenced to 1 year in prison in June in Gabon. He was arrested in May 2021.

6. Media

Using the media to inform the public that the law is being actively enforced maximizes the deterrent value of our actions and the rising risks for potential traffickers to get to jail.

In order to provide a deterrent effect, 1,331 media pieces were published in national media.

The distribution of the media pieces on national media were 47% on internet, 26% in print media, 21% in radio and 7% on TV.

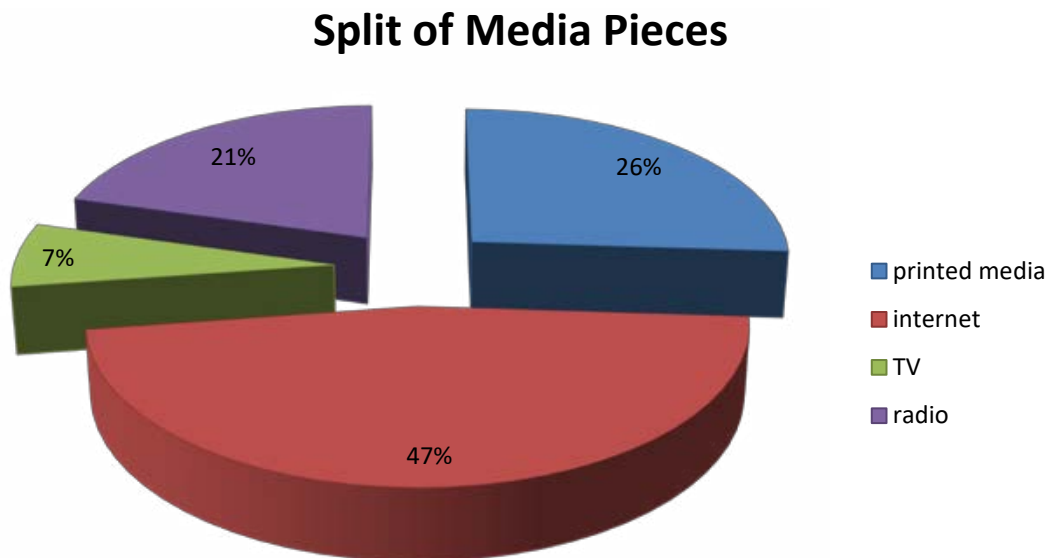


Fig. 4: Split of Media Pieces

Numbers of media pieces published in January - June 2021

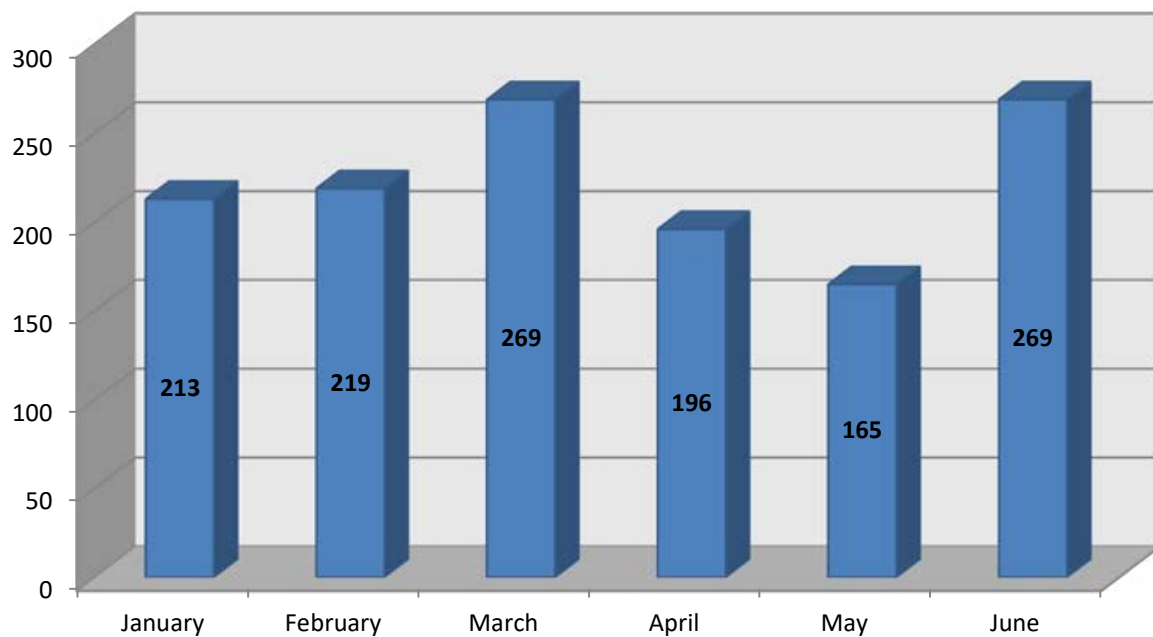


Fig. 5: Number of Media pieces published nationally in January – June 2021

International media

- Fighting to Save the Last Great Apes with Ofir Drori – a podcast at Talking Apes

[Link to the podcast](#)

- LAGA was quoted in several articles from a Belgian based website Camer.be on several of the operations carried out in Cameroon and here are a few examples:

[Link to Camer.be](#)

[Link to Camer.be](#)

7. External Relations

Building a relationship of equals with government that is an exception from normal NGO-Government relationships and centering on the fight against corruption, ensuring effective enforcement and consequences for lack of law application is one of the main objectives of the EAGLE Network. This is realized through fostering government relations and engaging the international community to ensure good governance and law application, while pushing the EAGLE Network international messages of larger change. Fostering EAGLE Network's relations with Embassies and other members of the international community is therefore of high importance in the sensitive domain of law enforcement. During this semester, the EAGLE activists held many meetings with international authorities, government officials within and outside of their countries, meetings with traditional rulers, they cooperated with local and international NGOs, participated in conferences and conducted several trainings.

Cameroon

- The Deputy Director participated in January at a meeting chaired by the Minister of Forestry and Wildlife, that focused on areas of collaboration and intervention by CSOs in the forestry and wildlife subsector.
- The Deputy Director held a meeting in January at the US Embassy with the Deputy Chief of the Political Section and the Environment Specialist to discuss the organization's yearly plan and activities while also focusing on problems affecting effective wildlife conservation in the country.
- The Deputy Director trained rangers of the Dja Reserve, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, on information collection and management and the fight against corruption, during a training seminar held in February.
- The Deputy Director and the Head of the Legal Department held a meeting in April with the Secretary General at the Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife on legal procedures and court cases.
- The Deputy Director and the Head of the Legal Department trained some wildlife rangers and teachers of the Garoua Wildlife School during a training workshop in the North of the country that held in June and focused on the law enforcement procedure.
- In June, The Deputy Director participated at the signing ceremony of an MoU between the Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife and a pangolin rehabilitation project – the Tikki Hywood Foundation. He met with several MINFOF officials.

Congo

- The incoming Coordinator supported by the outgoing Coordinator held meetings in January with the Director of Cabinet at the Ministry of Justice to introduce herself and to discuss avenues for further collaboration. They also held meetings with the Gendarmerie Regional Commander of Brazzaville and the EU Delegation for the same purpose.
- The Coordinator held meetings in February with the Regional Commander of Gendarmerie of Brazzaville to discuss some ongoing cases.
- The Coordinator held a series of high level meetings in March with the Interim Departmental Director of the Forestry Economy of Pointe Noire, 3 Chief Wildlife Officers, 3 Regional Gendarmerie Commanders to strengthen collaboration and working relations. She held meetings with the Jane Goodall Institute on a rescued mandrill.
- In April, the Coordinator held an introductory meeting with the General Director of the Ministry of Forestry Economy and Sustainable Development and discussed the signing of the MoU.
- In June, the Coordinator participated at an event organized for civil society by the EU Ambassador to celebrate Europe Day. She met with the Minister of Forestry Economy and Sustainable Development during the event. She held meetings with the Delegation of the European Union and the French Embassy to discuss wildlife law enforcement.

Gabon

- The Activities Coordinator and legal advisers in January met and discussed with, among others, the Governor of the Province of Woleu-Ntem, the Director General of Wildlife and Protected Areas, the Director of Anti-poaching, the Provincial Directors of Water and Forests of Woleu-Ntem, Customs, ANPN and SETRAG.
- The Activities Coordinator, his Deputy and legal advisers held meetings in February with the Director General of Wildlife and Protected Areas, the Director of Anti-poaching, the provincial director of Water and Forests of the Provinces of Woleu-Ntem, Ogooué-Lolo and Haut-Ogooué as well as the state counsels.
- In April, The Director and the Activities Coordinator held meetings with the Commander of the Judicial Police, the Director General of Wildlife and Protected Areas and the State Counsel of the Libreville Court of First Instance on legal procedures and to strengthen collaboration.
- The Activity Coordinator and legal advisers held meetings with some Provincial Antenna Chiefs of the Judicial Police, Provincial Directors of Forests and 4 State Counsels on legal procedures and to strengthen collaboration.

- The Activity Coordinator held meetings with the Head of Investigations at the Directorate General of Research (DGR) and the President of the Libreville Appeals Court to strengthen collaboration.
- The Activities Coordinator held meetings in May with the Attorney General of the Libreville Court of First Instance, the Commander-in-Chief of the Judicial Police and the Commander in Charge of Investigations at DGR to discuss legal procedures and strengthen collaboration.
- He also held a meeting with the Deputy State Counsel of the Libreville Court of First Instance to plan for the organization of a training workshop for over 20 Judicial Police Officers. The Team presented two modules on combatting wildlife crime during the training.
- In June, The Assistant Activities Coordinator and legal advisers held several meetings with some wildlife, security judicial and administrative authorities including the Prefect, Deputy Prosecutors of the Special Chamber in charge of Wildlife and Forestry Offences, a gendarmerie commander, the Director of Anti-Poaching, the Chief of Waters and Forests of the Kango Cantonment to discuss collaboration on ongoing cases.

Togo

- In January, The Assistant Coordinator met with the Secretary General of the Ministry of Environment and Forest Resources. The purpose of the meeting was to follow up on the Memorandum of Understanding.
- The Assistant Coordinator held a meeting in February with the Customs Chief of Brigade at the Lomé Port to examine areas of collaboration and legal assistance. He held a meeting with the Executive Officer of the non-governmental organization Jeunes Volontaires pour l'Environnement to discuss recruitment opportunities for investigators.
- The Coordinator held a meeting in March with the OCRTIDB to strengthen collaboration in the fight against wildlife crime.
- The Assistant Coordinator held a meeting in April with the Political Attaché at the US Embassy, the Lomé State Counsel, the Deputy Director of the Central Office for the Repression of Illicit Drug Traffic and Money Laundering (OCRTIDB), the Kara State Counsel, the Director of Sector No 4 Police and the Kara Regional Delegate of Environment and Forest Resources. He discussed issues related to effective wildlife law enforcement.
- In May, The Coordinator held meetings with the Director of Forest Resources Inspection Directorate and with some officials in Kara including the State Counsel, the Sector No 4 Police Director, the Regional Director of Environment and Forestry Resources to strengthen collaboration in the fight against wildlife crime.
- The Assistant Coordinator held a meeting in June with the Deputy Director of OCRTIDB and the Judge in charge of the First Investigative Cabinet at the Kara Tribunal to strengthen collaboration in the fight against wildlife crime. He held a meeting with the Regional Director of the Environment and Forest Resources of Kara to discuss an ongoing ivory trafficking case at the Kara Tribunal.

- He participated at a workshop organized by the Ministry of Environment and Forest Resources (MERF) to validate the implementation text of the CITES Bill.

Senegal

- In January the legal team presented various modules on combatting wildlife crime at the Gendarmerie Officers Application Center (CAOG) during a training of 66 non commissioned gendarmerie officers who were promoted to the rank of judicial police officers. The training has been organized by EAGLE Senegal in Collaboration with the French Cooperation. They followed up the various pending issues with MoUs with the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, the General Directorate of the National Police and the General Directorate of Customs.
- In February, The Coordinator held meetings with the internal security service of the French Embassy, the Regional Director of the US Forestry Service, the Director General of the National Police, the Director of the Central Office for the Repression of Illicit Drug Trafficking (DOCRIS) and the Technical Adviser No 1 to the Director General of the National Police.
- The Coordinator held meetings in May in Dakar with the Urban Security Police Commissioner and the Central Police Commissioner to discuss wildlife crime and to strengthen collaboration.
- The Coordinator and the legal team participated in May at a zoom training organized by GIABA (Inter-governmental Action Group against Money Laundry in West Africa) that focused on the illegal wildlife trade and financial investigation in the region.
- During the semester, in March, the legal team followed up the various pending issues with MoUs with the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, the General Directorate of Customs and the General Directorate of the National Police where meetings were held.
- During the semester the Team carried out three trainings. They presented various modules on combatting wildlife crime during a training for 20 customs officers. They presented various modules on combatting wildlife crime during a second session of 2 training meetings for 10 gendarmerie officers in charge of environmental protection and 44 gendarmerie officers from 15 African countries. During the last training, they presented various modules on combatting wildlife crime for 12 port agents of the Unité Mixte de Contrôle des Conteneurs (UMCC).

Benin

- During the semester the Coordinator and the legal team held a series of meetings with high officials, including State Counsels, Court Registrars, Police Commissioners, Forestry and Park officials, Court Registrars, Gendarmerie, Forestry, Park, CITES, Interpol and NGO officials.

- The Director of Nature Tropicale participated in April at a workshop aimed at creating a network of actors to fight environmental crimes at the W-Arly and Pendjari protected area complex. He gave a talk on the activities of the project.
- The Director did a talk in May at the Directorate of Waters, Forests and Hunting on the fight against wildlife crime in the country.

Côte d'Ivoire

- During the semester, the Coordinator and the Assistant Coordinator held several meetings on strengthening collaboration with the OIPR, the Ivorian administration in charge of the management of parks and reserves and with the UCT (Unité de lutte contre la Criminalité Transnationale) to collaborate on important investigations
- The Assistant Coordinator and a Legal Adviser held a meeting in March with the Economic and Commercial Officer of the US Embassy to discuss the fight against wildlife trafficking.
- The Coordinator and a Legal Adviser held a meeting in April with the Director of Wildlife at the Ministry of Water and Forests to discuss and plan for the sampling of elephant tusks seized in February 2020 for DNA analysis. The analysis is expected to determine the origin of the 60 tusks that were seized from 5 ivory traffickers.
- The Coordinator and Project Supervisor met in June with the Interpol Officer in Charge of Environmental Affairs in the West African Region to discuss about future collaboration.

Burkina Faso

- In January The coordinator participated at a meeting between the PONASI project and the Coordinator of the Police's Police with discussions focusing on the training of magistrates, police officers, gendarmerie and forestry officials in charge of wildlife law enforcement in the Sissili area.
- In March the Coordinator and the legal team held a meeting with the new Minister of Environment, the Green Economy and Climate Change to present results obtained by the Team since 2018. The Minister expressed his congratulations.
- In April, the Coordinator and the legal team held meetings with the Director of Operations, some High Officials of the Ministry of Environment and some magistrates to strengthen collaboration in combatting wildlife crime.
- In May, the Coordinator and the legal team held a meeting with the State Counsel and Regional Director of Water and Forests of Manga to discuss some ivory trafficking cases.

- In June, the Coordinator and the legal team held meetings with the Ministry of Environment, the Green Economy and Climate Change Regional Director of Zoundweogor and the Provincial Director of Nahouri to discuss wildlife crime and strengthen collaboration. The Regional Director expressed satisfaction for the strong court decision that sent 3 ivory traffickers to 12 months in prison.
- The Coordinator and the legal team held a meeting with the Interpol Focal Point on Environment to establish a collaborative platform.
- They held a meeting with the State's Judicial Agent to discuss the representation of lawyers in court cases.

Uganda

- In March, the legal team held meetings with officials of the Uganda Revenue Authority, the Uganda Wildlife Authority and Judicial authorities. Discussions focused on the arrest and prosecution of the two ivory traffickers.
- In April, a Legal Advisor held a meeting with then Principal Wildlife Officer to strengthen collaboration in combatting wildlife crime
- In May, the legal team provided technical support in the prosecution by the Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA) of 2 arrested traffickers. The Team also provided support to the URA in the transport of the 2 from the Kidepo National Park.

8. Headquarters and Development of the EAGLE Network

The travel restrictions due to COVID-19 pandemic limited possibilities of missions to other countries. The Central Coordinating Unit of EAGLE Network continued the support to the network members mostly via internet. Personal missions were replaced by videoconferencing, to continue support newly started replications, to ensure better quality control and adequate support to the countries.

The CCU trained an assistant coordinator and two super volunteers in Nairobi and one of them was later appointed Coordinator in Congo.

The Assistant Coordinator in Côte d'Ivoire was appointed the Coordinator.

Nicolas Charron, the Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, travelled to the Republic of Congo on a three-week mission to support the new Coordinator

The new EAGLE Uganda project went well underway with support from CCU, enabling recruitment and the carrying out of 2 operations against 4 ivory traffickers.

Several investigators supported activities carried in other countries which helped to achieve more results.

January

- The Assistant Coordinator from Togo arrived to Nairobi for training on management, external relations, communication and command. He produced action plans to apply his training in Togo.

February

- Nicolas Charron, the Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, travelled to the Republic of Congo on a three-week mission to support the new Coordinator with structural reorganization, training, evaluation, monitoring and application of procedures.

- Jana Hajduchova, the Support Officer, came to end of her period with the Network, following 6 years of active and committed service to fighting wildlife crime on the continent.

March

- An investigator from Gabon arrived to Cameroon for a three-week training and experience sharing mission.

April

- A supervolunteer from France successfully completed the first phase of her training and testing period with the CCU.

June

- Ofir gave a talk at the zoom meeting of the Wilson Institute - End Wildlife Crime Panel with an audience of more than 250 decision makers and NGOs.
- He gave another a talk at the webinar of the World Commission on Environmental Law on the topic Environmental Liability and Biodiversity with an audience of more than 300.
- Congo Coordinator, Tiffany Gobert, returned to Brazzaville after a 3-week working session with the CCU on new strategies, targets and goals for higher efficiency.

9. Photos of the selected cases

2 traffickers arrested with a leopard skin, 14 hippo teeth and an AK-47 assault rifle in Senegal in January



2 traffickers arrested with a leopard skin, 14 hippo teeth and an AK-47 assault rifle that they attempted to trade. Following the arrest of the first trafficker, a house search at the second trafficker's residence swiftly followed with his arrest and seizure of the assault rifle for sale and a magazine containing 14 cartridges. The assault rifle that was being sold is suspected to have been used in the slaughter of many leopards and hippos for over a decade. They both remain in jail, awaiting trial.



A customs official arrested with a live mandrill in Cameroon in February

A customs official arrested with a live mandrill. He was arrested in the South of the country, close to the border with Gabon and Equatorial Guinea. He travelled with the mandrill clinging on him, as he drove his car for over 40km to sell the animal. He kept the animal in iron chains in a small and unsuitable cage for over one year. He had earlier illegally traded another mandrill in the same town to a live animal trafficker who travelled about 400km for the deal. He bought the two mandrills from an area of intense trafficking, in the South of the country. He was actively searching for a baby gorilla to buy before his arrest. The hungry and frail looking mandrill was immediately taken care off following its rescue and moved to the Yaoundé zoo for further care.



5 traffickers arrested with 60 ivory tusks in Côte d'Ivoire in February

5 traffickers arrested with 60 ivory tusks weighing 114 kg. They were arrested in the interior of the country close to the Ghana border in a very small room. The traffickers violently attacked the arresting force and continued to resist even as they were handcuffed. The tusks were of mostly very young elephants and some were fresh with blood stains showing the elephants were recently massacred. The 30 slaughtered elephants in the seizure are a mere snapshot of the regular decimation of elephants generated by this il-



legal network The trafficking ring was very organized with shared roles. 3 of the traffickers, of Burkina Faso nationality, had the task of smuggling the ivory from Ghana, Togo and Burkina Faso to the Ivorian border where the contraband was stored. Two others, Ivorians, were in charge of the financing and trade in the country.



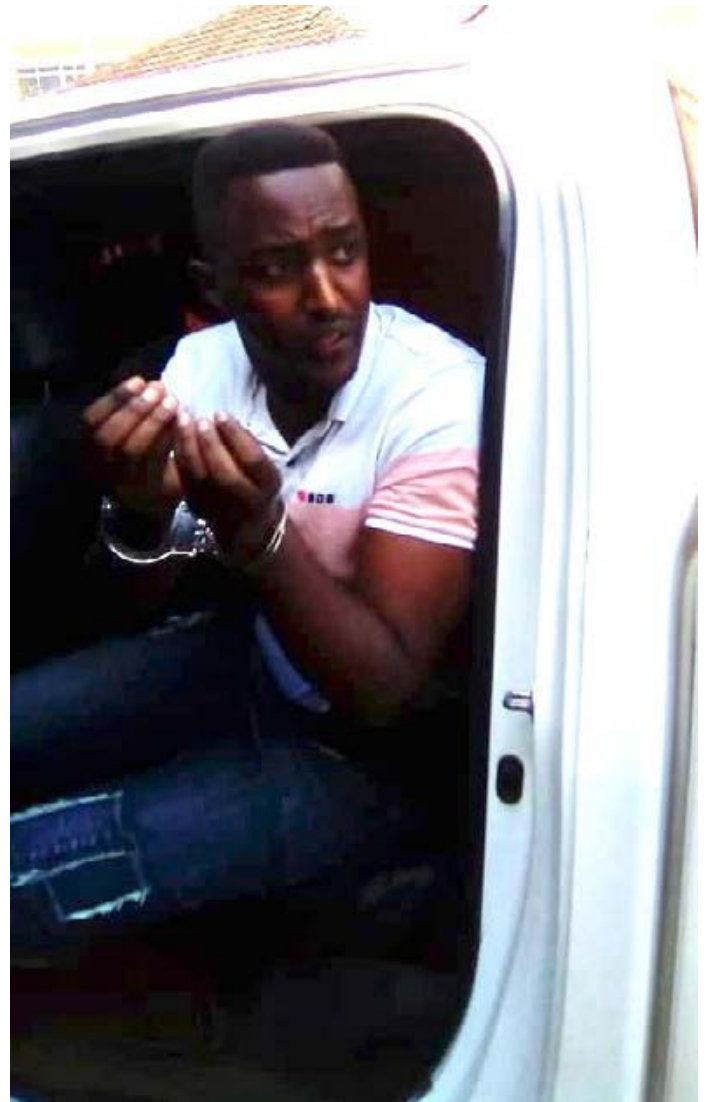
A trafficker arrested with 109 kg of pangolin scales in Cameroon in March

A trafficker arrested with 109 kg of pangolin scales. He was arrested as he offloaded two bags of pangolin scales from his car. A search of his home by the arresting team found smaller quantities of pangolin scales concealed in a black plastic bag and hidden inside his kitchen. He activated a gang of several poachers in a number of localities in the area and regularly supplied the scales in the bigger cities. Depending on the species, this seizure represents up to 250 massacred pangolins.



2 traffickers arrested with 3 ivory tusks in a successful kick off a new project in Uganda

2 traffickers arrested with 3 ivory tusks in a successful kick off a new project. The two, Rwandese, transported the ivory concealed in a brown sugar sack and placed in the trunk of their car. One of them drove the car to the place of transaction and on arrival the second moved the sack from the trunk and was immediately arrested. He resisted but was quickly closed down and handcuffed. The bag contained freshly marked ivory tusks weighing 14kg. The base of one of the tusks was cut off using a hand saw. They belong to a network of ivory traffickers in the country. They are connected to other network



involved in gold and human skulls trafficking. The successful arrest is a result of building a new project under the leadership of Lydia Nsubuga, the Assistant Coordinator. The team pushed for the arrest for several months and was supported by activists from other EAGLE countries.

2 traffickers arrested with 3 leopard skins in Senegal in March



2 traffickers arrested with 3 leopard skins, a hyena skin and 17 hippo teeth. One of the traffickers is a taxi driver who is an accomplice. He used his taxi for the transaction and moved the contraband around. The car was impounded. One of the leopard skins is of a leopard about only 5 months old.

The two traffickers were sentenced to 6 months in prison.



7 ivory traffickers arrested in Togo in April



4 traffickers arrested with 4 ivory tusks.



3 traffickers arrested with 6 ivory tusks.



3 traffickers arrested with 6 ivory tusks.

3 traffickers arrested with 6 ivory tusks. The ivory has been trafficked from Burkina Faso and stocked in Ghana. The owner of the ivory is of Burkina nationality, while the 2 other traffickers are Togo and Niger nationals. One of the traffickers attempted to escape during the operation and was chased down and captured by the arresting team. The ivory was carefully wrapped in plastics and fabrics and concealed inside a bag.

4 traffickers arrested with 4 ivory tusks. 2 traffickers came from Benin and served as intermediaries to the Benin-based traffickers. They used a motorbike all the way from Benin to smuggle the ivory concealed in a used grain bag and kept inside a backpack. The other 2 were Togolese intermediaries in the illegal deal.

A trafficker arrested with a baby chimp in Cameroon

A trafficker arrested with a baby chimp. The baby chimp was rescued during a high risk, nerve-racking cross river operation. Courage and initiative saved our investigator and the chimp from the hands of a trafficker. He traveled dozens of kilometers to the banks of the Sanaga River (the longest in Cameroon) and camped there holding our investigator captive, refusing to cross over from the wild and lawless side of the river. It needed tremendous courage and initiative of our Head of Operations to cross the river on a canoe and confront the trafficker saving our investigator from possible kidnap or harm. The arresting team stormed in later to take the chimp and trafficker to the safer side of the river. As the team, wildlife officers and the authorities got to the station and prepared for interrogation, the criminal suddenly made a run into the bush attempting to escape. He was hotly chased and captured. The baby chimp, a survivor of the slaughter of his family, was smuggled in a tiny closed box, and was pulled out frightened and stressed. He was given special first aid attention and care by the team. The chimp is in the Sanaga Yong Sanctuary for his lifetime care.



3 traffickers arrested with 8 elephant tusks in May in Togo

3 traffickers arrested with 8 elephant tusks and some pieces of ivory and an international ivory trafficking network crushed. The network of Togolese, Malian and Nigerien nationalities used trafficking routes crisscrossing Burkina Faso and Benin. 5 of the ivory tusks were smuggled from Burkina Faso and received by the Togolese who was also in charge of searching for buyers in Togo. The remaining 3 ivory tusks were smuggled from Benin and motorbikes were used to moving the ivory around the three countries. In order to avoid arrest, they moved the illegal transaction away from the capital city. To get to the place of transaction, two of the traffickers transported



the ivory on a luxury motorbike belonging to one of them. The contraband was securely packed in a parcel and concealed in a grain bag when it was seized.

3 traffickers arrested with a human skull in Congo

3 traffickers arrested with a human skull. The first trafficker was arrested with a human skull. This led to the arrest of the second who was hiding around a nearby hotel. The third trafficker, who is the owner of the plot where the remains were dug out, was arrested immediately following the first two arrests. They belong to a vast network, trafficking and smuggling various contraband including human bones, wildlife products and hard drugs such as cocaine. A piece of leopard skin and a tomb cross were found under the bed of one of the members of the network. The network seems to be spread across the country with many members based in Brazzaville. These arrests indicate that wildlife traffickers are often part of other illegal activities and networks. Human body parts are in high demand in the Central Africa sub region to be used by occultists for sacrifices in black magic.



2 traffickers arrested with 2 elephant tusks in Gabon in June

2 traffickers arrested with 2 elephant tusks and an ivory piece. They were arrested in the act during an attempt to sell the contraband. One of the traffickers who is a worker with a logging company travelled with the contraband from Ndjolé some 100km to Kango. He spent 3 nights with his accomplice in Kango before moving to the place of transaction as they attempted to sell the ivory tusks.



2 traffickers arrested with 4 tusks in June in Uganda

2 traffickers arrested with 4 tusks. The 4 large ivory pieces that weighed 25 kg were wrapped in polythene and concealed inside a bag they took to the place of transaction. One of the traffickers is a renowned middleman for the ivory trafficking network.



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.

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Annex - Summary of the Results

Number of investigations per month per country

	<i>January</i>	<i>February</i>	<i>March</i>	<i>April</i>	<i>May</i>	<i>June</i>	<i>total per country</i>
Cameroon	8	10	16	16	20	17	87
Congo	7	5	11	8	7	13	51
Gabon	12	8	8	7	7	5	47
Togo	23	37	49	46	52	70	277
Senegal	35	26	16	12	19	15	123
Benin	7	7	8	9	5	28	64
Uganda	26	32	36	84	57	23	258
Côte d'Ivoire	23	14	13	34	27	35	146
Burkina Faso	17	0	16	12	15	22	82
total per month	158	139	173	228	209	228	1,135

Number of arrests per month per country

	<i>January</i>	<i>February</i>	<i>March</i>	<i>April</i>	<i>May</i>	<i>June</i>	<i>total per country</i>
Cameroon	0	1	1	0	3	7	12
Congo	2	3	2	0	5	2	14
Gabon	0	6	6	0	1	2	15
Togo	0	0	0	7	3	0	10
Senegal	3	0	2	2	0	4	11
Benin	0	2	1	0	0	0	3
Uganda	0	0	2	0	0	2	4
Côte d'Ivoire	0	8	0	0	3	0	11
Burkina Faso	0	0	1	3	0	0	4
total per month	5	20	15	12	15	17	84

Number of media pieces by month by country

	<i>January</i>	<i>February</i>	<i>March</i>	<i>April</i>	<i>May</i>	<i>June</i>	<i>total by country</i>
Cameroon	22	14	46	3	27	34	146
Congo	18	25	25	13	16	33	130
Gabon	0	62	39	18	44	22	185
Togo	37	43	41	47	0	79	247
Senegal	67	14	32	30	0	44	187
Benin	57	31	56	56	30	30	260
Uganda	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Côte d'Ivoire	12	30	30	0	26	0	98
Burkina Faso	0	0	0	29	22	27	78
total by month	213	219	269	196	165	269	1,331

Number of prosecutions by month by country

	<i>January</i>	<i>February</i>	<i>March</i>	<i>April</i>	<i>May</i>	<i>June</i>	<i>total</i>
Cameroon	2	0	0	1	0	2	5
<i>sentenced to jail</i>	2	0	0	1	0	2	5
Congo	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
<i>sentenced to jail</i>	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
Gabon	4	0	7	13	4	1	29
<i>sentenced to jail</i>	4	0	7	9	4	1	25
Togo	6	0	0	0	0	3	9
<i>sentenced to jail</i>	0	0	0	0	0	3	3
Senegal	0	3	2	2	0	4	11
<i>sentenced to jail</i>	0	2	2	2	0	3	9
Benin	5	0	3	0	1	0	9
<i>sentenced to jail</i>	3	0	3	0	1	0	7
Uganda	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
<i>sentenced to jail</i>	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Côte d'Ivoire	2	3	8	0	0	2	15
<i>sentenced to jail</i>	0	3	8	0	0	0	11
Burkina Faso	0	0	0	1	0	3	4
<i>sentenced to jail</i>	0	0	0	0	0	3	3
total	21	6	22	17	5	15	86
<i>sentenced to jail</i>	11	5	21	12	5	12	66