



EAGLE

The EAGLE Network Annual Report 2025



- ✓ *Despite several challenges encountered, the EAGLE teams pushed forward obtaining significant results. 50 wildlife traffickers were arrested in 5 countries*
- ✓ *25 big cat skin traffickers were arrested during 11 operations in 4 countries with 20 leopard skins seized. A trafficker arrested with 3 lion skins in Uganda. 8 traffickers arrested with 4 leopard skins and a hyena skin in 3 back-to-back operations and a major crackdown in June, in Senegal*
- ✓ *16 ivory traffickers were arrested with 194 kg of ivory, which include 18 tusks and 107 ivory pieces*
- ✓ *3 live animals' traffickers were arrested with 2 young live hyenas in February, in Senegal*
- ✓ *2 traffickers were arrested with more than 80 kg of scales from the endangered giant pangolin scales in Cameroon*
- ✓ *3 traffickers arrested with 65 African grey parrots using the government car of a Divisional Officer in Cameroon to lend them impunity*
- ✓ *An ape trafficker arrested and a baby chimpanzee was rescued in Congo*
- ✓ *98 % of the arrested traffickers remained behind bars at least at the early stages of the prosecution*
- ✓ *1,106 media pieces were published in national media*
- ✓ *At least in 4 cases, corruption was exposed during the arrest operation*
- ✓ *Paris Match, a renowned French magazine, dedicated several pages of its April 2 edition to the Founding Director of the EAGLE Network with an article and an interview.*

1. Summary

Despite several challenges encountered during the reporting period, the EAGLE teams pushed forward with 50 significant wildlife traffickers arrested in 5 countries. The two young projects of the Network, EAGLE Uganda and EAGLE Guinea continued to receive support from the Central Coordination Unit as well as from the other projects. A new audit company was recruited and it carried out audits of some of the projects. Huge efforts were made to sharpen investigation departments of the projects as it proved very complicated to land as many traffickers as possible and plans are underway to double efforts next year.

More challenges observed during the year hampered the smooth functioning at particular moments, especially during the last quarter of the year and the teams pushed forward nevertheless and produced results.

Recruitment of investigators continued to pose a significant challenge and new initiatives targeting investigators with specific skills continued. The quality of investigations kept improving despite a drop in the quantity as techniques and investigative tools were improved upon. A significant number of quality results were obtained as an indication of the improvement of investigation quality. Also, online investigations were pushed forward to produce more targets where field investigators could not find targets easily. The Central Coordination Unit (CCU) continued to support the network members through several communication platforms. The collaboration was constant over the year. A number of cross border wildlife traffickers were also arrested.

Investigations strategies and techniques were improved and the levels stepped up against international trafficking. Also, online investigations were pushed forward to produce more targets where field investigators could not find targets easily.

1,483 investigation missions were carried out to identify wildlife traffickers. 98 % of the arrested traffickers remained in prison at least at the early phases of the prosecution and trial. During the year 49 traffickers were prosecuted and 23 of them handed imprisonment sentences of various length.

Corruption is prevalent in all levels of the enforcement and judicial process. In 4 cases of the operation, corruption was witnessed and exposed on the day of operation or later.

When 3 ivory traffickers were arrested with a large tusk in a crackdown on Ghana-Togo trafficking ring in Togo, family members attempted to “negotiate” their freedom through meetings with a judge at the tribunal and an official at the legal department to no success,

When 2 ivory traffickers were arrested in February in Cameroon, family members of one of the arrested traffickers tried to bribe the wildlife law enforcement officials who were establishing the offence report. They proposed money to the judicial police officers who stood their grounds. They did not stop there, they also tried with LAGA team members present on the ground and finally tried to bribe the examining magistrate handling the case with the sum of 500 0000 FCFA (about \$1000) but failed.

In December, 2 traffickers were arrested with 2 fresh leopard skins in Cameroon and one of the traffickers is a senior police officer. He was protected by his peers from prosecution despite instructions from the State Counsel handling the matter. The instruction to the judicial police was clear, that the corrupt police officer should be brought before the State Counsel's chambers for the engagement of due legal proceedings against him. The efforts to have him prosecuted are ongoing.

In the same month, 3 traffickers were arrested with 65 African grey parrots using the government car of a Divisional Officer in Cameroon, to lend them impunity. One of them is the brother of the officer, the other is a Ghanaian with ties to other known transnational criminal networks.

Traffickers in leopard skins represent the vast majority of arrests, followed by traffickers in elephant tusks and thirdly, birds and hyena traffickers while traffickers in pangolin scales and chimpanzee followed respectively.

Traffickers in leopard skins represent the vast majority of traffickers arrested during the year with 50 % of the total. 25 big cat skin traffickers were arrested in 11 operations in 4 countries with 20 leopard skins.

2 traffickers were arrested with a leopard skin and scales of giant pangolin in February, in Congo. The illegal trade is threatening the survival of the leopard, especially in Central and West Africa where we believe a silent race to extinction is going below conservationists' radar. During the arrest, one of the traffickers tried to escape. He scaled a fence and hid in a nearby bush, leading to a man hunt in the area.

3 traffickers were arrested with 2 leopard skins in March, in Congo. Two traffickers were arrested with the leopard skins that were carefully hidden inside a backpack and concealed inside a cab. They were immediately whisked off to a gendarmerie station, where, during interrogation, they denounced the third trafficker who was arrested a few days later.

2 traffickers were arrested in March, in Côte d'Ivoire with 3 leopard skins near the Ghana border. One of the traffickers is from Niger. The seizure included also more pieces of leopard skins, a hyena skin among many other wildlife trophies. The first trafficker was arrested while attempting to illegally trade the 2 leopard skins. He quickly denounced the other trafficker who was arrested during a house search. More wildlife contraband was recovered during the arrest. The operation took place in the north-east of the country, at a town located some 600 km from the capital, Abidjan. The traffickers took care to conceal the skins in a fertilizer bag to avoid detection. One of the traffickers used to illegally trade skins at the local market.

2 traffickers were arrested with 3 leopard skins and two skulls in April, in the north east of Cote d'Ivoire. The skins were trafficked from Burkina Faso. This is a snapshot of the ongoing large scale massacre of leopards driven by wildlife trafficking. To evade detection, the traffickers concealed the wildlife contraband in a fertilizer bag while transporting it to the place of transaction.

3 traffickers were arrested with a leopard skin and 28 kg of scales of endangered giant pangolin in May, in the north of Congo. The first two traffickers arrived at the place of the transaction on a motorcycle with the contraband carefully concealed in a bag and a suitcase. A few minutes later, they were arrested and taken to the gendarmerie station, where they denounced a third trafficker. The arresting team was quickly remobilized, arrived at the trafficker's house some 75 km away, and arrested him.

8 traffickers were arrested with 4 leopard skins and a hyena skin in 3 back-to-back operations and a major crackdown in June, in Senegal. The arrests near the borders with Guinea and Mali were of mostly Guinean traffickers. One of the traffickers is suspected to be in connection to a local terrorist group. The contraband was concealed in grains bags and a military backpack. The traffickers were arrested during 3 different operations carried out in close succession in the South East of the Country.

2 traffickers were arrested with 2 leopard skins and heads and claws of 4 vultures in June, in Côte d'Ivoire. They are a part of a ring trafficking from Burkina Faso. The animal parts were carefully concealed inside fertilizer bags and transported over 300 km in public transport from the border to the center of the country. The traffickers were arrested as they attempted to sell the contraband.

A trafficker was arrested with 2 leopard skins and 30 kg scales of endangered giant pangolin in August, in the north of Congo. The woman was arrested attempting to sell the wildlife contraband. She is part of a ring of traffickers in leopard skins that has links to the neighbouring DRC. One of the members of the trafficking ring is still eluding arrest as he is directly linked to the trafficking of the 2 leopard skins.

2 traffickers were arrested with 2 fresh leopard skins in December, in Cameroon. One of the two arrested is a senior police officer that used his position to lend impunity to this Gabon-Cameroon traffic. The skins that were smuggled from Gabon were dried in sun by one of the traffickers at his home located in one of the most dangerous neighbourhoods in Yaounde.

16 ivory traffickers were arrested in 8 operations in 5 countries with 194 kg of ivory representing 18 tusks and 107 pieces seized from the traffickers.

2 traffickers were arrested with 4 tusks in January, in the north of Côte d'Ivoire. They are a part of a ring trafficking ivory from Burkina Faso. The traffickers, concealed the elephant tusks in a bag and a backpack, rode a motorcycle from a locality a few kilometers from the border and arrived the Ferkessedougou, a border town, where they attempted to trade the tusks. The elephants were allegedly killed in Burkina Faso, in an area with jihadists activities.

An ivory trafficker was arrested with 2 tusks in January, in Congo. He was attempting to sell the elephant tusks. He travelled over 300 km with the elephant tusks concealed in a backpack. He used a motorcycle to arrive the place of transaction and was instantly arrested, handcuffed and whisked away.

2 ivory traffickers were arrested with 2 elephant tusks in February, in Cameroon. One of them is a notorious regional trafficker at the center of criminal networks stretching to Chad, Congo and CAR. He is linked to several illicit activities including trafficking in precious stones and cars, in the sub region. He travelled over 500 km from the north of the country to Douala to organize the illegal trade of the tusks.

A woman was arrested in April, for her connection to ivory trafficking arrests that took place in February, in Cameroon. She was arrested during a follow up operation, after additional investigations and interrogation, revealed she was the holder of the elephant tusks that were seized from 2 traffickers in February. She concealed the elephant tusks at her residence in a neighborhood in Douala, where the first arrests took place.

3 ivory traffickers were arrested with a large tusk in a crackdown on Ghana-Togo trafficking ring in June, in Togo. The activities of the very cautious and suspicious traffickers were followed for several months before being uncovered. One of them originates from Benin and is a member of a trafficking network that straddles the borders between Togo and Ghana.

2 traffickers, including a Burkinabe, were arrested with 32 kg of ivory in September, in Côte d'Ivoire. The ivory, concealed in a rice sack, was trafficked from Liberia. The Burkina Faso national denounced the other trafficker for being a known big ivory trafficker. The traffickers took care to split the large ivory tusk in two and then concealed it in two big rice bags. One of the traffickers arrived the place of transaction first, was arrested and he quickly denounced the other.

2 ivory traffickers were arrested with 4 tusks in October, in Congo, hitting cross border trafficking from Gabon. The elephant tusks were concealed in jute bag that was put inside a backpack filled with cloths to avoid raising any suspicion. They arrived the scene of transaction carrying the backpack while secretly surveilling the surroundings. A few minutes later they were arrested and taken to the gendarmerie station where their confessions were obtained.

2 ivory traffickers were arrested in November, Senegal. An international ivory trafficker with 107 ivory pieces and 2 elephant tusks was arrested in Dakar. The trafficker was hiding and masking the ivory in his shop and confessed he has been trading ivory for 30 years. The trafficker was arrested in his shop with 2 elephant tusks. The tusks were concealed in rice bags, tightly sealed with zips. 2 boxes containing the carved ivory pieces were wrapped in newspapers and concealed in another shop next door.

An ivory trafficker was arrested with 2 elephant tusks of more than 80 kg in November, in Togo, clamping down on GhanaTogo border trafficking ring. He is connected to one of the biggest ivory traffickers in the region. The elephant tusks were carefully packaged in plastic bags and concealed in a taxi that transported the contraband. During a house search that ensued, more wildlife parts were found in his keeping.

3 live animals' traffickers were arrested with 2 young live hyenas in February, in Senegal. The hyenas were ordered and captured with their mother that has already been traded away. The two pups were kept chained to a wall and fed only rice leftovers. Hyenas are targeted by the illegal trade as mystical animals for black magic. The traffickers travelled 3 hours with the young hyenas and put them in small cages so besides the wounds from the chains they were also wounded at their faces from the bars.

2 traffickers were arrested with more than 80 kg giant pangolin scales in July, in Cameroon. This seizure represents the slaughter of at least 35 individuals of this rare and declining species. The traffickers, who were part of a bigger network, were involved in the illegal trade in pangolin scales and ivory, among other wildlife products. They operated across vast regions of the country—including major urban centers like Yaoundé and Douala, and including parts of Northern Cameroon. They were very cautious and have long experience in trafficking in the region which is the gateway to the north of the country and to Nigeria.

An ape trafficker was arrested and a baby chimpanzee rescued in October, in Congo. The trafficker transported the baby on his motorbike concealed beneath his shirt to avoid detection. He was arrested when he revealed the baby and confidently attempted to trade it. The baby chimpanzee was taken to the Jane Goodall Institute where it shall receive lifetime care.

In order to maximize the deterrent effect, 1,106 media pieces were published in national media. The distribution of the media pieces on national media were 53 % on internet, 21 % on the radio, 24 % in the print media and 2 % on TV.

Ofir Drori - The Protector of Wildlife. Paris Match, a renowned French magazine, dedicated several pages of its April 2 edition to Ofir Drori the founding Director of the EAGLE Network with an article and interview. The feature that appears on the 'Heroes of the Planet' section of the newspaper, narrates his fight against wildlife trafficking and corruption, his early beginnings, his love for nature and Africa. In an article by Anne Cecile Beaudoin, we learn about his military experience, his voyages to Africa – Kenya, the Congo with the pygmies, the desert and the war zones of Liberia and Sierra Leone. And eventually his arrival in Cameroon, the birth place of LAGA. The journalist recounts Ofir's meeting with Future the chimpanzee he saved and which forever changed his life and conservation in sub Saharan Africa.

Content:

This report refers to activities from January till December 2025. This report includes: the activities in each area of our fight - Investigations, Operations, Legal, Media and External Relations; progress in developing the Network and strategic overview of our operations and their impact on wildlife crime.

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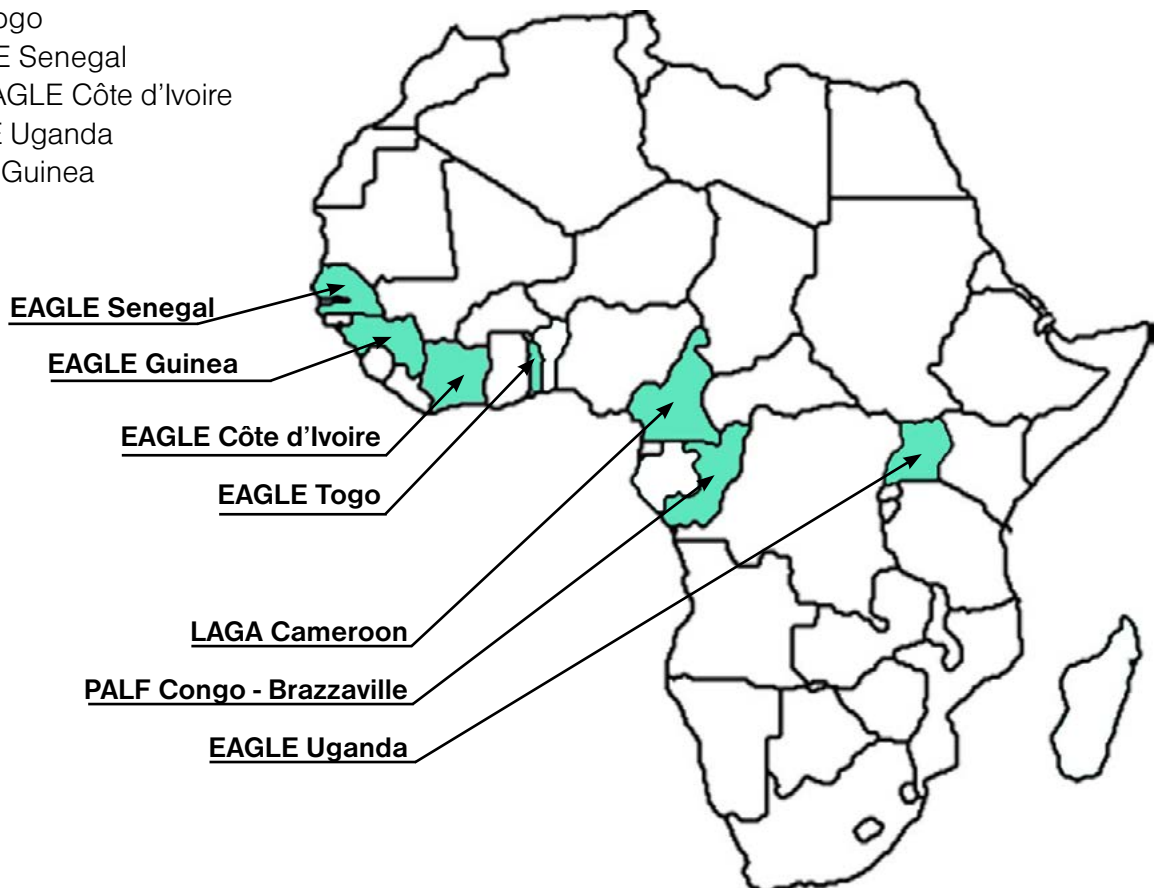
2. Structure of the Network

EAGLE: Eco Activists for Governance and Law Enforcement, is a network of members across Africa, who are replicating effectively 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 seven 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. Togo - EAGLE Togo
4. Senegal - EAGLE Senegal
5. Côte d'Ivoire - EAGLE Côte d'Ivoire
6. Uganda - EAGLE Uganda
7. Guinea - EAGLE Guinea



3. Investigations

1,458 different investigation missions were carried out in 7 countries, leading to the arrest of 50 traffickers during 2025.

The investigations focused on big cat, skins ivory, birds, hyenas, pangolin scales trafficking and the illegal trade in primates. Investigation missions also targeting hyena and African grey parrot traffickers produced 2 operations.

**Numbers of investigations
in 2025**

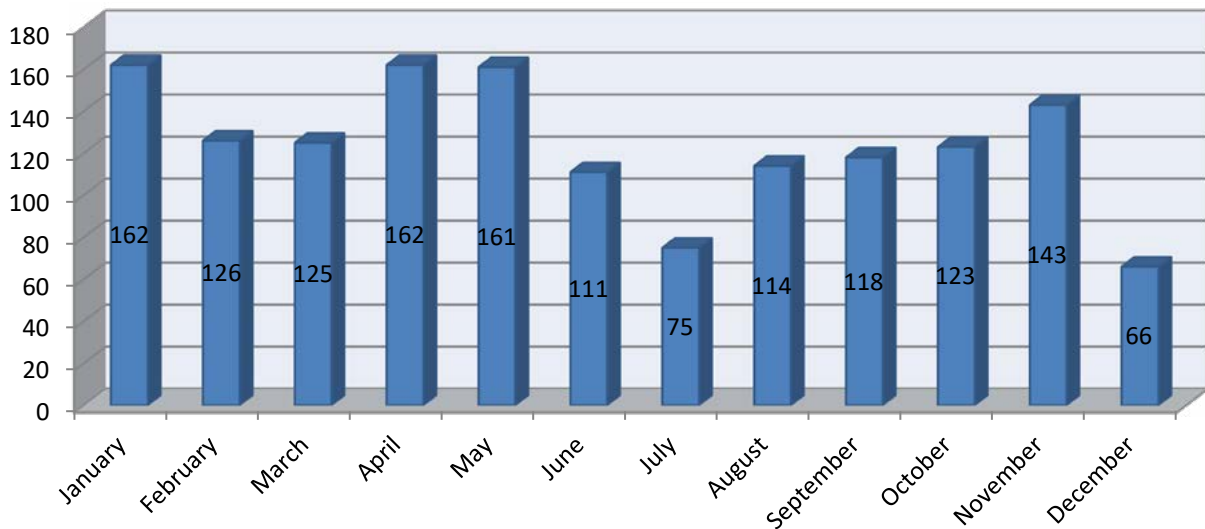


Fig. 1: Numbers of investigations in January – December 2025

Investigations were carried out in 7 countries producing some results. There was a slight increase in investigation missions compared to the last year. This was aimed at improving results and a number of cross border arrests were also done thanks improved investigation effort. Recruitment was intensified and investigators were tested in all countries. The recruitment processes continued in all the countries to find investigators with specific skills and experience. It is a constant activity within the country projects as there is a need to find top quality investigators. The CCU facilitated work in investigation departments in the various countries and enable efficient information and experience sharing among the countries.

4. Arrest Operations

50 significant wildlife traffickers were arrested. EAGLE Network members carried out 24 operations in 5 countries.

**Number of Arrested Traffickers
in January - December 2025**

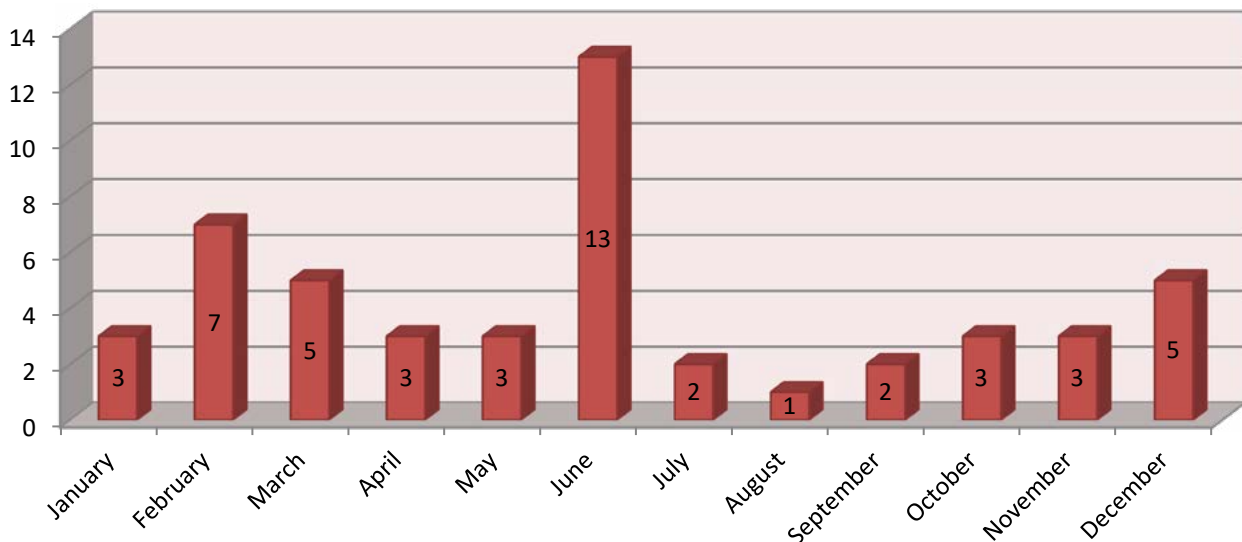


Fig. 2: Number of arrested traffickers January – December 2025

Vast majority of the arrested traffickers – 50 % were traffickers in big cat skins. The second largest number were traffickers in elephant tusks – 32 %. Third in focus of arrests were birds and hyena traffickers with 6 % of all the arrests. Pangolin traffickers and chimp traffickers made up 2 % each.

Distribution of the Arrested Traffickers According to Species

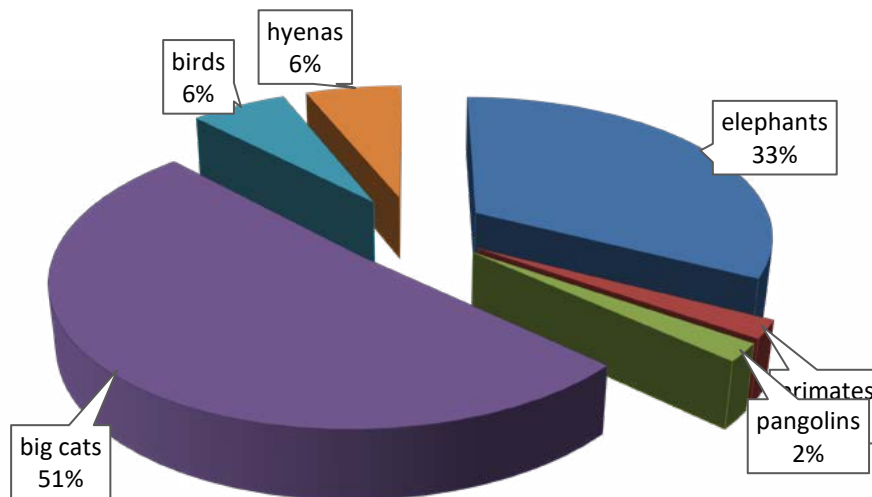


Fig. 3: Distribution of Arrested Traffickers According to Species

Corruption

Corruption is prevalent in all levels of the enforcement and judicial process. In 4 cases of the operation, corruption was witnessed and exposed on the day of operation or later.

- When 3 ivory traffickers were arrested with a large tusk in a crackdown on Ghana-Togo trafficking ring in Togo, family members attempted to “negotiate” their freedom through meetings with a judge at the tribunal and an official at the legal department to no success.
- When 2 ivory traffickers were arrested in February in Cameroon, family members of one of the arrested traffickers tried to bribe the wildlife law enforcement officials who were establishing the offence report. They proposed money to the judicial police officers who stood their grounds. They did not stop there, they also tried with LAGA team members present on the ground and finally tried to bribe the examining magistrate handling the case with the sum of 500 0000 FCFA (about \$1000) but failed.
- In December, 2 traffickers were arrested with 2 fresh leopard skins in Cameroon and one of the traffickers is a senior police officer. He was protected by his peers from prosecution despite instructions from the

State Counsel handling the matter. The instruction to the judicial police was clear, that the corrupt police officer should be brought before the State Counsel's chambers for the engagement of due legal proceedings against him. The efforts to have him prosecuted are ongoing.

- In the same month, 3 traffickers were arrested with 65 African grey parrots using the government car of a Divisional Officer in Cameroon, to lend them impunity. One of them is the brother of the officer, the other is a Ghanaian with ties to other known transnational criminal networks.

Elephants

The trafficking in ivory was one of the main areas of focus during the year and this resulted in the arrest of 16 traffickers. 9 operations were carried out in 5 countries with close to 200 kg of ivory seized which include 18 tusks and 107 ivory pieces.

- 2 traffickers were arrested with 4 tusks in January, in the north of Côte d'Ivoire. They are a part of a ring trafficking ivory from Burkina Faso. The traffickers concealed the elephant tusks in a bag and a backpack, rode a motorcycle from a locality a few kilometers from the border and arrived the Ferkessedougou, a border town, where they attempted to trade the tusks. The elephants were allegedly killed in Burkina Faso, in an area with jihadists activities.
- An ivory trafficker was arrested with 2 tusks in January, in Congo. He was attempting to sell the elephant tusks. He travelled over 300 km with the elephant tusks concealed in a backpack. He used a motorcycle to arrive the place of transaction and was instantly arrested, handcuffed and whisked away.
- 2 ivory traffickers were arrested with 2 elephant tusks in February, in Cameroon. One of them is a notorious regional trafficker at the center of criminal networks stretching to Chad, Congo and CAR. He is linked to several illicit activities including trafficking in precious stones and cars, in the sub region. He travelled over 500 km from the north of the country to Douala to organize the illegal trade of the tusks.
- A woman was arrested for her connection to ivory trafficking arrests that took place in April in Cameroon. She was arrested during a follow up operation, after additional investigations and interrogation, revealed she was the holder of the elephant tusks that were seized from 2 traffickers in February. She concealed the elephant tusks at her residence in a neighborhood in Douala, where the first arrests took place.
- 3 ivory traffickers were arrested with a large tusk in a crackdown on Ghana-Togo trafficking ring in June, in Togo. The activities of the very cautious and suspicious traffickers were followed for several months before being uncovered. One of them originates from Benin and is a member of a trafficking network that straddles the borders between Togo and Ghana. He transported the elephant tusk concealed in a grains bag, on a motorcycle, from the border to the central region of Togo.
- 2 traffickers, including a Burkinabe, were arrested with 32 kg of ivory in September, in Côte d'Ivoire. The ivory, concealed in a rice sack, was trafficked from Liberia. The Burkina Faso national denounced the

other trafficker for being a known big ivory trafficker. The traffickers took care to split the large ivory tusk in two and then concealed it in two big rice bags. One of the traffickers arrived the place of transaction first, was arrested and he quickly denounced the other.

- 2 ivory traffickers were arrested with 4 tusks in October, in Congo, hitting cross border trafficking from Gabon. The elephant tusks were concealed in jute bag that was put inside a backpack filled with cloths to avoid raising any suspicion. They arrived the scene of transaction carrying the backpack while secretly surveilling the surroundings. A few minutes later they were arrested and taken to the gendarmerie station where their confessions were obtained.
- 2 ivory traffickers were arrested in November, in Senegal. An international ivory trafficker with 107 ivory pieces and 2 elephant tusks was arrested in Dakar. The trafficker was hiding and masking the ivory in his shop and confessed he has been trading ivory for 30 years. The trafficker was arrested in his shop with 2 elephant tusks. The tusks were concealed in rice bags, tightly sealed with zips. 2 boxes containing the carved ivory pieces were wrapped in newspapers and concealed in another shop next door.
- An ivory trafficker was arrested with 2 elephant tusks of more than 80 kg in November, in Togo, clamping down on Ghana Togo border trafficking ring. He is connected to one of the biggest ivory traffickers in the region. The elephant tusks were carefully packaged in plastic bags and concealed in a taxi that transported the contraband. During a house search that ensued, more wildlife parts were found in his keeping.

Big Cats

Trafficking in leopard skins represented the main focus during the year, resulting in the largest number of arrested traffickers. 25 traffickers were arrested with 20 leopard skins in Cameroon, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire and Senegal where 8 traffickers were arrested on the same day in 3 back to back operations. The arrests are presented here:

- 2 traffickers were arrested with a leopard skin and scales of giant pangolin in February, in Congo. The illegal trade is threatening the survival of the leopard, especially in Central and West Africa where we believe a silent race to extinction is going below conservationists' radar. During the arrest, one of the traffickers tried to escape. He scaled a fence and hid in a nearby bush, leading to a man hunt in the area. While in hiding, he changed his clothes but was recognized, and arrested.
- 3 traffickers were arrested with 2 leopard skins in Congo, in March. Two traffickers were arrested with the leopard skins that were carefully hidden inside a backpack and concealed inside a cab. They were immediately whisked off to a gendarmerie station, where, during interrogation, they denounced the third trafficker who was arrested a few days later.
- 2 traffickers were arrested with 3 leopard skins near the Ghana border in March, in Côte d'Ivoire. One of the traffickers is from Niger and the seizure included also more pieces of leopard skins, a hyena skin among many other wildlife trophies. The first trafficker was arrested while attempting to illegally trade the 2 two leopard skins. He quickly denounced the other trafficker who was arrested during a house search. More wildlife contraband was recovered during the arrest.

- 2 traffickers were arrested with 3 leopard skins and two skulls in April, in the northeast of Côte d'Ivoire. The skins were trafficked from Burkina Faso. This is a snapshot of the ongoing large scale massacre of leopards driven by wildlife trafficking. To evade detection, the traffickers concealed the wildlife contraband in a fertilizer bag while transporting it to the place of transaction.
- 3 traffickers were arrested with a leopard skin and 28 kg of scales of endangered giant pangolin in May, in the north of Congo. The first two traffickers arrived at the place of the transaction on a motorcycle with the contraband carefully concealed in a bag and a suitcase. A few minutes later, they were arrested and taken to the gendarmerie station, where they denounced a third trafficker. The arresting team was quickly remobilized, arrived at the trafficker's house some 75 km away, and arrested him.
- 2 traffickers were arrested with 2 leopard skins and heads and claws of 4 vultures in June, in Côte d'Ivoire. They are a part of a ring trafficking from Burkina Faso. The animal parts were carefully concealed inside fertilizer bags and transported over 300 km in public transport from the border to the center of the country. The traffickers were arrested as they attempted to sell the contraband. One of the traffickers is a Burkina Faso national who was in charge of all financial transactions of the illegal trade.
- 8 traffickers were arrested with 4 leopard skins and a hyena skin in 3 back-to-back operations and a major crackdown in June, in Senegal. The arrests near the borders with Guinea and Mali were of mostly Guinean traffickers. One of the traffickers is suspected to be in connection to a local terrorist group. The contraband was concealed in grains bags and a military backpack. The traffickers were arrested during 3 different operations carried out in close succession in the South East of the Country.
- 3 traffickers were arrested with 2 leopard skins they had carefully concealed in a military backpack. They arrived the scene of transaction on a motorcycle and were arrested as they attempted to sell the leopard skins. All three were later charged with criminal conspiracy, possession and circulation of protected wildlife species.
- About two hours later, the Team arrested 2 other traffickers with a leopard skin they had packaged in an orange plastic bag and concealed in a grains bag. They too were attempting to sell the leopard skin when they fell into the dragnet. They had arrived at the scene of transaction aboard a motorcycle. They denounced a third trafficker following a quick and intense interrogation. He too, was swiftly arrested. An hour later, a third operation was carried out with two traffickers, a Guinean and a Senegalese arrested with a leopard skin and a hyena skin concealed in a grains bag. They arrived the scene of transaction in a car with the contraband hidden inside the boot. The operation brought to an end a period of 3 and a half hours during which 8 traffickers were arrested with 4 leopard skins, a hyena skin, two motorcycles and a car seized.
- A trafficker was arrested with 2 leopard skins, and 30 kg scales of endangered giant pangolin in August, in the north of Congo. The woman was arrested attempting to sell the wildlife contraband. She is part of a ring of traffickers in leopard skins that has links to the neighboring DRC. One of the members of the trafficking ring is still eluding arrest as he is directly linked to the trafficking of the 2 leopard skins.
- 2 traffickers were arrested with 2 fresh leopard skins in December, in Cameroon. One of the two arrested is a senior police officer that used his position to lend impunity to this Gabon-Cameroon traffic. The skins

that were smuggled from Gabon were dried in sun by one of the traffickers at his home located in one of the most dangerous neighborhoods in Yaoundé. The trafficking ring was a closed syndicate and difficult to crack open as they only traded among traffickers and poachers they knew very well and mastered.

Primates

An ape trafficker arrested and a baby chimpanzee rescued in Congo.

- An ape trafficker was arrested and a baby chimpanzee rescued in October, in Congo. The trafficker transported the baby on his motorbike concealed beneath his shirt to avoid detection. He was arrested when he revealed the baby and confidently attempted to trade it. The baby chimpanzee was taken to the Jane Goodall Institute where it shall receive lifetime care.

Pangolins

2 traffickers were arrested with more than 80 kg of scales from the endangered giant pangolin in Cameroon

- 2 traffickers were arrested with more than 80 kg giant pangolin scales in July, in Cameroon. This seizure represents the slaughter of at least 35 individuals of this rare and declining species. The traffickers who were part of a bigger network, were involved in the illegal trade in pangolin scales and ivory, among other wildlife products. They operated across vast regions of the country—including major urban centers like Yaoundé and Douala, and including parts of Northern Cameroon. They were very cautious and have long experience in trafficking in the region which is the gateway to the north of the country and to Nigeria. Traffickers frequently use this route to export contraband to the North of Nigeria.

Birds

3 traffickers arrested in December with 65 African grey parrots using the government car of a Divisional Officer to lend them impunity.

- One of the arrested is the brother of the officer, the other is a Ghanaian with ties to other known transnational criminal networks. This is a mere snapshot of this specialized ring trafficking regularly for a very long time. The network was also involved in the trafficking of pangolin scales and several other wildlife contrabands.

Hyenas

3 live animals' traffickers were arrested with 2 young live hyenas in February, in Senegal.

- The hyenas were ordered and captured with their mother that has already been traded away. The two pups were kept chained to a wall and fed only rice leftovers. Hyenas are targeted by the illegal trade as mystical animals for black magic. The traffickers travelled 3 hours with the young hyenas and put them in small cages so besides the wounds from the chains they were also wounded at their faces from the bars.
- The hyenas are believed to have been captured in Saloum Delta National Park. Hyenas are an integral part of the fragile natural balance in the park, being its largest predator in the food chain.
- The hyenas, now free of chains and out of cages, were placed in quarantine by the Department of National Parks with the view of releasing them back to the wild if possible.

5. Legal Follow Up

The EAGLE Network legal teams in 6 countries followed up the court cases of the 50 arrested traffickers. 98 % of the arrested traffickers remained behind bars at least from the beginning of the prosecution process. All court cases that took place within the year were followed fighting corruption and ensuring imprisonment terms handed. During the year 49 traffickers were prosecuted and 26 of them convicted to imprisonment sentences of various time. The 23 others were either handed suspended prison sentences with or without fines and damages. Some examples of court decisions obtained during the year are listed below:

- 4 traffickers were sentenced to 6 months in prison in January, in Cameroon. They were arrested in December 2022 with 28 African grey parrots.
- 2 traffickers were sentenced to 2 years in prison in April, in Congo. They were arrested in February with a leopard skin and a bag of pangolin scales.
- A trafficker was sentenced to 3 years in prison and his accomplice to 2 years' imprisonment in June, in Congo. They were arrested in May with a leopard skin and pangolins scales.
- 4 traffickers were sentenced to one year in prison in June, in Congo. They were arrested in October 2024 with 3 elephant tusks weighing over 50 kg.
- 2 traffickers were sentenced to a year in prison in August, in Cameroon. They were arrested in April 2024 for the killing of 2 gorillas and the trafficking of its parts.
- 2 traffickers were sentenced to 11 months in prison in September, in Uganda. They were arrested in March 2021 with 28 kg of elephant tusks.
- A trafficker was sentenced to 2 years in prison in November, in Congo. He was arrested in October with a baby chimpanzee.

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, 1,106 media pieces were published in national media.

The distribution of the media pieces on national media were 53 % on internet, 24 % in in the print media, 21 % in radio broadcast and 2 % on TV.

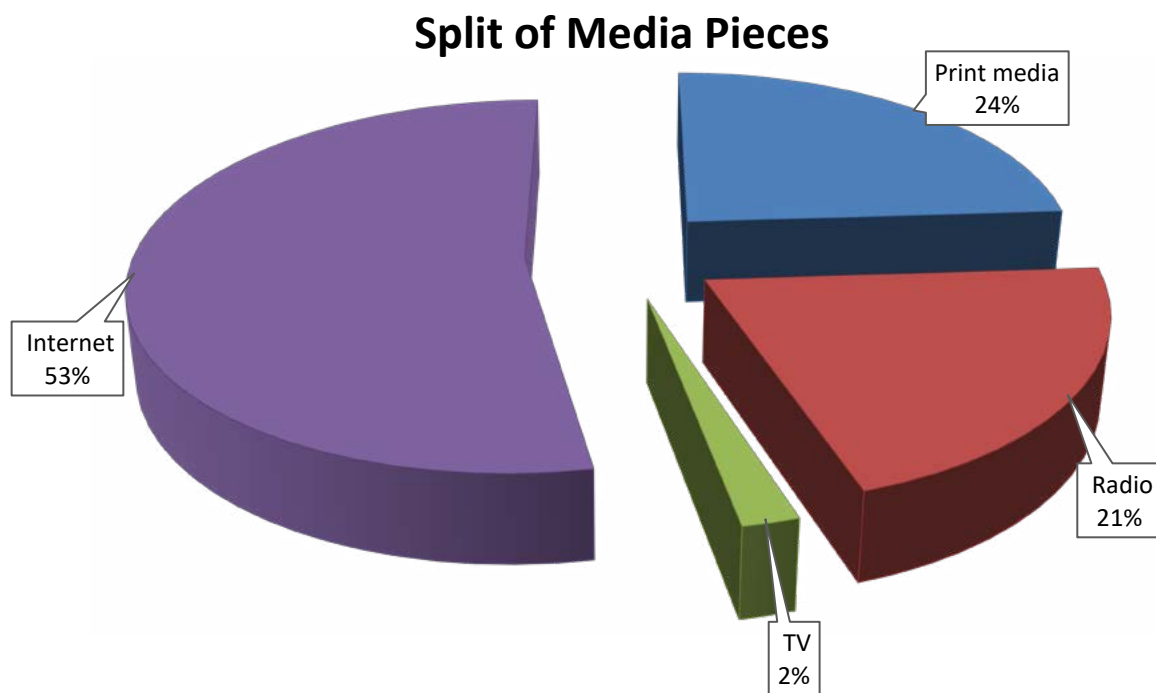


Fig. 4: Split of Media Pieces

**Number of Media Pieces Published
in January - December 2025**

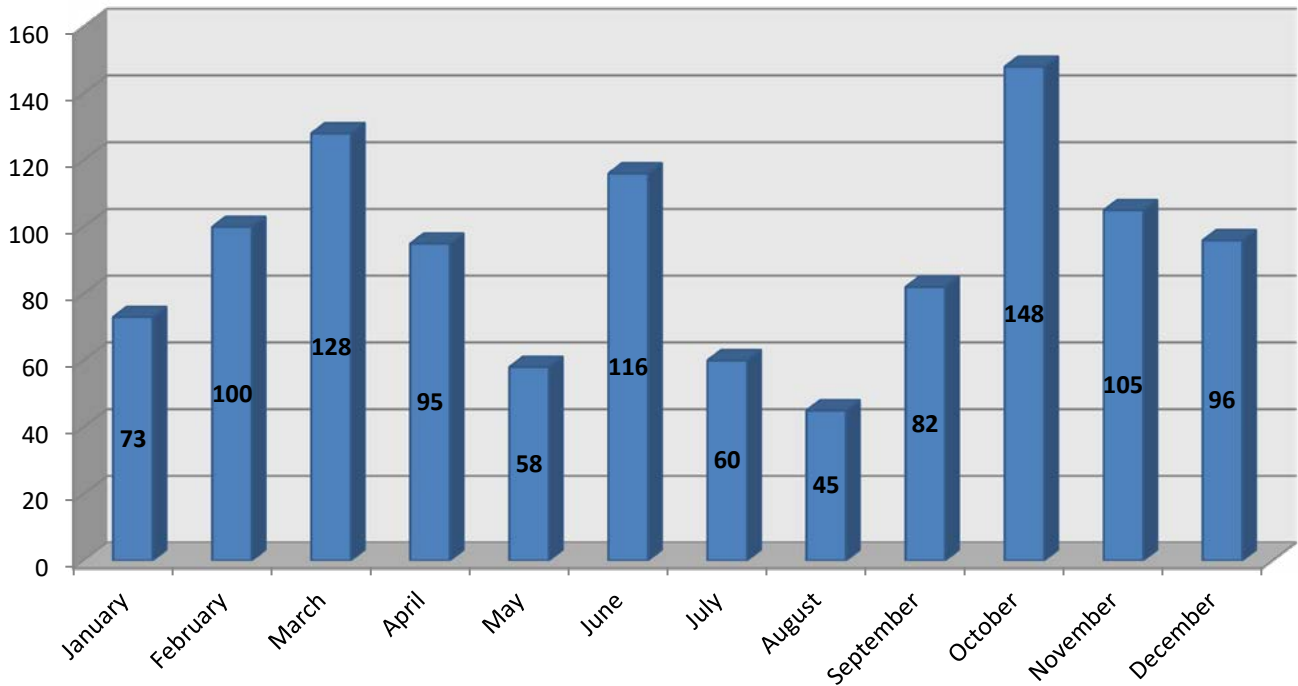


Fig. 5: Numbers of media pieces published in January - December 2025

International media

- EAGLE’s investigation uncovered corruption in the DRC and complicity with traffickers in plans for export of apes to India. It has been covered in international media.

[Radio France](#)

[Mongabay](#)

[Le Point](#)

[Geo](#)

[Vakita on Instagram](#)

[France Inter on LinkedIn](#)

■ EAGLE Uganda Interim Coordinator - the Woman at the Frontline

The Interim Coordinator of EAGLE Uganda, Lydia Nsubuga, was hosted in February on CIVIC media/TV on the Women Rise to Leadership talk show which highlighted her work as an activist, conservationist, wife and mother. She narrates her humble background in Kampala, the city of her birth and her modest upbringing that sowed seeds of activism at a very young age. She is led through by a host who spurs her on with professional nods and giggles, to talk about herself, describing her early activism and college life, her fight for the rights of the woman and against gender violence. [You can watch the video here.](#)

■ Ofir Drori, the Protector of Wildlife

Paris Match, a renowned French magazine, dedicated several pages of its April 2 edition to Ofir Drori the founding Director of the EAGLE Network with an article and interview. The feature that appears on the 'Heroes of the Planet' section of the newspaper, narrates his fight against wildlife trafficking and corruption, his early beginnings, his love for nature and Africa. In an article by Anne-Cecile Beaudoin, we learn about his military experience, his voyages to Africa – Kenya, the Congo with the pygmies, the desert and the war zones of Liberia and Sierra Leone. And eventually his arrival in Cameroon, the birth place of LAGA. The journalist recounts Ofir's meeting with Future the chimpanzee he saved and which forever changed his life and conservation in sub Saharan Africa.

The article highlights the activities of the EAGLE Network, its operational methods, infiltrating trafficking networks and the successes recorded in over 20 years of activity – over 3,000 traffickers arrested and prosecuted in several countries. He says what made the difference was "Determination and refusal to do nothing in the face of injustice". Ofir talks of one of his most important operations which happened in 2013 in Gabon with the busting of an ivory trafficking Chinese network with 600 kg of elephant tusks and a strong fight against political pressures and corruption.

The coverage is made graphic with several photos from operations and a full page photo of Ofir clad in his trade mark black t-shirt and black jeans with an elephant in a pool of water providing a matching background. He pushes his chest out like a proud silver back gorilla and expresses his pride, "Young Cameroonians, Congolese and Gabonese no longer accept corruption as inevitable, and are fighting to preserve their heritage. This is perhaps my greatest source of pride".

He is nicknamed "[the Protector of Wildlife](#)" by the Paris Match. You can also watch excerpt of the video on Paris Match's Instagram page using [this link](#).

■ Future for Nature, one of the main supporters of the EAGLE Network, carry a publication on its website highlighting the important work and results obtained last year by the EAGLE Network. [Please follow this link for more.](#)

■ The LAGA Deputy Director featured on documentary film: "Les heros de l'ombre" (Unsung Heroes) by the French cable TV channel Canal Plus, with an interview in September. The film is dedicated to Africans working in conservation and who are barely known. He discusses species extinction, wildlife conservation and law enforcement.

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 year, the EAGLE activists held many meetings with international authorities, government officials within and outside of their countries, they cooperated with local and international NGOs, participated in conferences and conducted several trainings.

Cameroon

- In April, the Deputy Director held a meeting with an official of the Wildlife Conservation Network to discuss issues related to pangolin scales trafficking and strengthen collaboration in the fight against wildlife crime. He participated at a meeting organized by the Wildlife Conservation Network bringing together conservation groups that deal with pangolin protection. He did a presentation on pangolin scales trafficking in the country during the meeting.
- In May, he held a meeting with the Head of the Division of Cooperation at the Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife to discuss issues related to wildlife law enforcement and strengthen collaboration in the fight against wildlife crime. He was accompanied during the meeting by the Head of the Legal Department.
- He held a meeting in June, with three officials of the British based Environmental Investigation Agency to discuss wildlife law enforcement in the country and the sub region as a whole and strengthen the excellent collaboration between the two structures.
- He held a meeting in July, with an official of the US-based Animal Welfare Institute to discuss wildlife law enforcement and strengthen collaboration in the fight against wildlife crime.
- He participated at the Conference of the Parties to the CITES that was held in Uzbekistan in November. He participated at several government meetings and he met and discussed with many representatives of institutions and NGOs to build collaboration and partnerships.

Congo

- In January, the Coordinator held discussions with Head of the Forests and Environment Programme of the European Union Delegation in Brazzaville on activities carried out by PALF and to the strengthen collaboration in the fight against wildlife crime.
- In April, he did a talk on the theme “the Legislation on the Protection of Protected Areas and Wildlife Crime” at the National Gendarmerie School during a conference for 58 gendarmerie cadet officers. He held a meeting and discussions with the Director General of Forest Economy to strengthen collaboration in the fight against wildlife crime.
- In May, he participated at the “Regional Conference on Integrated Management of Transboundary Landscapes and the Role of Protected Areas in Securing Borders in Central Africa”. During the event he met with Magistrates, National Park Directors, a Congolese Wildlife and Protected Areas Advisor and the Technical and Scientific Director of the Congolese Wildlife and Protected Areas Agency (ACFAP).
- In July, he held a meeting with the Head of National Central Bureau of INTERPOL in Brazzaville to strengthen collaboration in the fight against wildlife crime.
- In September, he held discussions with the Director General of Forestry on wildlife law enforcement and strengthen collaboration.
- In the same month, he held a meeting with the Project Manager of the International Academy for the Fight against Environmental Crime, on future collaboration in the fight against wildlife crime. The academy that shall be based in Brazzaville is going to be a regional centre carrying out training in the fight against wildlife crime.
- In October, he held discussions with the Forestry and Environment Cooperation Officer at the European Union Delegation in Brazzaville on the project’s activities.
- In November, he participated at the official launch of a project to create the International Academy for the Fight against Environmental Crime (AILCE). The ceremony was co-organized by the Ministry of the Interior and Decentralization and the French Embassy in Brazzaville. The Coordinator made contact with some diplomatic, government and police and gendarmerie officials during the event to strengthen collaboration in fighting wildlife crime.
- In December, he held a meeting with the Director of the National Police Academy on the inclusion of a wildlife law enforcement module at the college to be handled by the PALF Team. This is already the case at the gendarmerie academy.

Togo

- In January, The Coordinator held a meeting with the Director of the Central Office for the Repression of Illicit Drug Trafficking and Money Laundering (OCRTIDB) to discuss trafficking cases and to strengthen collaboration in the fight against trafficking in endangered wildlife species.
- He met with the Heads of the Forestry Brigade and Wetlands Management and Development Section to discuss the best way to deal with cases of seizure of live species and to strengthen collaboration in the fight against wildlife crime.
- In February, The Coordinator held a meeting with the Director of the Inspectorate of Forest Resources to discuss past operations and legal follow up of the cases. Discussions were also held on strengthening of collaboration in the fight against wildlife crime.
- In March, he held a meeting with the Secretary General of Ministry of Environment and Forest Resources to discuss issues related to the MoU. The meeting also provided an opportunity to discuss the pending adoption of CITES in Togo. He also met with the Director of Forest Resources Inspectorate on improving the handling of wildlife trafficking cases by judicial authorities. To this end, the Coordinator gave him a document that sets out a summary of cases brought before the judicial authorities between 2019 and 2024.
- In May and on the occasion of the Europe Day celebrations, the Coordinator had brief discussions with the new European Union Ambassador to Togo to introduce the project. He seized the opportunity to arrange for a more formal meeting with the Ambassador at a later date.
- During the event, he also held discussions with other top officials of the EU including the First Secretary, the Sustainable Investment Team Leader and the Attaché in charge of Programs - Security and Justice, to discuss wildlife law enforcement and strengthen collaboration in the fight against wildlife crime.
- In June, on the occasion of the event marking the celebration of US independence, the Coordinator held brief discussions with the new Chargé d’Affaires and the First Counsellor of the US Embassy on the fight against wildlife crime and the strengthening of collaboration.
- During this ceremony, he met briefly with the Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Maritime Prefect and the President of the National Commission for the Fight against Human Trafficking. He briefly discussed the fight against wildlife crime during the encounters.
- In July, he participated at the official launch ceremony of a project integrating anti-corruption education into education and training curricula in Togo. The event was organized by the country’s anti-corruption commission (HAPLUCIA) and ministries in charge of education and training.
- He held a meeting with two officials; a Programme Officer of the Legal Unit of the CITES Secretariat and Togo’s CITES Focal Point. The meeting enabled the CITES Secretariat expert to have an insight into the EAGLE Network, its mission and results.

- In August, he participated at a workshop on information and capacity building for civil society organizations on the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan. The workshop was organized by the Ministry of Environment and Forestry Resources (MERF). During the event, he held brief discussions with some top officials of MERF including, the Secretary General and the Head of the Protected Areas and Wildlife Division, CITES Focal Point, to strengthen collaboration in the fight against wildlife crime.
- In September, he held a meeting with the Director of Forest Resources Inspection on the handling of cases of illegal trafficking in wildlife specimens.
- He held a meeting with CAAT (Airport anti-trafficking unit) agents at the airport cargo terminal to strengthen collaboration in the fight against illegal wildlife trafficking.
- He met with the Head of the Customs Brigade Section of the Airport Customs Operations Division to strengthen collaboration in the fight against wildlife crime.
- In November, he participated at an advisory council meeting of Togo's anti-corruption commission (HAP-LUCIA).
- In December, at the invitation of the President of Togo's anti-corruption commission (HAPLUCIA) the Coordinator participated at a debate during a conference marking the celebration of the 22nd International Anti-Corruption Day.
- The Coordinator held a meeting with the Director of the Central Office for the Repression of Illicit Drug Trafficking and Money Laundering (OCRTIDB) to strengthen collaboration in the fight against wildlife crime.

Senegal

- In March, the Coordinator received a special recognition from the Cour d'Application des Officiers de la Gendarmerie (CAOG) in appreciation of the efforts made by EAGLE Senegal in fighting wildlife crime in the country.
- The special recognition was presented during a training for 49 gendarmerie officers from eight African countries. A number of presentations on different themes include wildlife crime wildlife, criminal law and CITES were carried out during the event.
- In April, she met with the Head of Security at the UK Embassy in Senegal in to discuss wildlife law enforcement and strengthen collaboration in the fight against wildlife crime. She met with the new Head of the Customs subdivision at the Blaise Diagne Airport International in Diass.
- In September, she met with a delegation from the security service of the Embassy of the United States of America in Senegal to strengthen collaboration in the fight against wildlife crime.
- In October, the Coordinator and Antonia Gustafsson, a super volunteer who arrived the country from Cameroon, carried out a mission to the Republic of Guinea. The aim of the mission was to strengthen

relations with the Guinean authorities, strengthen the Team in Conakry through recruitment and provide support in achieving its objectives.

- She met with the Attorney General at the Dakar Court of Appeal to strengthen collaboration in the fight against wildlife crime. It was also an opportunity to discuss establishing a focal point at his office.
- In December, she held a meeting with the Director of Marine Protected Areas (DAMCP). The purpose of this meeting was to present the EAGLE project to the new director and explore possibilities for collaboration with this department, which is part of the Ministry of the Environment and Ecological Transition.

Côte d'Ivoire

- During the year the Interim Coordinator held several meetings with UCT officials on several issues related to the execution of operations and to strengthen collaboration in the fight against wildlife crime.
- In July, the Legal Adviser followed up the procedure to acquire a permit to visit at the Abidjan Penitentiary where she was presented with a new set of cumbersome procedures. She managed to overcome the procedures and visited the traffickers.
- In August, the Interim Deputy Coordinator, accompanied by the Heads of the Media and Legal Departments, met with the Director of the UCT, to discuss the results of EAGLE CI and the EAGLE network presented in the 2024 annual network report. The Director of the UCT reaffirmed his commitment to fighting wildlife crime and collaborate with the project.
- In September, he met with the Technical Director of the OIPR (the Ivorian agency managing the national parks) and discussed strengthening collaboration in the fight against crime among other issues.
- In October, the Team carried out several presentations on wildlife law enforcement during a training for officials of OIPR (the Ivorian agency managing the national parks).

Guinea

- In March, the Coordinator of EAGLE Senegal and the accountant travelled to Conakry where they held several activities related to finance and personnel management with the EAGLE Guinea Team. They also carried a number of activities with INTERPOL NCB in Conakry to strengthen collaboration in the fight against wildlife crime.
- In October, the Coordinator of EAGLE Senegal and a super volunteer arrived in Conakry to provide support to the project. During their stay they held meetings with the Chargé d'Affaires of the US Embassy in Conakry, the Security Service of the French Embassy and with the Deputy Director General and Director of Investigations of Customs to strengthen collaboration in fighting wildlife crime.

- They held a meeting with the Head of the National Central Bureau of INTERPOL to discuss wildlife law enforcement and strengthen collaboration in the fight against wildlife crime.
- During the year, the Team followed up on the registration application filed with the National Department for the Regulation and Promotion of Association (DNARPROMA), attached to the Ministry of Territorial Administration and Decentralization.
- They also followed up the administrative procedures on the MoU with the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, the Directorate General of the National Police, the Directorate General of Customs, and with the INTERPOL National Central Bureau in Conakry.

Uganda

- In March, the Interim Coordinator participated in a virtual discussion on taxes hosted by Uganda Revenue Authority.
- In April, the Interim Coordinator and the Legal Advisor held an interaction with Uganda Revenue Authority Head Intelligence on operations and the strengthening of collaboration in the fight against wildlife crime.
- In May, she held meetings with the Assistant Superintendents of Police and Investigating Officers of Wampewo, Mbuya, Mukono, Naguru and Jinja Road Police stations respectively to strengthen collaboration in the fight against wildlife crime.
- In June she held a meeting with council officials on compliance with government procedures for NGOs and a recommendation letter sent to the Town Clerk.
- In August, the project hosted the Community Development Officer from Nakawa Division with her team as a key requirement in the projects permit renewal process.
- In September, the Interim Coordinator was hosted by the Kampala City Council Authority for a meeting with the District NGO Committee and they held an interactive session as a key requirement for the permit renewal process.
- In November, the Interim Coordinator held a meeting with the Commissioner Registration (NGO Bureau) on following up on the pending operational permit which accelerated the process at the Bureau.

8. Headquarters and Development of the EAGLE Network

The Central Coordination Unit (CCU) and the Steering group provided support to Network members. This was done principally through the internet, phone calls videoconferencing, whatsapp messaging and video exchanges and field missions. Several investigators supported activities carried in other countries which helped to achieve more results.

- In Guinea the project is still in its developmental stages with recruitment still going on. Training of those recruited was done in Senegal. In January, EAGLE Guinea project activists including an Assistant Coordinator, a Legal Adviser and two investigators, completed a five-month long training in Senegal and returned to Guinea. The Senegal Coordinator travelled to Guinea in February where they held meetings with judicial and diplomatic authorities accredited to Guinea.
- The EAGLE Senegal Coordinator and a super volunteer arrived in Conakry in October, to provide support to the project. During their stay they held meetings with the Chargé d’Affaires of the US Embassy in Conakry, the Security Service of the French Embassy and with the Deputy Director General and Director of Investigations of Customs to strengthen collaboration in fighting wildlife crime.
- They held a meeting with the Head of the National Central Bureau of INTERPOL to discuss wildlife law enforcement and strengthen collaboration in the fight against wildlife crime.
- The CCU has organized annual general audits for the period 2023 which was carried out by the international audit firm BDO based in Abidjan, Cote d’Ivoire. The countries following countries were audited; Cameroon, Cote d’Ivoire, Togo, the Republic of the Congo and Senegal.
- Jana Hajduchová, the Financial Officer of the EAGLE Network, held a presentation at the European meeting of the Great Apes Taxonomy Advisory Group of EAZA, held in Ostrava, Czech Republic in March. She summarized the activities of EAGLE Network in Africa and lead a discussion on the newly established mega-zoo Vantara in India, and its impact on the global trade with wildlife.
- Eric Tah, the Organization Development Officer participated at the 20th Conference of the Parties to the CITES that was held in Samarkand, Uzbekistan from November 24 to December 5. He participated at several meetings; met and discussed with many representatives from governments institutions and NGO to build collaboration and partnerships. He participated at plenary and standing committee meetings, side events and other events where several conservations issues were raised.

9. Photos of the selected cases

An ivory trafficker arrested with 2 tusks in Congo in January.

He was attempting to sell the elephant tusks. He travelled over 300 km with the elephant tusks concealed in a backpack. He used a motorcycle to arrive the place of transaction and was instantly arrested, handcuffed and whisked away.



border and arrived the Ferkessedougou, a border town, where they attempted to trade the tusks. The elephants were allegedly killed in Burkina Faso, in an area with jihadists activities.

2 traffickers arrested with 4 tusks in the north of Côte d'Ivoire.

They are a part of a ring trafficking ivory from Burkina Faso. The traffickers, concealed the elephant tusks in a bag and a backpack, rode a motorcycle from a locality a few kilometers from the



2 ivory traffickers arrested with 2 elephant tusks in Cameroon in February

One of them is a notorious regional trafficker at the center of criminal networks stretching to Chad, Congo and CAR. He is linked to several illicit activities including trafficking in precious stones and cars, in the sub region. He travelled over 500 km from the north of the country to Douala to organize the illegal trade of the tusks.



3 live animals' traffickers arrested with 2 young live hyenas in Senegal in February.

The hyenas were ordered and captured with their mother that has already been traded away. The two pups were kept chained to a wall and fed only rice leftovers. Hyenas are targeted by the illegal trade as mystical animals for black magic. The traffickers travelled 3 hours with the young hyenas and put them in small cages so besides the wounds from the chains they were also wounded at their faces from the bars.

The hyenas are believed to have been captured in Saloum Delta National Park. Hyenas are an integral part of the fragile natural balance in the park, being its largest predator in the food chain.

The hyenas, now free of chains and out of cages, were placed in quarantine by the Department of National Parks with the view of releasing them back to the wild if possible.





2 traffickers arrested with 3 leopard skins in Côte d'Ivoire near the Ghana border in March.

One of the traffickers is from Niger and the seizure included also more pieces of leopard skins, a hyena skin among many other wildlife trophies. The first trafficker was arrested while attempting to illegally trade the 2 two leopard skins. He quickly denounced the other trafficker who was arrested during a house search. More wildlife contraband was recovered during the arrest.

The operation took place in the north-east of the country, at a town located some 600 km from the capital, Abidjan. The traffickers took care to conceal the skins in a fertilizer bag to avoid detection. One of the traffickers used to illegally trade skins at the local market.



2 traffickers arrested with 3 leopard skins and two skulls in the north east of Cote d'Ivoire in April

The skins were trafficked from Burkina Faso. This is a snapshot of the ongoing large scale massacre of leopards driven by wildlife trafficking. To evade detection, the traffickers concealed the wildlife contraband in a fertilizer bag while transporting it to the place of transaction.



3 traffickers arrested with a leopard skin and 28 kg of scales of endangered giant pangolin in Congo in May

The first two traffickers arrived at the place of the transaction on a motorcycle with the contraband carefully concealed in a bag and a suitcase. A few minutes later, they were arrested and taken to the gendarmerie station, where they denounced a third trafficker. The arresting team was quickly remobilized, arrived at the trafficker's house some 75 km away, and arrested him.



8 traffickers arrested with 4 leopard skins and a hyena skin in 3 back-to-back operations and a major crack down in Senegal in June

The arrests near the borders with Guinea and Mali were of mostly Guinean traffickers. One of the traffickers is suspected to be in connection to a local terrorist group. The contraband was concealed in grains bags and a military backpack. The traffickers were arrested during 3 different operations carried out in close succession in the South East of the Country.



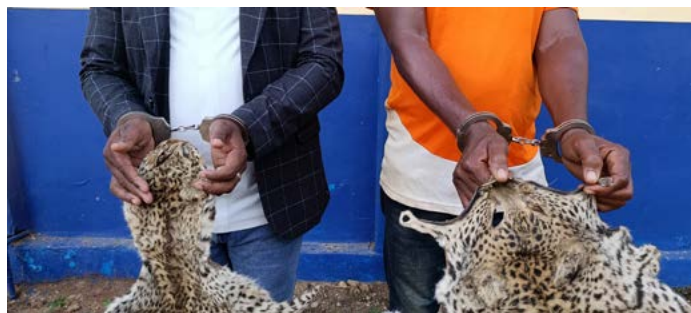
3 ivory traffickers arrested with a large tusk in a crackdown on Ghana-Togo trafficking ring in Togo in June

The activities of the very cautious and suspicious traffickers were followed for several months before being uncovered. One of them originates from Benin and is a member of a trafficking network that straddles the borders between Togo and Ghana. He transported the elephant tusk concealed in a grains bag, on a motorcycle, from the border to the central region of Togo.



2 traffickers arrested with 2 leopard skins and heads and claws of 4 vultures in Côte d'Ivoire in June

They are a part of a ring trafficking from Burkina Faso. The animal parts were carefully concealed inside fertilizer bags and transported over 300km in public transport from the border to the center of the country. The traffickers were arrested as they attempted to sell the contraband. One of the traffickers is a Burkina Faso national who was in charge of all financial transactions of the illegal trade.



2 traffickers arrested with more than 80 kg giant pangolin scales in Cameroon in July

This seizure represents the slaughter of at least 35 individuals of this rare and declining species. The traffickers who were part of a bigger network, were involved in the illegal trade in pangolin scales and ivory, among other wildlife products. They operated across vast regions of the country—including major urban centers like Yaoundé and Douala, and including parts of Northern Cameroon. They were very cautious and have long experience in trafficking in the region which is the gateway to the north of the country and to Nigeria. Traffickers frequently use this route to export contraband to the North of Nigeria.



A trafficker arrested with 2 leopard skins and 30 kg scales of endangered giant pangolin in Congo in August.

The woman was arrested attempting to sell the wildlife contraband. She is part of a ring of traffickers in leopard skins that has links to the neighbouring DRC. One of the members of the trafficking ring is still eluding arrest as he is directly linked to the trafficking of the 2 leopard skins.



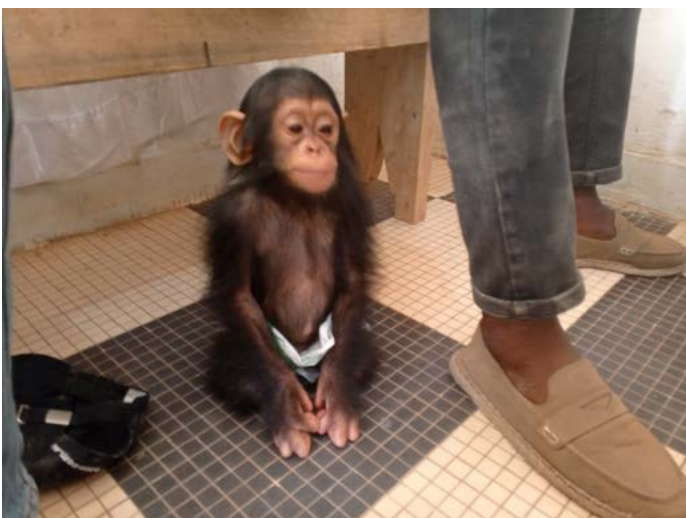
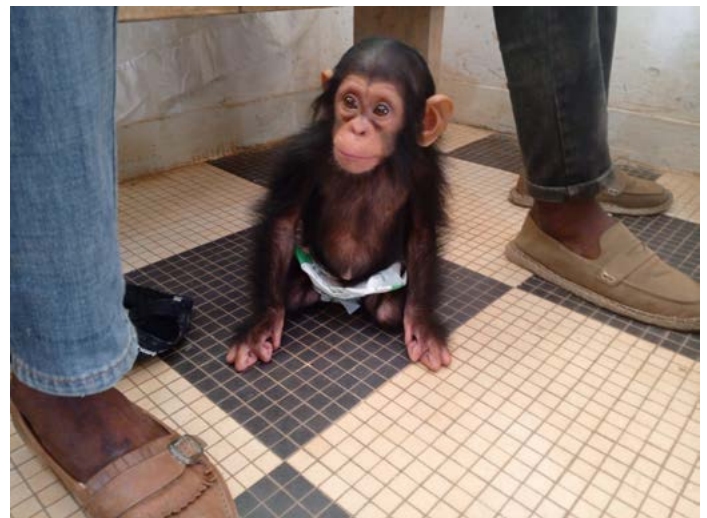
2 traffickers, including a Burkinabe, arrested with 32 kg of ivory in Côte d'Ivoire in September.

The ivory, concealed in a rice sack, was trafficked from Liberia. The Burkina Faso national denounced the other trafficker for being a known big ivory trafficker. The traffickers took care to split the large ivory tusk in two and then concealed it in two big rice bags. One of the traffickers arrived the place of transaction first, was arrested and he quickly denounced the other.



An ape trafficker was arrested and a baby chimpanzee rescued in Congo in October.

The trafficker transported the baby on his motorbike concealed beneath his shirt to avoid detection. He was arrested when he revealed the baby and confidently attempted to trade it. The baby chimpanzee was taken to the Jane Goodall Institute where it shall receive lifetime care.



2 ivory traffickers were arrested with 4 tusks in Congo in October, hitting cross border trafficking from Gabon.

The elephant tusks were concealed in jute bag that was put inside a backpack filled with cloths to avoid raising any suspicion. They arrived the scene of transaction carrying the backpack while secretly surveilling the surroundings. A few minutes later they were arrested and taken to the gendarmerie station where their confessions were obtained.



2 traffickers arrested with 2 fresh leopard skins in Cameroon in December.

One of the two arrested is a senior police officer that used his position to lend impunity to this Gabon-Cameroon traffic. The skins that were smuggled from Gabon were dried in sun by one of the traffickers at his home located in one of the most dangerous neighbourhoods in Yaounde.



2 ivory traffickers arrested in Senegal in November.

An international ivory trafficker with 107 ivory pieces and 2 elephant tusks was arrested in Dakar. The trafficker was hiding and masking the ivory in his shop and confessed he has been trading ivory for 30 years. The trafficker was arrested in his shop with

2 elephant tusks. The tusks were concealed in rice bags, tightly sealed with zips. 2 boxes containing the carved ivory pieces were wrapped in newspapers and concealed in another shop next door.



3 traffickers arrested with 65 African grey parrots in Cameroon in December.

They used the government car of a Divisional Officer to lend them impunity. One of the arrested is the

brother of the officer, the other is a Ghanaian with ties to other known transnational criminal networks. This is a mere snapshot of this specialized ring trafficking regularly for a very long time. The network was also involved in the trafficking of pangolin scales and several other wildlife contrabands.



An ivory trafficker arrested in November with 2 elephant tusks of more than 80 kg in Togo, clamping down on Ghana-Togo border trafficking ring.

He is connected to one of the biggest ivory traffickers in the region. The elephant tusks were carefully packaged in plastic bags and concealed in a taxi that transported the contraband. During a house search that ensued, more wildlife parts were found in his keeping.



EAGLE Uganda Interim Coordinator - the Woman at the Frontline

The Interim Coordinator of EAGLE Uganda, Lydia Nsubuga, was hosted on CIVIC media/TV on the Women Rise to leadership talk show which highlighted her work as an activist, conservationist, wife and mother. She narrates her humble background in Kampala, the city of her birth and her modest upbringing that sowed seeds of activism at a very young age.



She is led through by a host who spurs her on with professional nods and giggles, to talk about herself, describing her early activism and college life, her fight for the rights of the woman and against gender violence. She talks of exploring possibilities of taking martial arts courses just to be able to jump on men battering their wives. She regularly donates to charities and communities, pursuing her relentless activism, we learn. Equally, she provided school needs to 24 poor girls for number of years and actually took over the sponsorship in school of 3 of them, including one who is HIV positive. She longs for a day when everyone will get involved and dreams big. **“How I wish everybody would get into activism, if you have to make the world a better place, you need somebody to be doing something”**.

Lydia who was promoted to the position of Interim Coordinator of EAGLE Uganda in July last year decided to abandon her former job to join the network where she says tied more with her aspirations and dreams, where she could develop her inborn activism. She says **“When I joined EAGLE Uganda there was serious activism, and I have those deposits of activism in me and the two connected”**. She describes her fight against corruption, animal trafficking and tell us some simple principles learned from a family dog: “When you treat me right, I treat you right”

She has been a very active member and a leader in the EAGLE Network, working hard to ensuring wildlife traffickers are arrested, recruiting and training other activists. She says planning and focus is the key because she is equally an entrepreneur. She opines that **“True leaders have dreams, they have a focus, they have aspirations. They want to touch things; they are things they want to become. If you lose the focus, you can't get there”**. She continues to actively fight corruption which she considers to be a big problem in Uganda.

The talk show was aired on CivicSpace TV, a Kampala-based television station.

Undercover Investigators: The silent force behind operations.



There are two parts to every operation, the visible and the unseen. Behind every wildlife enforcement operation are brave men and women who are the foundation on which operations are built. Undercover investigators work in the shadows; silently, diligently and astutely with courage, abnegation and skill to ensure traffickers are arrested during an operation. They carry out their work behind the scenes, far from public view, effectively tracking and lurking, silently waiting, chasing and

ready to pounce.

These are men and women who are endowed with a host of diverse and sometimes opposing top notch qualities.

These men and women carry the weight of risk every day, not for applause, but for the protection of species that cannot speak for themselves. They infiltrate networks, track traffickers, and gather the evidence that makes justice possible. Their vigilance is the quiet force that turns intelligence into action and action into impact.

They are the unnamed heroes of conservation — the ones whose stories remain untold, whose faces remain unseen, yet whose contributions shape every victory. We keep them dear to our hearts and always remember their bravery, their exploits and their service to wildlife law enforcement.

They remind us that true heroism often happens far from the spotlight, carried out by those who choose service over recognition and purpose over fear.

Annex I - Summary of the Results

Number of investigations per month per project

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	total per project
LAGA Cameroon	14	20	19	13	11	15	13	15	14	14	14	8	170
PALF Congo	20	21	21	18	26	16	0	24	20	27	32	12	237
EAGLE Togo	4	9	13	17	13	20	15	15	20	23	35	7	191
EAGLE Senegal	89	4	7	42	41	6	0	16	21	22	13	23	284
EAGLE Côte d'Ivoire	6	20	17	27	21	22	26	18	13	8	28	7	213
EAGLE Guinea	0	0	0	15	13	0	0	6	13	11	3	4	65
EAGLE Uganda	29	49	48	30	36	32	21	20	17	18	18	5	323
total per month	162	123	125	162	161	111	75	114	118	123	143	66	1,483

Number of arrests per month per project

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	total per project
LAGA Cameroon	0	2	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	5	10
PALF Congo	1	2	3	0	3	0	0	1	0	3	0	0	13
EAGLE Togo	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	4
EAGLE Senegal	0	3	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	2	0	13
EAGLE Côte d'Ivoire	2	0	2	2	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	10
EAGLE Guinea	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
EAGLE Uganda	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
total per month	3	7	5	3	3	13	2	1	2	3	3	5	50

Number of media pieces per month per project

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	total per project
LAGA Cameroon	13	21	17	26	4	7	31	0	28	20	1	51	219
PALF Congo	28	41	28	30	24	24	14	30	8	69	42	0	338
EAGLE Togo	16	30	30	30	15	30	15	15	14	30	15	33	273
EAGLE Senegal	0	0	26	0	0	24	0	0	0	0	34	0	84
EAGLE Côte d'Ivoire	16	8	27	9	15	31	0	0	32	29	13	12	192
total by month	73	100	128	95	58	116	60	45	82	148	105	96	1,106

Annex II - List of Donors



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 seven 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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