



**EAGLE**

# The EAGLE Network Annual Report 2022



- ✓ *141 wildlife traffickers were arrested in 7 countries in 2022*
- ✓ *76 ivory traffickers arrested with 563 kg of ivory, which include 124 tusks and 155 ivory pieces*
- ✓ *23 big cat skin traffickers arrested with 23 leopard skins and 2 lion skins*
- ✓ *22 pangolin scales traffickers arrested with more than 1,730 kg of scales*
- ✓ *10 primate traffickers were arrested, 6 in Cameroon, 3 in the Congo Republic and 1 in Gabon. 3 baby chimps, 5 mandrills and a moustache guenon were rescued*
- ✓ *84 % of the arrested traffickers remained behind bars at least at the early stages of the prosecution*
- ✓ *1,966 media pieces were published in national media*
- ✓ *At least in 6 of the operations, corruption was exposed during the arrest or shortly after*
- ✓ *This year saw an improvement in sentencing as Gabon and Congo got more deterring punishments handed*

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# 1. Summary

Despite several challenges encountered during the year, the EAGLE teams pushed forward with 141 significant wildlife traffickers arrested in 7 countries. The teams functioned normally after a long period of Covid 19 pandemic that disrupted activities. For the first time in a couple of years, the teams could step up activities, leading to improved performances with some significant results obtained.

New investigations strategies and techniques were deployed to improve on the efficacy of field missions. This led to the improvement in the quality of investigations, although, quantitatively the number was lower as compared to last year. 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.

In the early part of the year, travel restrictions hampered smooth travelling for CCU and Steering group members. Nevertheless, some field missions were carried out to provide support for some projects. Social media platforms and videoconferencing were used to bridge the gap and keep the quality of the work of all teams high.

A structural reorganization of the EAGLE Uganda Team was put in place and the project shall soon be functional again. The Burkina Faso project was closed due to structural and financial difficulties impeding the carrying out of arrest operations and other activities.

1,381 investigation missions were carried out to identify wildlife traffickers. 84 % of the arrested traffickers remained in prison at least at the early phases of the prosecution. During the year 173 traffickers were prosecuted and 117 of them handed imprisonment sentences of various time. The majority of the others were given sanctions and suspended sentences of varying levels of severity.

Corruption is prevalent in all levels of the enforcement and judicial process. In 6 cases of the operations, corruption was witnessed and exposed at the day of the arrest or shortly after. A non-permanent worker at a secretariat of a State Counsel in Gabon was given ivory taken from the court evidence room by some officials. He was arrested. A corrupt wildlife official was arrested in Congo for trafficking in 2 elephant tusks. He was later sentenced to 3 years in prison. Links between terrorism and wildlife trafficking was uncovered in an operation in Senegal.

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

Trafficking in ivory and other elephant parts represents most of the focus during this period resulting in the largest number of arrested traffickers. 76 traffickers were arrested trafficking in elephant tusks and other parts. 26 operations were carried out in 7 countries with 563 kg of ivory, which include 124 tusks and 155 ivory pieces, seized.

4 traffickers were arrested in February with 14 elephant tusks in Congo. The first trafficker was arrested attempting to sell the tusks. He led the arresting team to the home of the second trafficker who was apprehended. The second trafficker denounced 2 others who were arrested a couple of minutes later. The tusks were concealed inside grain bags and transported on a motorbike. This seizure represents at least 7 elephants slaughtered.

3 traffickers were arrested in June with 81 kg of ivory and a leopard skin in Gabon. The ivory trafficking is linked to some personnel of the justice system of the area. One of the three arrested, a non-permanent worker in the secretariat of the State Counsel, was given by other officials, some of the tusks from the court evidence room to trade. The traffickers tried trading the ivory at night. The elephant tusks that had marks on them were concealed in two large suitcases.

3 traffickers were arrested in Cameroon with almost 100 kg of ivory in a crackdown on a Nigerian ivory gang in September. The ring controlled trafficking lines to Nigeria and to Côte d'Ivoire and moved ivory from as far as Congo. One of them claimed to have been smuggling ivory for over 35 years.

23 big cat skin traffickers were arrested in 11 operations in 5 countries. 23 leopard skins and 2 lion skins were seized.

2 traffickers were arrested in May with 2 lion skins, 5 leopard skins and 3 serval skins in a major crackdown on big cat skin trafficking in Togo. 16 hippo teeth and 30 lion claws were also seized. They used a motorcycle to move the contraband that was concealed in two bags. One of them was arrested as he attempted to sell the contraband and he led the arresting team to the second trafficker who was waiting for his share of the money. He was arrested at his residence. The skins were trafficked from West and Central Africa.

3 traffickers were arrested in April with 2 leopard skins and 3 armadillo feet in Senegal. The trafficking ring has been active for two decades, generating the killings of big cats in the east of the country and in the Niokolo-Koba national park.

22 pangolin scales traffickers were arrested in 10 operations. More than 1,730 kg of scales were seized. Pangolins are currently considered to be the most trafficked mammal in the world.

3 traffickers were arrested in April with 386 kg pangolin scales in a crackdown on a pangolin scales trafficking network in Cameroon. The traffickers, a Malian national and two Cameroonians, ran a lucrative illicit business in pangolin scales. They operated from an area in Centrale Cameroon that is notorious for wildlife trafficking and weak law enforcement. They also had connections close to the Cameroon border with the Central African Republic where the Malian had hidden huge quantities of pangolin scales.

A trafficker was arrested in April with 328 kg of pangolin scales in Côte d'Ivoire. He is "The Money Man" financing the illicit operations of an organized criminal ring that had already been attacked twice in the past years by EAGLE Côte d'Ivoire team. One of the operations took place in 2017 when 3 tons of pangolin scales were seized. They are a very closed and cautious ring. It took huge efforts to net this key player of the network. A large cash amount was found at his home during a house search.

In February, a trafficker was arrested in Cameroon with 246 kg of pangolin scales, and in a refrigerator more pangolins and monkey carcasses found. He activated several traffickers and poachers in the area, who

supplied the illegal products. He had the storage facilities for keeping the big quantities of contraband he collected.

10 primate traffickers were arrested; 6 in Cameroon, 3 in the Congo Republic and 1 in Gabon. 3 baby chimps, 5 mandrills and a moustache guenon were rescued. Primate skulls were also seized from a trafficker.

A traditional chief was arrested in March and 2 baby chimps rescued in Cameroon. He had iron cages to detain and imprison wild animals including the baby chimps that kept holding the bars desperately longing to be outside. At one point during his arrest, the traditional chief shouted - "bring me my gun! I will kill these animals; they will not be taken alive from here".

A trafficker was arrested in June with a baby chimpanzee and a moustache guenon in Gabon. Links are under investigation for complicity of a local wildlife officer. The animals were handed to the Centre International de Recherches Médicales de Franceville (CIRMF) for quarantine before moving to the Lekedi Park which is a natural habitat.

2 operations were carried with the rescue of over 100 African grey parrots in Congo and in Cameroon.

A trafficker arrested in the Republic of Congo with 94 African grey parrots in February. This is the sixth parrot trafficker arrested in 3 months. 4 traffickers were arrested in December with 28 African Grey parrots in Cameroon. The crackdown dismantled a ring of parrot traffickers operating in the East of the country. They were leading a ring of local poachers who captured live African grey parrots.

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

4 traffickers were arrested in September with 2 human skeletons in Cameroon. Their arrest is a result of an investigation into the illegal online trade in pangolin scales and leopard skins to India. LAGA and the entire EAGLE Network, as activists, do our best to fight injustice. Human sacrifice and the illegal trade in human bones for black magic and rituals is one of such horrible crimes.

In order to maximize the deterrent effect, 1,966 media pieces were published in national media. The distribution of the media pieces on national media were 46 % on internet, 30 % on the radio, 18 % in the print media and 6 % on TV.

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# Content:

This report refers to activities from January till December 2022. 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.

1. Summary.....	2
2. Structure of the Network.....	6
3. Investigations .....	7
4. Arrest Operations.....	8
Corruption.....	9
Elephants .....	10
Big Cats.....	13
Primates .....	15
Pangolins .....	17
Birds .....	18
Reptiles.....	19
Other arrests .....	19
5. Legal Follow Up .....	20
6. Media .....	23
7. External Relations.....	26
8. Headquarters and Development of the EAGLE Network.....	31
9. Photos of the selected cases .....	33
Annex I - Summary of the Results.....	54
Annex II - List of Donors .....	56

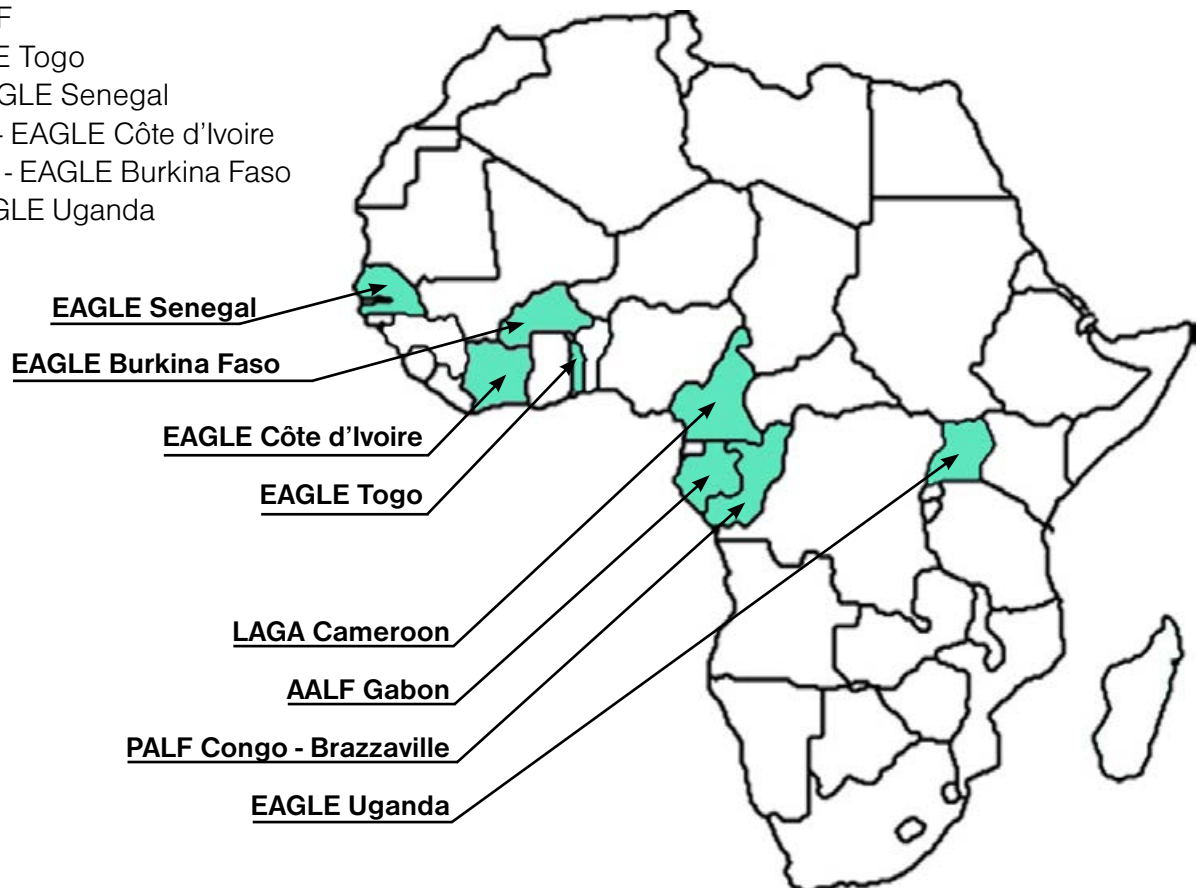
## 2. Structure of the Network

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 eight 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. Senegal - EAGLE Senegal
6. Côte d'Ivoire - EAGLE Côte d'Ivoire
7. Burkina Faso - EAGLE Burkina Faso
8. Uganda - EAGLE Uganda



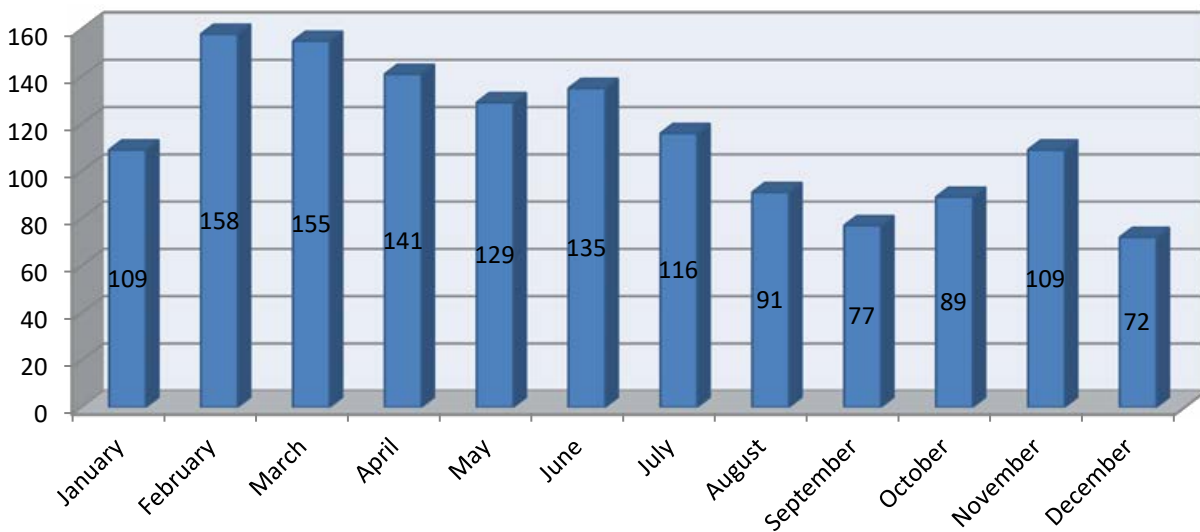


# 3. Investigations

1,381 different investigation missions were carried out in 7 countries, leading to the arrest of 141 traffickers during 2022.

The investigations focused mainly on ivory trafficking and also on big cat trafficking, pangolin scales and the illegal trade in primates.

**Numbers of investigations  
in 2022**



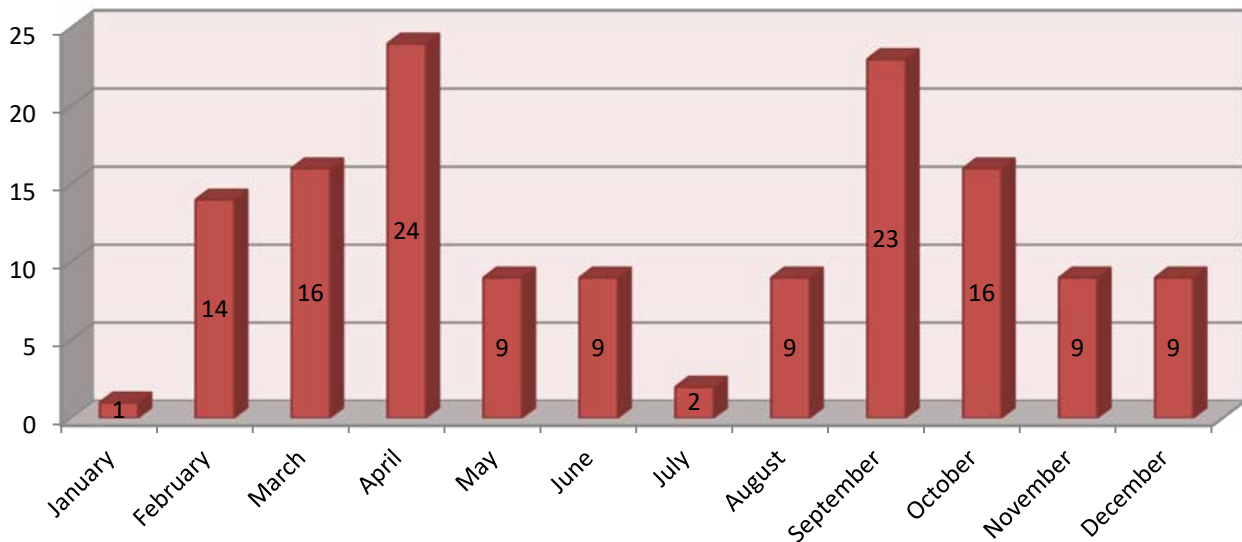
*Fig. 1: Numbers of investigations in January – December 2022*

Investigations were carried out in 7 countries producing some significant results. New investigation strategies and techniques were used to improve on investigations. These led to improvements in the quality and results of investigations especially towards the later part of the year. Although there was a drop in the number of investigation missions as compared to last year, this could be explained by nature of investigations carried out, the closing of the Burkina Faso project and the restructuring process that is presently taking place in Uganda. Some of the investigations required fewer missions on the ground. Recruitment was intensified and investigators were tested in all countries and some joined the teams. The recruitment processes continued in all the countries to find more good investigators, especially investigators with specific profiles and skills.

## 4. Arrest Operations

141 significant wildlife traffickers were arrested. EAGLE Network members carried out 65 operations in 7 countries.

**Number of Arrested Traffickers  
in January - December 2022**



*Fig. 2: Number of arrested traffickers January - December 2022*



### Distribution of the Arrested Traffickers According to Species

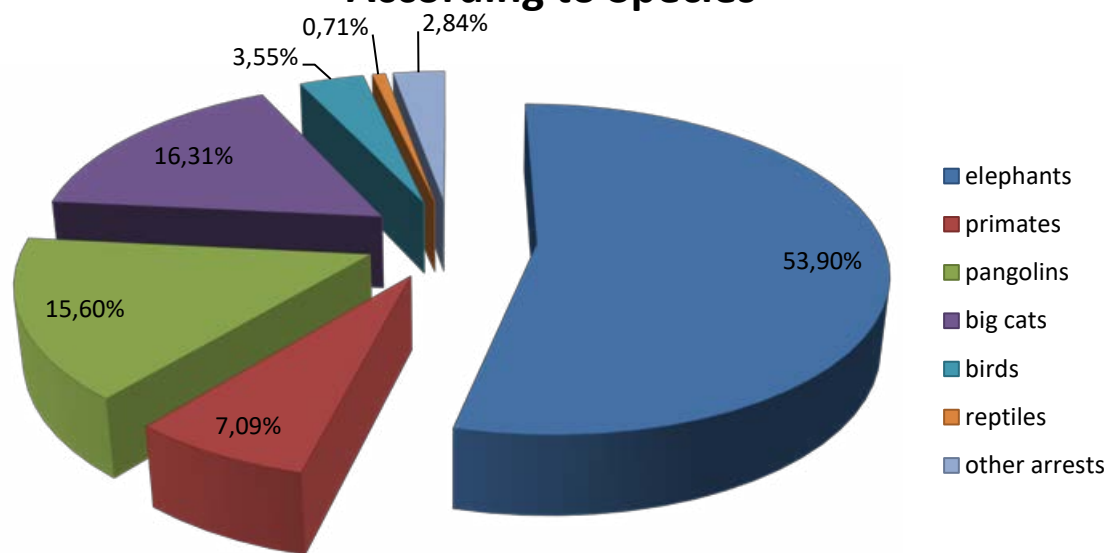


Fig. 3: Distribution of Arrested Traffickers According to Species

## Corruption

Corruption is prevalent in all levels of the enforcement and judicial process. In 6 cases of the operation, corruption was witnessed and fought against at the day of the arrest or shortly after. A non-permanent worker at a secretariat of a State Counsel in Gabon was given ivory taken from the court evidence room by some officials. He was arrested. A corrupt wildlife official was arrested in Congo for trafficking in 2 elephant tusks. He was later sentenced to 3 years in prison. Links between terrorism and wildlife trafficking was uncovered in one of the operations in Senegal.

- The team in Congo fought off corruption attempts when a trafficker was arrested in February in connection with ivory trafficking. The trafficker was on the run after an arrest warrant was issued against him following the arrest of an ivory trafficker in November 2021 with 5 ivory pieces and 3 elephant tails.
- In June a 3 traffickers were arrested with 81 kg of ivory and a leopard skin in Gabon. The ivory trafficking is linked to some personnel of the justice system of the area. One of the three arrested, a non-permanent worker in the secretariat of the State Counsel, was given by other officials, some of the tusks from the court evidence room to trade. The traffickers tried trading the ivory at night. The elephant tusks that had marks on them were concealed in two large suitcases. A total of 6 elephant tusks and 17 ivory pieces were recovered. Investigations continues against accomplices in the court.

- In September, 3 traffickers, including a corrupt wildlife officer, were arrested in Congo with 2 ivory tusks. The arrested official is a Chief of Post at the Ministry of Forestry Economy. The wildlife officer of 15 years of service was violent during the arrest and injured a policeman in his fight to escape. For long, the corrupt officer was deep into ivory trafficking, taking a percentage of the profits and leading negotiations and transactions.
- 2 traffickers were arrested in August with 122 kg of pangolin scales in Abidjan. One of them is based in Liberia and the other in Côte d'Ivoire. They developed a growing illegal business generating the mass slaughter of pangolins. The Liberia-based trafficker smuggled the pangolin scales from Liberia to Abidjan. He met the second trafficker who concealed the contraband in her store as they searched for prospective buyers. They were arrested in a small street in a popular neighbourhood in Abidjan as they offloaded 3 bags containing the pangolin scales from a hired taxi. The case is similar to the arrest last June of 2 brothers in Guiglo, an Ivorian town near Liberia, with 153 kg of pangolin scales. They also smuggled it from Liberia. It shows how corruption effectively enables cross border trafficking.
- In November, 3 ivory traffickers were arrested with 4 pieces of tusks weighing 26 kg. Their criminal operation stretched to Mali where this ivory was trafficked from. The markings on the ivory indicates corruption in Mali, authorities reselling of seized contraband back to criminals. The traffickers used a vehicle to move the contraband that was hidden in cardboard boxes
- 2 traffickers were arrested in November with a leopard skin in Senegal. On their phones were horrible images of massacred lions and elephants as well as human rights atrocities, dead human bodies, and huge stocks of automatic weapons. The traffickers, one of whom is a Niger national, smuggled the skin from Mali. This arrest shows a link between the illegal wildlife trade and jihadists and armed factions in Mali, Burkina Faso and Niger with connections to some North African countries.

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## Elephants

**Trafficking in ivory and other elephant parts was the main focus during this period resulting in the largest number of arrested traffickers. 76 traffickers were arrested trafficking in elephant tusks and other body parts. 26 operations were carried out in 7 countries with 563 kg of ivory, which include 124 tusks and 155 ivory pieces, seized. Some examples are presented here:**

- 2 traffickers were arrested in February, with 15 tusks in Côte d'Ivoire, near the Ghana border. The traffickers also smuggle gold and silver and moved the ivory in the trunk of their car. The crackdown on this important ivory ring was filmed by BBC. Wait for the broadcast to get an insight on the special people in the shadows behind this arrest operation. Some of the tusks were very small, indicating the extent of the massacres of young elephants. DNA analysis carried out by the Dr. Samuel Wasser of the University of Washington from an earlier seizure of 60 tusks in the same town, Abengourou, show that 90% of the tusks seized were from the WAP complex, where most of the elephants remain. The area is now under heavy pressure from jihadists and more accessible to poachers as the states sharing the complex (Benin, Burkina Faso and Niger) are finding it more and more difficult to secure.

- 4 traffickers were arrested in February, in Congo, with 14 elephant tusks. The first trafficker was arrested attempting to sell the tusks. He led the arresting team to the home of the second trafficker who was apprehended. The second trafficker denounced 2 others who were arrested a couple of minutes later. The tusks were concealed inside a suitcase and transported on a motorbike. This seizure represents at least 7 elephants slaughtered.
- A trafficker was arrested in Congo in connection with ivory trafficking in February. The trafficker was on the run after an arrest warrant was issued against him following the arrest of an ivory trafficker in November 2021 with 5 ivory pieces and 3 elephant tails. The Team fought off corruption attempts.
- A trafficker was arrested in February, in Gabon with 2 tusks weighing 20 kg. He concealed the ivory in a cardboard box and used a familiar tactic by refusing to move from his hideout shortly before his arrest. He cut 2 tusks into 6 ivory pieces so that they could easily and perfectly fit into the cardboard box where he concealed the ivory
- 6 traffickers were arrested in March with 5 elephant tusks and chimpanzee meat in a crackdown on a criminal ring in the south of the Cameroon. The first trafficker was arrested with the elephant tusks. He denounced the other traffickers who were arrested in a series of arrests during the following two days. One of them concealed parts of protected wildlife species including the limbs and other parts of a chimp in his car. A dead pangolin was also recovered from the vehicle
- 2 traffickers were arrested in March with 2 tusks in Gabon. The traffickers were arrested during their attempts to sell the elephant tusks they had cut into 8 pieces. The ivory that weighed a total of 55.6 kg was concealed in two backpacks.
- 3 traffickers were arrested in March with 2 tusks in Gabon. The traffickers, 2 Gabonese women and a Cameroonian, were arrested in Libreville as they attempted to sell the ivory. They carefully concealed the ivory in a backpack, took a cab to an area close to the scene of the transaction. They completed the rest of the distance on foot while keeping a careful watch on the surroundings.
- 3 traffickers were arrested in Togo, in March with 6 elephant tusks. The elephant tusks were smuggled all the way from Burkina Faso by an international trafficking ring. One of the traffickers who is based in Burkina Faso organized the smuggling of the contraband out of the country. In Togo, one of them received the tusks and the others were responsible for selling them. The smart and cautious traffickers transported the tusks concealed in a grain bag. They were arrested while attempting to sell the ivory. One of the traffickers took up an undercover position not very far from where negotiations were going on. He too was arrested shortly after the first two were apprehended.
- A trafficker was arrested with 5 tusks and an elephant tail in Côte d'Ivoire in March. He was arrested in the North East of the country, close to the Ghanaian border and in an area with major security concerns. He admitted to killing the elephants in the Comoe National Park that has only about 120 wild elephants left in a country that counts around 600 elephants. The park has come under severe pressures in the recent past, from the political crisis and civil wars and now from terrorists' infiltrations from Burkina Faso, drawn to it by its natural resources. It is one of the largest parks in West Africa.

- A trafficker was arrested in Senegal, in July with 19 items of carved ivory. The ivory was fresh and recently carved. The trafficker of Malian nationality is part of a network of traffickers illegally selling carved ivory to tourist in the black market. The trafficker did not polish the ivory but simply varnished it and made shallow engravings that are easy to remove with gasoline and sandpaper
- A trafficker was arrested in Gabon, in August with 12 elephant tusks weighing 19.6 kg. He was arrested as he attempted to sell the tusks. The trafficker concealed the tusks inside water in a river. He arrived at the scene of transaction shortly before his arrest with the tusks concealed inside a rice bag. He transported the bag in a wheelbarrow.
- 5 traffickers were arrested in Togo, in August with 2 elephant tusks. In December last year, an elephant was shot and killed in the Fazao-Malfakassa National Park by one of the traffickers. He entrusted the 2 tusks from the elephant to a second trafficker who was assisted by 3 others to search for a buyer. The 4 traffickers were arrested as they attempted to sell the elephant tusks in Sokodé, a town in Central Togo. They arrived the scene of transaction with the elephant tusks concealed among fresh grass in a rice bag that was strapped to a motorcycle. Two of the traffickers tried to escape during the arrest operation but were quickly apprehended. They denounced the trafficker who shot the elephant in the park and he too was swiftly arrested.
- 2 traffickers were arrested in September with 10 elephant tusks weighing 56 kg in Cameroon. They concealed the tusks in a suitcase and transported it on a motorcycle to a residence where they were expected to carry out the transaction. Soon after they arrived, the arresting team moved in and apprehended them. The contraband was concealed in Briqueterie, a notorious neighbourhood in Yaounde known for wildlife trafficking and other dangerous criminal activities. The traffickers belong to a trafficking ring operating in major ivory trafficking hotspots in the country and especially in a town close to the border with Gabon and Equatorial Guinea. The traffickers are linked to Abdoul Salami, arrested in 2021 with 2 tons of pangolin scales and leopard skins. The ring operates in Congo, Gabon, Nigeria and beyond. Close relatives attempted to free the traffickers by applying pressure on wildlife officials but the attempts were combated.
- 3 traffickers were arrested in September in Cameroon with almost 100 kg of ivory in a crackdown on a Nigerian ivory gang. They were arrested in Douala's notorious New Bell neighbourhood. The arresting team stormed the residence of one of the traffickers and seized the ivory concealed in two suitcases. The traffickers blocked the entrance to the residence, hid inside different rooms but were found one after the other and arrested. The ring controlled trafficking lines to Nigeria and to Côte d'Ivoire and moved ivory from as far as Congo. One of them claimed to have been smuggling ivory for over 35 years.
- 3 traffickers, including a logging company worker, were arrested in Gabon with 2 tusks in September. One of the traffickers was arrested with the elephant tusks concealed in a knapsack. He boarded a taxi to the place of transaction. He denounced two other traffickers. The others, one of them a Chadian, were arrested three days later in another town. The fourth trafficker, who is a repeat offender and well known to the police for his criminal activities, is still on the run. The tusks were cut into 4 pieces.
- 3 traffickers were arrested in Togo, in October with 50 ivory statues, an elephant tail and 11 lion teeth in a crackdown on a major criminal network. 2 traffickers, a Guinean and a Liberian, were arrested attempting

to sell the ivory. They denounced the third who is a Senegalese and wealthy owner of a jewellery shop. He was arrested and confessed that lines of supply for the lion teeth to produce necklaces are from Ghana and Nigeria, while elephant tails lines to produce bracelets are from Cameroon. This ring of traffickers is linked to several infamous ones, including the network of Kromah Moazu, the EAGLE arrest from 2017 in Kampala with 1.3 tons of ivory. The 3 arrested engaged also in rhino horn trafficking and trafficking of gold and precious stones.

- 5 traffickers were arrested in October with 3 elephant tusks in Côte d'Ivoire. 4 traffickers were arrested attempting to sell 2 tusks at the outskirts of Abidjan. They denounced the brain behind the deal activating the others. When arrested he claimed to have stolen the tusks from his boss, who is a Lebanese national. Further investigations led to the seizure of a third ivory tusk.
- A trafficker was arrested in Gabon, in November with 4 tusks. She concealed the tusks in a grains bag which she transported by vehicle to the scene of transaction. She was arrested in the act as she attempted to sell the elephant tusks. She was transferred to Libreville and presented to the State Counsel of the Special Tribunal who remanded her in custody while awaiting trial.
- 3 ivory traffickers of Benin nationality were arrested with 2 tusks in November in Togo. The tusks were concealed in a suitcase and, like in another operation carried out 24 hours earlier in Côte d'Ivoire, the tusks were marked indicating that they had already been seized before in Benin, where it was trafficked from, trading back seized ivory with traffickers. They remain behind bars awaiting trial.
- 3 ivory traffickers were arrested in Côte d'Ivoire, in November with 4 pieces of tusks weighing 26 kg. Their criminal operation stretched to Mali where this ivory was trafficked from. The markings on the ivory indicates corruption in Mali, authorities reselling of seized contraband back to criminals. The traffickers used a vehicle to move the contraband that was hidden in cardboard boxes

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## Big Cats

**23 big cat skin traffickers were arrested in 11 operations in 5 countries. 23 leopard skins and 2 lion skins were seized. Some examples are presented here:**

- 2 traffickers were arrested in February with a leopard skin and nine 12-gauge shotguns in Senegal. One of the traffickers is part of an improvised arms factory producing these guns in large quantities that are not only used for poaching of large animals but also to commit violent crimes. The illegal manufacturing workshop is about an hour drive from the small town of Kolda not far from the Guinea Bissau border. The criminal buys hardware materials from Kolda - steel pipes, springs, metal plates and pieces, hard wood etc. In his workshop he fits the pipes as a barrel, carves the wood into a stock and makes each part from trigger to mechanism. some of what he manufactures are "mini shotgun" - that cannot be used for hunting but for either defense from or attacks of criminals in lawless areas. He sells a gun for around 100 USD and his manufacturing rate as well as the demand are staggering.

- 2 traffickers were arrested in February with a leopard skin and a civet skin in Cameroon. One of the traffickers transported the skins hidden in bags containing locally made kitchen utensils for over 60 km to the town where they were arrested. He ran a small shop as a cover business for wildlife trafficking. He belongs to a network of traffickers dealing in cat skins in an area notorious for the illegal activity. They arrived to the place of transaction on a motorbike with the skins.
- A convicted trafficker who was on the run arrested in April, in Congo. He was given bail during his trial back in May 2021 and went into hiding. A few months later, he was sentenced to serve 18 months in prison. He was chased down and arrested to complete his sentence. The mission to arrest him again was extremely important to show that traffickers cannot avoid justice and will not benefit from impunity. The project and the authorities are working hard to ensure traffickers serve their sentences. He was first arrested with a leopard skin and ivory<sup>2</sup> traffickers were arrested in January with a leopard skin in Congo. They were arrested in the act in the capital city.
- 4 traffickers were arrested with 4 elephant tusks, 3 leopard skins, an elephant tail and 5 leopard teeth in April, in Gabon. A worker with the public works department and a high school student were arrested during their attempt to sell the contraband in Oyem, a town in northern Gabon.
- 3 traffickers were arrested in April with 2 leopard skins and 3 aardvark feet in Senegal. The trafficking ring has been active for two decades, generating the killings of big cats in the east of the country and in the Niokolo-Koba national park. Two of the traffickers transported the contraband in a vehicle belonging to one of them. They concealed the leopard skins in a grain bag and the aardvark feet in a school bag. A fourth trafficker was arrested by the gendarmerie 24 hours later. The arresting team persisted in getting the traffickers arrested despite several challenges.
- 2 traffickers were arrested in May with 2 leopard skins, a skull and a tooth in Congo. One of the traffickers was arrested with the contraband concealed inside a white flour bag. He denounced the second trafficker, a woman, who also was arrested. She transported the contraband to Oyo where they were arrested. Her husband, a policeman, accompanied her to Oyo, using his status and rank to protect her illegal business all along. Sensing danger he escaped and is still on the run. He shall be charged and prosecuted. They are experienced professionals with a defined and refined modus operandi.
- 2 traffickers were arrested in May with 2 lion skins, 5 leopard skins and 3 serval skins in a major crackdown on big cat skin trafficking in Togo. 16 hippo teeth and 30 lion claws were also seized. They used a motorcycle to move the contraband that was concealed in two bags. One of them was arrested as he attempted to sell the contraband and he led the arresting team to the second trafficker who was waiting for his share of the money. He was arrested at his residence. The skins were trafficked from West and Central Africa.
- 2 traffickers were arrested in June with 2 leopard skins in Congo. They were arrested during an attempt to sell them. They arrived the place of transaction on a motorbike with a suitcase. The skins were concealed under dresses in the suitcase. They had been trafficking for a considerable time, linking up poaching activities in remote areas with the illegal trade in towns.



- A trafficker was in September arrested with 2 leopard skins and 2 crocodile skins in Senegal. He was arrested after a game of “cat and mouse” which lasted more than 72 hours between the trafficker and the arresting team. He used well known tricks to avoid giving out his location and trying to evade arrest. He arrived on a motorbike with the skins folded and concealed inside a rice bag. The trafficker travelled some 90 km with the contraband in a public transport car to the town where he was arrested. He looked confident during his attempts to sell the skins, indicating he mastered the trade. He had once been arrested by Niokolo Koba National Park officials for trafficking but not jailed. The illegal trade in leopard skins is growing and a real threat to their survival.
- 2 traffickers were arrested in November in Senegal with a leopard skin. On their phones were horrible images of massacred lions and elephants as well as human rights atrocities, dead human bodies, and huge stocks of automatic weapons. The traffickers, one of whom is a Niger national, smuggled the skin from Mali. Examining the skin, we believe the poacher they activated shot the leopard a few times at the spine, crippling it and only after a lot of misery, shot it to death in short range.
- 2 traffickers were arrested in December with 2 leopard skins, a skull and 11 teeth in Congo. Both were perfectly aware of the illegality of their activity, took time to carefully conceal the contraband in a black plastic bag they transported to Brazzaville. They were arrested as they attempted to sell the leopard parts. The motorbike of one of the traffickers that was used for moving the contraband around was also seized. Traffickers often use motorbikes as favourite means of transport as it helps them avoid checkpoints and enables them to take little known roads and paths that law enforcement don't man.

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## Primates

**10 primate traffickers were arrested, 6 in Cameroon, 3 in the Congo Republic and 1 in Gabon. 3 baby chimps, 5 mandrills and a moustache guenon were rescued. Primate skulls were also seized from a trafficker.**

- A traditional chief was arrested and 2 baby chimps rescued in March, in Cameroon. He had iron cages to detain and imprison wild animals including the baby chimps that kept holding the bars desperately longing to be outside. At one point during his arrest, the traditional chief shouted - “bring me my gun! I will kill these animals; they will not be taken alive from here”. He resisted arrest and tried to bully the arresting team to letting him free. He bought the animals in the south of the country and attempted to sell them in Yaounde.
- In February, in Congo, the Coordinator and Jane Goodall Institute team took over a dying baby chimpanzee from the zoo in Brazzaville. The Coordinator kept and took special care of the one-year-old baby before he was sent to the Tchimpounga sanctuary for lifetime care and support. Moukoudzi, the baby chimp, was initially rescued from a village.
- In March, the Team provided logistics assistance in the transportation of a chimpanzee that was rescued from a remote village by officials of the Ministry of Forestry Economy in Congo. In collaboration with the Aspinall Foundation and the Jane Goodall Institute, it was taken to Tchimpounga sanctuary after a long journey by river, air and road.

- A trafficker was arrested in April with 2 gorilla skulls, a chimp skull and 5 other primate skulls in Cameroon. He was a regular trafficker in skulls and reptiles with international connections in Europe. He extensively used Facebook for his business. He sealed the skulls with plastic tapes and concealed them inside dresses in a plastic bag that is widely used in travelling across the region. He travelled from the crisis hit Anglophone part of the country to the commercial capital Douala where he attempted to sell the skulls. The operation was carried in collaboration with the Czech-based NGO Save Elephants.
- A trafficker was arrested in April and a mandrill rescued in Cameroon. The mandrill was tied at the waist with a heavy metal chain to a tree in his dirty yard. The trafficker was supplied with the mandrill a few months before and was trying to get a high profit for it. The animal was malnourished and weak.
- A trafficker was arrested in May a follow up to a live mandrill rescue and bust in Douala, Cameroon. This other member of the ring was exposed during interrogation as the brains and money behind the trafficking, but disappeared and stayed away from his house to avoid arrest. A different strategy was put in place and one of his “girlfriends” lured him to a bar where he was arrested. The arrest put an end to the primate trafficking network that had links to the south of the country.
- In June, a trafficker was arrested with a baby chimpanzee and a moustache guenon in Gabon. Links are under investigation for complicity of a local wildlife officer. The animals were handed to the Centre International de Recherches Médicales de Franceville (CIRMF) for quarantine before moving to the Lekedi Park which is a natural habitat.
- In June, a mandrill was rescued in Congo. She had been living in terrible conditions, in a very small cage, for at least a year. Members of the Jane Goodall Institute team took part in the rescue operation. The perpetrator who detained the animal is on the run and efforts are being made to arrest him. The mandrill is in rehabilitation at the Tchimpounga sanctuary by the Jane Goodall Institute with the intention to integrate it back into the wild.
- A trafficker was arrested in July with a live mandrill and 2 African grey parrots in Congo. For many years, the trafficker had been keeping animals openly exposed in her garden. She was nicknamed the monkey lady. In an open contempt of the law, she declared during her arrest that she was selling the mandrill, boasted that a minister was aware of her arrest and that she would be released soon.
- 2 traffickers were arrested in September and a mandrill rescued in Cameroon. The mandrill was forcefully pushed into a sack and transported to be traded illegally. The animal was brought by a worker in a logging company near the Congolese border. The poor little animal lived chained to a tree. When rescued it moved nervously and frantically inside the bag as wildlife officials tried to free him. He was taken to a zoo where he shall be given care and support, while waiting to be transferred to a sanctuary.
- A fugitive mandrill trafficker was arrested in September in the Congo Republic. He had been on the run since June when a mandrill was seized from his property. His girlfriend was arrested at the time and released. He went hiding, and was not seen for weeks. Three months later, he returned home, was tracked and arrested. He shall now face the full force of the law.
- A trafficker was arrested and a mandrill rescued in September in the Congo Republic. He is a national of the neighbouring Democratic Republic of Congo. The mandrill was transferred to the Tchimpounga

sanctuary for care and support. He shall be rehabilitated at the sanctuary with the intention to integrate him back into the wild.

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## Pangolins

**22 pangolin scales traffickers were arrested in 10 operations. More than 1,730 kg of scales were seized. Pangolins are currently considered to be the most trafficked mammal in the world. The examples are presented here:**

- A trafficker was arrested in January with 46 kg of pangolin scales in Gabon. He was arrested as he attempted to sell the pangolin scales. The 37-year-old Gabonese arrived in a taxi at the place of transaction with two grains bag containing the scales. The bags were concealed in the boot of the car. He first claimed that the scales belong to someone else and quickly changed his story. He then admitted he obtained the pangolin scales from poachers around the Northwest of Gabon. He posted photos of the scales on social media, in search of customers. He is a French-born Gabonese who recently visited France.
- A trafficker was arrested in Cameroon, in February with 246 kg of pangolin scales, and in a refrigerator more pangolins and monkey carcasses found. He activated several traffickers and poachers in the area, who supplied the illegal products. He had the storage facilities for keeping the big quantities of contraband he collected. The seizure represents a massacre of more than a thousand pangolins
- 5 traffickers were arrested in April with 90 kg of pangolin scales in a crackdown on a trafficking network in Cameroon. The traffickers were found in several different locations. They attempted to thwart arrest efforts by taking up different locations They were chased down by the arresting team and each trafficker arrested with booty in hand. They also comprised a complete gang with a driver, middlemen and suppliers.
- 3 traffickers were arrested in April in Cameroon with 386 kg of pangolin scales. The traffickers, a Malian national and two Cameroonians, ran a lucrative illicit business in pangolin scales. They operated from an area in Centrale Cameroon that is notorious for wildlife trafficking and weak law enforcement. They also had connections close to the Cameroon border with the Central African Republic where the Malian had hidden huge quantities of pangolins scales. He transported the contraband from a town near the border, concealed in a truck that transported maize to the capital city Yaounde. When he arrived, they hid the contraband at the home of one of the traffickers. They also trafficked African grey parrots but were switching to other contraband. They claimed it was increasingly difficult to find parrots.
- A trafficker was arrested in Côte d'Ivoire in April with 328 kg of pangolin scales. He is "The Money Man" financing the illicit operations of an organized criminal ring that had already been attacked twice in the past years by EAGLE Côte d'Ivoire team. One of the operations took place in 2017 when 3 tons of pangolin scales were seized. They are a very closed and cautious ring. It took huge efforts to net this key player of the network. A large cash amount was found at his home during a house search This seizure, a snapshot of the ongoing regular illegal trade of this gang, represents a maximum of around 2,000 killed pangolins. The traffickers use remoted villages in the country to conceal tons of scales.

- 2 traffickers were arrested in Côte d'Ivoire in June with 153 kg of pangolin scales. They are brothers and were arrested near the border with Liberia. They admitted to trade with Nigerians and Chinese in volumes of tons. They ran a cross-border trade with one based in Liberia and the other across the border. The brothers turned very fast against each other revealing much insights on the organised illegal trade threatening pangolins. They used motorcycles to transport the contraband across the border.
- 2 traffickers were arrested in August with 122 kg of pangolin scales in Abidjan. One of them is based in Liberia and the other in Côte d'Ivoire. They developed a growing illegal business generating the mass slaughter of pangolins. The Liberia-based trafficker smuggled the pangolin scales from Liberia to Abidjan. He met the second trafficker who concealed the contraband in her store as they searched for prospective buyers. They were arrested in a small street in a popular neighbourhood in Abidjan as they offloaded 3 bags containing the pangolin scales from a hired taxi. The case is similar to the arrest last June of 2 brothers in Guiglo, an Ivorian town near Liberia, with 153 kg of pangolin scales. They also smuggled it from Liberia. It shows how corruption effectively enables cross border trafficking.
- 2 traffickers were arrested with 66 kg of giant pangolin scales in October in Cameroon. One of the traffickers, a Nigerian, has been operating his ring for at least four years known to our investigations. They travelled some 75 km to Yaounde with the giant pangolin scales concealed in 2 grains bags. They were arrested at a bus station where they concealed the pangolin scales while attempting to sell it.
- 2 traffickers were arrested in October with 180 kg of giant pangolin scales in Cameroon. They smuggled the 7 sacks from the east of the country to Yaounde. The sacks were hidden in pepper and wild fruits and transported in trucks. One of the traffickers was arrested as he attempted to sell the scales. He denounced the second who was arrested a couple of hours later. They are experienced traffickers who used dealing in wild mango as a front business for their trafficking. The quantity of giant pangolin scales seized is very significant considering it is from the species of pangolin that is most difficult to find in country because of intense poaching pressures.
- 3 traffickers were arrested in December with 120 kg pangolin scales in Cameroon. Two of them were activating several poachers generating a regular massive killing of pangolins. One of the traffickers used his motorcycle to transport the scales. They are experienced in trafficking pangolin scales and complained that the Covid 19 pandemic hampered their activity, but they were quickly picking up where they left off before the pandemic started. The area is widely known for the illicit bushmeat trade

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## Birds

**2 operations were carried with the rescue of over 100 African grey parrots in Congo and in Cameroon.**

- A trafficker arrested in the Republic of Congo with 94 African grey parrots in February. They were squeezed and smuggled in used plastic containers causing 11 of them to die. The rescued parrots were taken to the Tchimpounga sanctuary. This is the sixth parrot trafficker arrested in 3 months. We believe he is the

supplier of many traffickers in Brazzaville and elsewhere. Investigations are ongoing. The illegal trade in African Grey Parrots is underestimated in its criminality. Its illicit revenue margin is higher than of ivory, turning it to a highly centralized and organized form of trafficking enabled by complicity and corruption.

- 4 traffickers were arrested in December with 28 African Grey parrots in Cameroon. The crackdown dismantled a ring of parrot traffickers operating in the East of the country. They transported the parrots, crammed tight in a small wooden cage, in a vehicle to the place of transaction. They were arrested as they attempted to sell the parrots. They were leading a ring of local poachers who captured live African grey parrots. They also sold parrots to some notorious parrot trafficking networks in Yaounde and farther afield. Several parrots were sold by the traffickers during the period of the investigations that took a couple of months.

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## Reptiles

- A trafficker was arrested with a sea turtle and 123 eggs in his house in Pointe Noire by the gendarmerie in August. The trafficker caught the turtle on the beach and unfortunately killed it before he was arrested. He planned to sell the meat even though he was perfectly aware his actions were illegal. He worked as a machine operator for a Chinese fishing company.

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## Other arrests

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

- 4 traffickers were arrested in Cameroon, in September with 2 human skeletons. They transported the skeletons concealed inside a big plastic bag the south west of the country to Douala where they lodged in a luxury hotel. Later, they moved to another hotel to sell the skeletons when the arresting team jumped in and apprehended them red handed. Their arrest is a result of an investigation into the illegal online trade in pangolin scales and leopard skins to India. LAGA and the entire EAGLE Network, as activists, do our best to fight injustice. Human sacrifice and the illegal trade in human bones for black magic and rituals is one of such horrible crimes.
- The EAGLE Team in the Congo Republic carried out a long-term important investigation against an international live animals trafficking network leading to an arrest of a trafficker in DRC. He was arrested in May with 20 Guereza Colobus monkeys, 15 marabou storks and 15 crowned cranes. The arrest was brought about by Conserv Congo and the authorities.

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## 5. Legal Follow Up

The EAGLE Network legal teams in the 7 countries followed up the court cases of the 141 arrested traffickers. All the court cases were followed fighting corruption and ensuring imprisonment terms handed. 84 % of the arrested traffickers remained behind bars while on trial, at least from the beginning.

During the semester 173 traffickers were prosecuted and 117 of them convicted to imprisonment sentences of various time. The majority of the 56 others were either handed suspended prison sentences with fines and damages. This year saw an improvement in sentencing as Gabon and Congo got more deterring punishments handed. Some examples of good court decisions include:

- 2 traffickers were sentenced in March in Cameroon to 19 months in jail. They were arrested in August with 246 kg of pangolin scales.
- 4 ivory traffickers were sentenced in March to 6 months in prison in Gabon. They were arrested in September 2021 with 4 elephant tusks.
- A trafficker was sentenced in March in Gabon to one year in prison. He was arrested in August 2021 with two elephant tusks, a leopard skin, a python head, giant pangolin scales, an elephant tail, a monkey skull and 12 leopard teeth.
- 3 traffickers were sentenced in Gabon in March to one and a half year in jail. They were arrested in December 2020 with 8 elephant tusks.
- A trafficker was sentenced in March to one and a half year in jail in Côte d'Ivoire. He was arrested in the same month with 5 elephant tusks.
- A trafficker was sentenced in March to 6 months in prison in Côte d'Ivoire. He was arrested in February with 15 elephant tusks.
- 2 traffickers were sentenced in April to 5 years in prison. They were arrested in Congo by the police last year for killing chimpanzees and elephants.
- A trafficker was sentenced in April to one year in prison in Gabon. He was arrested in February 2022 with 2 elephant tusks.
- A trafficker was sentenced in April to one year in jail. He was arrested in December last year in Gabon with 2 elephant tusks
- A trafficker was sentenced in April to 8 months in prison in Gabon. He was arrested in March with 4 elephant tusks.
- 2 traffickers were sentenced in May to 8 months in jail. They were arrested in November last year with 9 ivory tusks.



- 3 ivory traffickers were sentenced in May to 5 years in prison in the Republic of Congo . They were arrested in February with 14 elephant tusks.
- An ivory trafficker was sentenced in May to 2 years in prison in the Republic of Congo. He was arrested in February last year with 3 elephant tusks and 11 ivory pieces.
- 3 traffickers were sentenced in June to 6 months in prison in Gabon. They were arrested in March 2022 with 2 elephant tusks.
- 3 traffickers were sentenced in June to 6 months in jail in Gabon. They were arrested in April 2022 with 4 elephant tusks and 3 leopard skins.
- A trafficker was sentenced in in June to one year in prison. He was arrested in February 2022 with 6 pieces of ivory weighing some 20 kg in Gabon.
- 3 traffickers were sentenced in June to 9 months in jail in Gabon. They were arrested in May 2022 with 2 ivory tusks.
- 2 traffickers were sentenced in June to 6 months in jail in Gabon. They were arrested in March 2022 with 8 pieces of ivory.
- 2 traffickers were sentenced in June to 6 months in jail in Senegal. They were arrested in July 2019 with lion, leopard and crocodile skins.
- 3 traffickers were sentenced in July to 2 years in prison in Gabon. They were arrested in April 2022 with 2 elephant tusks.
- 3 traffickers were sentenced in July to one and a half years in jail in Gabon. They were arrested in April 2022 with 3 elephant tusks.
- A trafficker was sentenced in July to 14 months in jail in Gabon. He was arrested in March 2022 with an ivory tusk.
- A trafficker was sentenced in July to 10 months in prison in Gabon. He was arrested in April 2022 with 2 elephant tusks.
- A trafficker was sentenced in August to one year in prison in Gabon. He was arrested in April 2022 with 2 elephant tusks.
- 3 traffickers were sentenced in August to 11 months in jail in Gabon. Two of them were arrested in March 2022 with several pieces of ivory including sculpted ivory and the third in April 2022.
- A trafficker was sentenced in August to one year in jail in Gabon. He was arrested in May 2022 with 2 elephant tusks.
- A trafficker was sentenced in September to one year in prison in Congo. He was arrested last month with a dead sea turtle and 123 eggs. This is a strong decision especially as marine cases are often overlooked.
- An ivory trafficker was sentenced in September to one year in prison in Gabon. He was arrested in March with 3 elephant tusks.

- 2 traffickers were sentenced in October to 13 months in prison in Cameroon. They were arrested in April with 365 kg of pangolin scales.
- 2 traffickers were sentenced in October to 5 years in prison in Cameroon. They were arrested in September with 2 human skeletons. Their arrest was the result of an investigation on the illegal online trade in leopard skins to India.
- 2 traffickers were sentenced in December, in Congo to prison; the first one to 3 years and the second to one and a half years in prison. They were arrested in January 2021 with 4 elephant tusks, several carved and sculpted ivory pieces.
- The Court of Appeal confirmed in December, in Congo, the prison sentence given to 2 traffickers arrested in May 2022 with 2 leopard skins and other parts. They were sentenced to 2 years in prison by the Court of First Instance. The convicts had appealed the court decision.
- A trafficker was sentenced in December to one and a half years in prison in Gabon. She was arrested in November with 4 elephant tusks.
- A trafficker was sentenced in December to 6 months in prison in Gabon. He was arrested in September with 4 elephant tusks.
- 3 traffickers were sentenced in December to 2 years in prison in Gabon. They were arrested in September with 6 elephant tusks.

## 6. Media

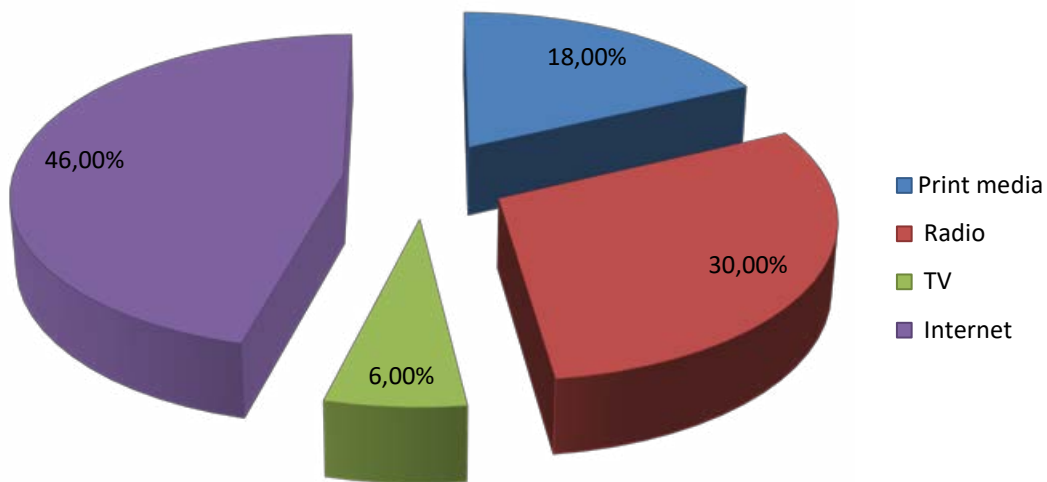
Using the media to inform the public that the law is being actively enforced maximizes the deterrent value of our actions and the rising risks for potential traffickers to get to jail.

In order to provide a deterrent effect, 1,966 media pieces were published in national media.

The distribution of the media pieces on national media were 46 % on internet, 30 % in radio, 18 % in print media and 6 % on TV.

EAGLE Network members also appeared on the international media scene and several international pieces were published.

**Split of Media Pieces**



*Fig. 4: Split of Media Pieces*

## Number of Media Pieces Published in January - December 2022

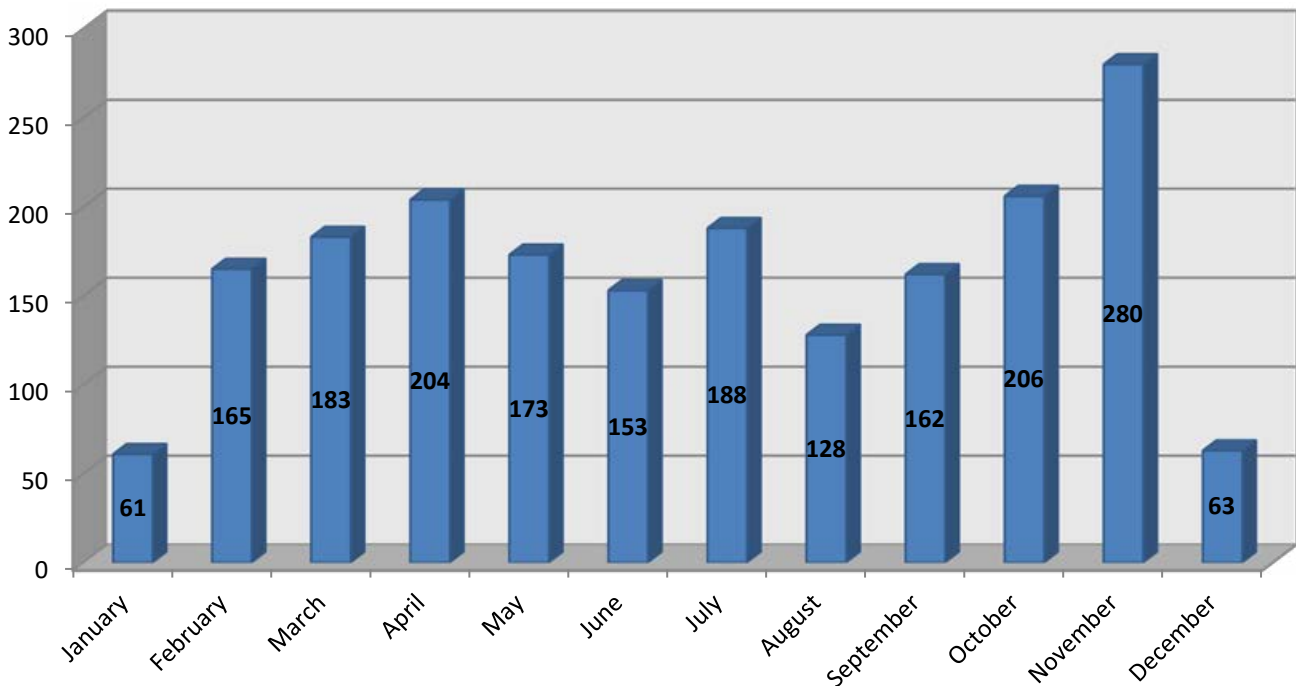


Fig. 5: Numbers of media pieces published in January - December 2022

## International media

- The Activities Coordinator in Gabon granted an interview in March to Euronews, an international TV news channel, on wildlife trafficking and law enforcement efforts in Gabon.
- In May the Deputy Director participated in the filming of the series dubbed *Unsung Heroes* by Wildaid in Cameroon. The series seek to shade light on conservationists for their contribution in protecting wildlife.
- 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](#)

- The Coordinator in Congo gave interviews in February to a film crew shooting a documentary on the work of the Tchimpounga sanctuary that shall feature the rescue and care of the African grey parrots.
- In July, under the framework of The Global Portrait Project, the portrait of the LAGA Deputy Director in Cameroon, was published online. The portrait was painted by artist James Nickells who is the founder of the Global Portrait Project. He is painting an environmental activist from each of the 196 countries chosen from around the world. The Deputy Director was selected for Cameroon. [You can watch the painting here.](#)
- In September, the LAGA Media Officer travelled to Austria where she participated at the Jackson Wild Summit 2022. She held several meetings with film makers, producers, media and NGO officials on possible areas of media collaboration in the fight against wildlife crime.
- In July Ofir Drori did a presentation titled Human Rights Violation, Corruption and Bad Enforcement during a side event organized in conjunction with Paul Elkan at the IUCN Africa Protected Areas Congress that was held in Kigali, Rwanda. During the presentation, he brought to focus the poor management of some parks and the refusal to have an open and honest discussion on the root causes. The presentation was streamed live with over 5,000 online viewers attending. Watch the talk [here.](#)



- Ofir Drori was guest on a Wild Mission Podcast that narrates the story of the how he moved from a journalist passing through Cameroon to an activist fighting wildlife crime and corruption. The interview focuses on the work carried out by the Network across the African countries where it operates and the dangers and effects of wildlife criminality. [Listen to the podcast here.](#)
- The online streaming site Mojo Streaming did an interview with Ofir Drori on his early beginnings, fight against wildlife crime and corruption, activism and wildlife law enforcement within the EAGLE Network. [Listen to the interview here.](#)
- In December Ofir Drori did a presentation on the illegal trade in great apes and corruption at a side event of the CITES CoP 19. The event focused on how to stop the illegal trade in primates and was organized by CATCA Environmental and Wildlife Society and the International Primate Protection League. [You can watch the presentation here.](#)

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## 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, meetings with traditional rulers, they cooperated with local and international NGOs, participated in conferences and conducted several trainings.

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### Cameroon

- The Deputy Director participated in February at a meeting that included wildlife and NGO officials to discuss sections of the new wildlife bill that tackles wildlife crime.
- In April, the Deputy Director travelled to Abidjan where he participated at workshop that focused on illicit economies and conflict in West Africa. Organized by Global Initiative Against Transnational Crime (GI TOC), participants were drawn mainly from areas linked to the fight against organized crime in the sub region.
- In May the Deputy Director held a meeting at the US Embassy in Yaounde with officials of the Regional Environment Office of the US Embassy in Accra, Ghana. Discussions focused on several conservation initiatives including wildlife law enforcement.
- The Deputy Director held a meeting in September with the Sub Director of Development and Wildlife Exploitation to discuss issues related to the signing of a new Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife and lawyers' representation in wildlife cases in court.
- The Deputy Director held a meeting in October with the Director of Criminal Affairs at the Ministry of Justice to discuss an ongoing matter and strengthen collaboration.

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### Congo

- In November, the official renewal of the Collaboration Agreement was signed between the Government of the Republic of the Congo and the Aspinall Foundation on behalf of the PALF project. Several high



diplomats attended the ceremony including the European Union Ambassador, the German Ambassador and the Attaché of Internal Security representing the French Embassy. This ceremony came after a long time effort by the PALF Coordinator.

- In February, the Coordinator met with some high ranking wildlife officials from Guinea to strengthen collaboration and the fight against wildlife trafficking. She held meetings with Charlotte Houpline, the Director of a Guinean-based NGO WARA and formerly Coordinator of the EAGLE project in Guinea and discussions focused on the fight against wildlife crime.
- In March, the Coordinator, accompanied by the Aspinall Foundation Coordinator, met with the new Italian Ambassador to discuss the fight against wildlife trafficking in the country.
- In April, the Coordinator held meetings with WWF delegations from France, Netherlands and Cameroon during a mission to the north of Congo to discuss wildlife trafficking and strengthen collaboration. She was accompanied by the ETIC (Espace TRIDOM Interzone Congo) Manager
- The Coordinator participated in May at the Europe Day celebrations where she met with several diplomatic officials including Ambassadors of the European Union, the United States and Italy. She also met with the General Director of the Ministry of Forest Economy, the General Director of the Congolese Agency for Wildlife and Protected Areas.
- In May, the Coordinator participated at an event organized for the departing Head of the Consular Section and the Head of the Political and Economic Section of the US Embassy.
- The Coordinator held a meeting in June with an INTERPOL Criminal Intelligence Officer of the Regional Bureau for Central Africa. They discussed ongoing cases and the strengthening of collaboration.
- The Coordinator participated in June at the Italian Republic Day event held at the Italian Ambassador's residence. During the ceremony, she had brief discussions with the Italian Ambassador, the EU Ambassador and the Ambassador of Venezuela among several other dignitaries and officials.
- The Coordinator met with the United States Ambassador and the Senior Advisor for the Central Africa Regional Program for the Environment (CARPE) in July to introduce the project and discuss illegal wildlife trade in the country.
- The Coordinator in December met several times with some top wildlife officials including the Director General, the Cooperation Director and Wildlife Adviser at the Ministry of Forestry Economy to follow up on procedures regarding the recently signed MoU. Discussions also focused on ongoing wildlife cases and strengthening of collaboration.

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## Gabon

- In January, the Executive Director held a meeting with the Minister of Water and Forests and the Director General of Wildlife and Protected areas to strengthen collaboration

- The Executive Director and the Activities Coordinator held a meeting in January with the Director of Cabinet of the Commander-in-Chief of the National Gendarmerie on the possibility of organizing trainings for officers and agents at the National Gendarmerie School.
- In April a legal adviser, assisted by the Activities Coordinator, facilitated a workshop that focused on the role played by Conservation Justice in fighting wildlife crime. The workshop brought together 25 trainee officers from all branches of the gendarmerie. It served as a prelude to a workshop for cadet officers to be organized in the coming months.
- In October, the Executive Director and the Activities Coordinator held several meetings with administrative and judicial authorities of the Estuaire Province, including the General Director of Research, the Head of Investigations at the Directorate of General Research (DGR), the Secretary General of the Ministry of Justice, the Inspector General of the Ministry of Justice, the Executive Director of the National Parks Agency to strengthen collaboration and follow up on ongoing cases.
- They held a meeting with the Defence Attaché of the US Embassy and another meeting with officials of UNODC to discuss wildlife crime and law enforcement.
- In December, the Activities Coordinator held a meeting with a delegation from the US Embassy to discuss wildlife crime in the country and strengthen collaboration.
- He held another meeting with the Director General of the National Police Academy to discuss training opportunities and strengthen collaboration in fighting wildlife crime.
- Several meetings were held by the Activities Coordinator and legal advisers with several diplomatic, high-ranking administrative, judicial and wildlife officials to strengthen collaboration and to follow up ongoing wildlife cases.

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## Togo

- In January, the Coordinator held a meeting with the US Ambassador who was assisted by his close collaborators to introduce the organization and strengthen collaboration.
- In January, the Coordinator and the Assistant Coordinator had a series of meetings with European Union officials, namely, the First Secretary, the Head of the Infrastructure and Environment Team, the Attaché in Charge of the Decentralization, Security and Justice Program and the Infrastructure Program Officer to strengthen collaboration and request for support in order to advance the process of registering EAGLE-Togo with the Ministry of Territorial Administration. They also held a meeting with the Police Commander of the French Embassy to strengthen collaboration.
- In February the Assistant Coordinator held a meeting with the Head of the Protected Areas and Wildlife Division, CITES Focal Point who was assisted by the OCRTIDB and Interpol Project Officer and Focal Point for Operations to strengthen collaboration in the fight against wildlife crime. They equally discussed issues related to the repatriation to Cameroon of parrots seized in Togo in October 2021.

- In June the Assistant Coordinator participated at the US Independence Day event during which he had brief discussions with the Minister of Environment and Forestry Resources, the US Ambassador, the official in charge of diplomatic issues at the French Embassy. During discussions, he focused on the activities of EAGLE Togo and the strengthening of collaboration in the fight against wildlife crime.
- In September, the Assistant Coordinator met with the Minister of the Environment and Forest Resources to discuss the signing of the MoU and strengthen the fight against wildlife trafficking in the country. He used the occasion to present the results obtained by EAGLE Togo within the framework of the collaboration with the Ministry.
- He held a meeting with the Chief of the Protected Areas and Wildlife Division and CITES Focal Point, to explore collaborative avenues to effectively combat illegal wildlife exports.
- He held a meeting with the President and some members of the National Financial Information Processing Unit (CENTIF), to build collaboration in fighting corruption and wildlife crime.
- In December, the Interim Coordinator held a meeting with the Director of the INTERPOL National Central Bureau to discuss wildlife crime and strengthen collaboration.

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## Senegal

- In January, the Coordinator held meetings with some high officials of the French, US and UK Embassies to strengthen collaboration.
- In April, EAGLE Senegal and the General Directorate of the National Police of Senegal signed a partnership agreement to fight wildlife crime in the country.
- The Coordinator met briefly with the French Minister of the Interior during a reception organized in his honor at the French Embassy in Senegal.
- During the year, the Legal Team followed up the various pending issues with the 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.
- The Team presented various modules on combatting wildlife crime during 8 training sessions for 214 law enforcement officers from various departments including customs, wildlife, police and the gendarmerie during the year. The objective of the trainings was to provide theoretical, practical and operational skills in fighting wildlife crime.

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## Côte d'Ivoire

- In April, the Coordinator and a legal advisor participated at workshop that focused on illicit economies and conflict in West Africa. Organized by GI TOC, participants were from the West and Central Africa sub regions.

- In July, the Coordinator met the Wildlife Director and CITES Focal Point to discuss live animal trafficking in the country and the sub region. They also discussed future collaboration between EAGLE Côte d'Ivoire and the Ministry of Wildlife and Forests in the fight against wildlife crime. They also met again in September discuss training sessions for wildlife officers.
- He several held meetings with the UCT (Unité de lutte contre la Criminalité Transnationale) to advance on long term investigations and to prepare for operations.

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## **Burkina Faso**

- In February, the Coordinator held a meeting with the Secretary General of the Ministry of Environment and Ecological Transition and with two of his collaborators to discuss the fight against wildlife crime and strengthen collaboration.
- In April, the Coordinator and a legal adviser discussed with the Director of Wildlife and Hunting Resources on the online completion of the Elephant Trade and Information System (ETIS) form.
- In May, the Coordinator held meetings with officials of the Justice and Project Management Program of the European Union. Discussions focused on the progress made by Conservation Justice in Burkina and the obstacles encountered.

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## **8. Headquarters and Development of the EAGLE Network**

At the start of the year, travel restrictions put in place to stem the spread of the Covid 19 virus hindered the smooth travelling for Central Coordination Unit (CCU) and Steering group members. Nevertheless, as the restrictions were eased, a couple of CCU members could travelled to provide support to the network members. This was further strengthened via the internet through videoconferencing and several media platforms to keep the quality of the work of all teams high.

The restructuring of the EAGLE Uganda project, with support from CCU, was done with recruitment and training done. It is expected that the team shall go fully operational in 2023.

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

- Ofir Drori travelled in May to Holland for a week-long meeting with Future For Nature that gave him an award in 2016. He had handed awards to other winners in the past. He has been central in the process of turning the Future for Nature from an annual award to a vibrant community and family of passionate entrepreneur conservationists. This time the group met for intense five days of discussions, presentations, and meetings with audiences of nature lovers, students and private sector. It was also used for networking and increasing collaboration on specific work.
- EAGLE advised and supported Czech conservationists in cracking down an Indonesian live animals trafficking ring in Sumatra and the arrest of its top member - a trafficker nicknamed "Greed".
- Danielle Mbui, the EAGLE Finance Officer travelled to the Republic of Congo in August for a three-week mission to train the accountant on EAGLE financial procedures.
- On the side-lines of the CITES 19<sup>th</sup> Conference of Parties that took place in November in Panama City, Ofir Drori participated at a zoom meeting of IUCN Cat Specialist Group that worked on drawing up an action plan for African lions in the northern half of the continent. He focused on pushing for the inclusion of trafficking in lion parts in the action plan. He also gave a talk to Canadian wildlife law enforcement officials on Investigations and Enforcement relating to the illegal ivory trade.
- In November, the EAGLE Côte d'Ivoire Coordinator travelled to Congo for a two-week long mission. He worked with the PALF Coordinator on investigations, recruitment and participated at the signing ceremony of the Collaboration Agreement between the Government of the Republic of the Congo and the PALF

project. They met several top diplomats including the Italian, German and the European Union Ambassadors and high level officials of the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Forestry Economy.

- The EAGLE Senegal Coordinator represented the EAGLE Network at the 33<sup>rd</sup> INTERPOL Wildlife Crime Working Group meeting which took place in December, in Singapore. She did a presentation on different arrests pointing to links between wildlife crime and armed groups and extremists in the Sahel. During the presentation she also highlighted the work of the Network across Africa. She met and discussed with several INTERPOL officials on EAGLE activities, the fight against wildlife crimes and other crimes and the strengthening of collaboration.

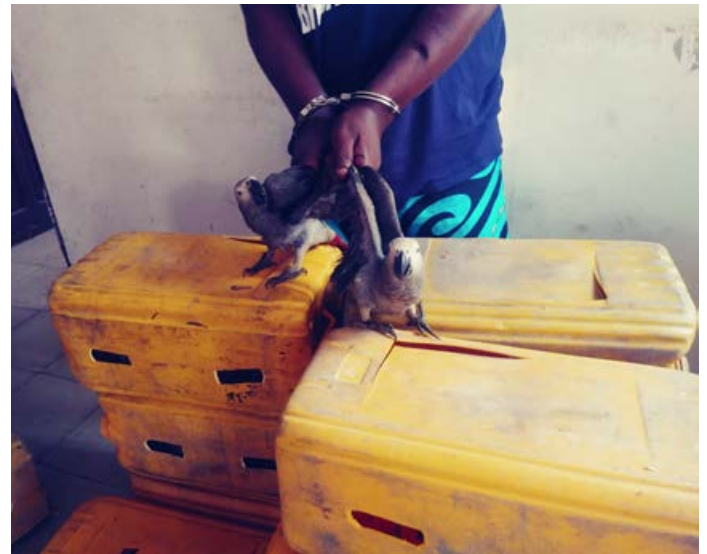


## 9. Photos of the selected cases

### A trafficker arrested with 94 African Grey Parrots in Congo in February

A trafficker arrested with 94 African Grey Parrots. They were squeezed and smuggled in used plastic containers causing 11 of them to die. The rescued parrots were taken to the Tchimpounga sanctuary. This is the sixth parrot trafficker arrested in 3 months. We believe he is the supplier of many traffickers in Brazzaville and elsewhere. Investigations are ongoing. The illegal trade in African Grey Parrots is under-

estimated in its criminality. Its illicit revenue margin is higher than of ivory, turning it to a highly centralized and organized form of trafficking enabled by complicity and corruption.



## **A trafficker arrested with 246 kg of pangolin scales in February in Cameroon**

A trafficker arrested with 246 kg of pangolin scales, and in a refrigerator more pangolins and monkey carcasses found. He activated several traffickers and poachers in the area, who supplied the illegal products. He had the storage facilities for keeping the big quantities of contraband he collected. The seizure represents a massacre of more than a thousand pangolins.





## **A trafficker arrested in Cameroon in March with 2 baby chimps**

A traditional chief arrested and 2 baby chimps rescued. He had iron cages to detain and imprison wild animals including the baby chimps that kept holding the bars desperately longing to be outside. At one point during his arrest, the traditional chief shouted - “bring me my gun! I will kill these animals; they will not be taken alive from here”. He resisted arrest and tried to bully the arresting team to letting him free. He

bought the animals in the south of the country and attempted to sell them in Yaoundé.



## **4 traffickers arrested with 4 elephant tusks in April in Gabon**

4 traffickers arrested with 4 elephant tusks, 3 leopard skins, an elephant tail and 5 leopard teeth. A worker with the public works department and a high school student were arrested during their attempt to sell the contraband in Oyem, a town in northern Gabon. The worker denounced a third trafficker who was arrested at his home and a house search done. Several 375 rifle bullets were found during the search. He also denounced 2 other traffickers who were arrested. One of them is the father of the high school student. He shot and killed an elephant from which he extracted a pair of tusks and the tail. A house search found rifle bullets at his home some 34 km from Oyem. He also led the arresting team to the carcass



of the elephant he killed 6 months ago. The second is a teacher who admitted to owning 2 tusks. The products were found in two travelling bags that were concealed inside a vehicle that was driven by the student. Charges were not brought against the student.

## **A trafficker arrested with 2 elephant tusks in April in Gabon**

A trafficker arrested with 2 elephant tusks. The trafficker, a Beninese national, was arrested as he attempted to sell the ivory. He arrived at the place of the transaction in a taxi carrying a backpack that concealed the tusks.





## 6 traffickers arrested with 5 elephant tusks and chimpanzee meat in March in Cameroon

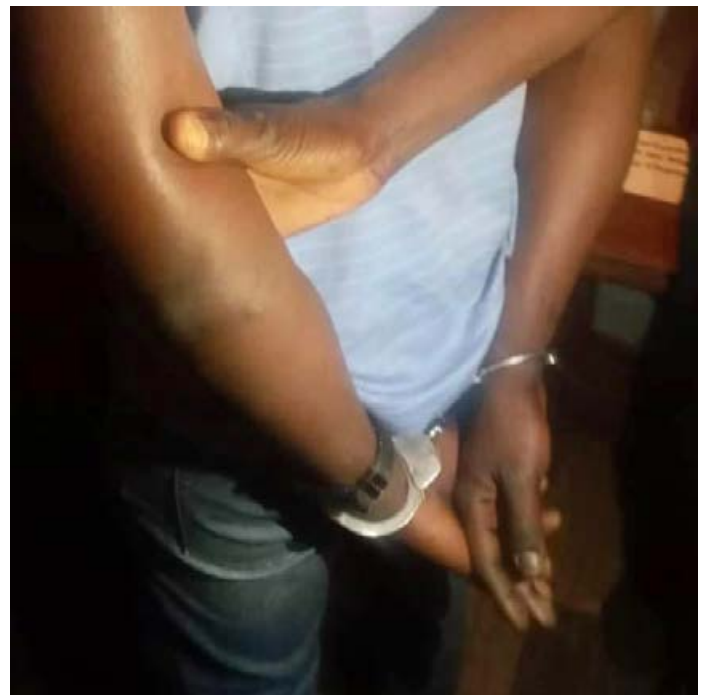
6 traffickers arrested with 5 elephant tusks and chimpanzee meat in a crackdown on a criminal ring in the south of the country. The first trafficker was arrested with the elephant tusks. He denounced the other traffickers who were arrested in a series of arrests during the following two days. One of them concealed parts of protected wildlife species including the limbs and other parts of a chimp in his car. A dead pangolin was also recovered from the vehicle.





### **3 traffickers arrested with 2 leopard skins and 3 aardvark feet in April in Senegal**

3 traffickers arrested with 2 leopard skins and 3 aardvark feet. The trafficking ring has been active for two decades, generating the killings of big cats in the east of the country and in the Niokolo-Koba national park. Two of the traffickers transported the contraband in a vehicle belonging to one of them. They concealed the leopard skins in a grain bag and the aardvark feet in a school bag. A fourth trafficker was arrested by the gendarmerie 24 hours later. The arresting team persisted in getting the traffickers arrested despite several challenges.





## 4 traffickers arrested in April in Burkina Faso

4 traffickers arrested with an elephant tusk and several carved ivory items, an elephant tail and 8 pieces of elephant hide, a hippo skull and teeth, 8 crocodile skins and more. The first trafficker was arrested with the contraband which he transported in a three-wheeler motorcycle. He denounced the other traffickers who were arrested. They had been in the illegal business for a long time and this runs through the family, from father to son. 3 of the traffickers are brothers.



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## **A trafficker arrested with 328 kg of pangolin scales in April in Côte d'Ivoire**

A trafficker arrested with 328 kg of pangolin scales. He is “the Money Man” financing the illicit operations of an organized criminal ring that had already been attacked twice in the past years by EAGLE Côte d'Ivoire team. One of the operations took place in 2017 when 3 tons of pangolin scales were seized. They are a very closed and cautious ring. It took huge efforts to net this key player of the network. A large cash amount was found at his home during a house search. This seizure, a snapshot of the ongoing regular illegal trade of this gang, represents a maximum of around 2,000 killed pangolins. The traffickers use remoted villages in the country to conceal tons of scales.



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## **2 traffickers arrested with 153 kg of pangolin scales in June in Côte d'Ivoire**

2 traffickers arrested with 153 kg of pangolin scales. They are brothers and were arrested near the border with Liberia. They admitted to trade with Nigerians and Chinese in volumes of tons. They ran a cross-border trade with one based in Liberia and the other across the border. The brothers turned very fast against each other revealing much insights on the organised illegal trade threatening pangolins. They used motorcycles to transport the contraband across the border.





## 2 traffickers of big cats skins arrested in May in Togo

2 traffickers arrested with 2 lion skins, 5 leopard skins and 3 serval skins in a major crackdown on big cat skin trafficking in the country. 16 hippo teeth and 30 lion claws were also seized. They used a motorcycle to move the contraband that was concealed in two bags. One of them was arrested as he attempted to sell the contraband and he led the arresting team to the second trafficker who was waiting for his share of the money. He was arrested at his residence. The skins were trafficked from West and Central Africa.



## 2 traffickers arrested with 2 elephant tusks in May in Congo

2 traffickers arrested with 2 elephant tusks weighing 20 kg. They were arrested during a brief but intense chase. The cautious and smart traffickers attempted to escape on a motorcycle at the moment of their arrest. The arresting team that was on the alert, quickly responded to the fleeing traffickers, immobilized and handcuffed them. One of the traffickers is a repeat offender who had been convicted several times and the second is a Malian. They were extremely suspicious and tried several clever moves to avoid arrest.





## **A trafficker arrested with a baby chimpanzee in Gabon in June**

A trafficker arrested with a baby chimpanzee and a moustache guenon. Links are under investigation for complicity of a local wildlife officer. The animals were handed to the Centre International de Recherches Médicales de Franceville (CIRMF) for quarantine before moving to the Lekedi Park which is a natural habitat.



## **3 traffickers arrested with 81 kg of ivory and a leopard skin in Gabon in June**

3 traffickers arrested with 81 kg of ivory and a leopard skin. The ivory trafficking is linked to some personnel of the justice system of the area. One of the three arrested, a non-permanent worker in the secretariat of the State Counsel, was given by other officials some of the tusks from the court evidence room to trade. The traffickers tried trading the ivory at night. The elephant tusks that had marks on them were concealed in two large suitcases. A total of 6 elephant tusks and 17 ivory pieces were recovered. Investigations continues against accomplices in the court.



## An ivory trafficker arrested in Senegal in June

A trafficker arrested with 35 ivory bracelets, 20 elephant tail bracelets and a tiny tusk. The truncated and carved tusk was so small that a baby elephant had to be murdered to get it. He was arrested as he attempted trade in the tusk. He was cautious and tough to handle. He spends much of his time in Europe and has been trafficking ivory for 20 years. This was a second arrest operation of the World Environment Day – June 5.



## An ivory trafficker arrested in Gabon in August

A trafficker arrested with 12 elephant tusks weighing 19.6 kg. He was arrested as he attempted to sell the tusks. The trafficker concealed the tusks inside water in a river. He arrived at the scene of transaction shortly before his arrest with the tusks concealed inside a rice bag. He transported the bag in a wheelbarrow.





## 2 traffickers arrested with 122 kg of pangolin scales in Côte d'Ivoire in August

2 traffickers arrested with 122 kg of pangolin scales in Abidjan. One of them is based in Liberia and the other in Côte d'Ivoire. They developed a growing illegal business generating the mass slaughter of pangolins. The Liberia-based trafficker smuggled the pangolin scales from Liberia to Abidjan. He met the second trafficker who concealed the contraband in her store as they searched for prospective buyers. They were arrested in a small street in a popular neighbourhood in Abidjan as they offloaded 3 bags containing the pangolin scales from a hired taxi. The case is similar to the arrest last June of 2 brothers in Guiglo, an Ivorian town near Liberia, with 153 kg of pangolin scales. They also smuggled it from Liberia. It shows how corruption effectively enables cross border trafficking.



## 5 traffickers arrested with 2 elephant tusks in togo in August

5 traffickers arrested with 2 elephant tusks. In December last year, an elephant was shot and killed in the Fazao-Malfakassa National Park by one of the traffickers. He entrusted the 2 tusks from the elephant to a second trafficker who was assisted by 3 others to search for a buyer. The 4 traffickers were arrested as they attempted to sell the elephant tusks in Sokodé, a town in Central Togo. They arrived the scene of transaction with the elephant tusks concealed among fresh grass in a rice



bag that was strapped to a motorcycle. Two of the traffickers tried to escape during the arrest operation but were quickly apprehended. They denounced the trafficker who shot the elephant in the park and he too was swiftly arrested.



## 2 traffickers arrested with 10 elephant tusks in Cameroon in September

■ 2 traffickers arrested with 10 elephant tusks weighing 56 kg. They concealed the tusks in a suitcase and transported it on a motorcycle to a residence where they were expected to carry out the transaction. Soon after they arrived, the arresting team moved in and apprehended them. The contraband was concealed in Briqueterie, a notorious neighbourhood in Yaounde known for wildlife trafficking and other dangerous criminal activities. The traffickers belong to a trafficking ring operating in major ivory trafficking hotspots in the country and especially in a town close to the border with Gabon and Equatorial Guinea. The



traffickers are linked to Abdoul Salami, arrested in 2021 with 2 tons of pangolin scales and leopard skins. The ring operates in Congo, Gabon, Nigeria and beyond. Close relatives attempted to free the traffickers by applying pressure on wildlife officials but the attempts were combated.

### 3 ivory traffickers arrested in Cameroon in September

3 traffickers arrested with almost 100 kg of ivory in a crackdown on a Nigerian ivory gang. They were arrested in Douala's notorious New Bell neighbourhood. The arresting team stormed the residence of one of the traffickers and seized the ivory concealed in two suitcases. The traffickers blocked the entrance to the residence, hid inside different rooms but were found one after the other and arrested. The ring controlled trafficking lines to Nigeria and to Côte d'Ivoire and moved ivory from as far as Congo. One of them claimed to have been smuggling ivory for over 35 years.





## A primate trafficker arrested in Congo in September



A trafficker arrested and a mandrill rescued. He is a national of the neighbouring Democratic Republic of Congo. The mandrill was transferred to the Tchimpounga sanctuary for care and support. He shall be rehabilitated at the sanctuary with the intention to integrate him back into the wild.

## **A corrupt wildlife officer arrested in Congo in September**

3 traffickers, including a corrupt wildlife officer, arrested with 2 ivory tusks. The arrested official is a Chief of Post at the Ministry of Forestry Economy. The wildlife officer of 15 years of service was violent during the arrest and injured a gendarme in his fight to escape. For long, the corrupt officer was deep into ivory trafficking, taking a percentage of the profits and leading negotiations and transactions. He also facilitated movements using his rank as cover to get through control barriers and checkpoints without being checked. This is a strong action by the Ministry against bad practices and for good governance and a win in the fight against corruption. The Ministry responded vigorously, fighting corruption and trafficking in its ranks.





## 2 traffickers arrested with 180 kg of giant pangolin scales in Cameroon in October

2 traffickers arrested with 180 kg of giant pangolin scales. They smuggled the 7 sacks from the east of the country to Yaoundé. The sacks were hidden in pepper and wild fruits and transported in trucks. One of the traffickers was arrested as he attempted to sell the scales. He denounced the second who was arrested a couple of hours later. They are experienced traffickers who used dealing in wild mango as a front business for their trafficking. The quantity of giant pangolin scales seized is very significant considering it is from the species of pangolin that is most difficult to find in country because of intense poaching pressures.





### 3 traffickers arrested in Togo in October

3 traffickers arrested with 50 ivory statues, an elephant tail and 11 lion teeth in a crackdown on a major criminal network. 2 traffickers, a Guinean and a Liberian, were arrested attempting to sell the ivory. They denounced the third who is a Senegalese and wealthy owner of a jewellery shop. He was arrested and confessed that lines of supply for the lion teeth to produce necklaces are from Ghana and Nigeria, while elephant tails lines to produce bracelets are from Cameroon. This ring of traffickers is linked to several infamous ones, including the network of Kromah Moazu, the EAGLE arrest from 2017 in Kampala with 1.3 tons of ivory. The 3 arrested engaged also in rhino horn trafficking and trafficking of gold and precious stones.



## 2 traffickers arrested with a leopard skin in Senegal in November

2 traffickers arrested with a leopard skin. On their phones were horrible images of massacred lions and elephants as well as human rights atrocities, dead human bodies, and huge stocks of automatic weapons. The traffickers, one of whom is a Niger national, smuggled the skin from Mali. Examining the skin, we believe the poacher they activated shot the leopard a

few times at the spine, crippling it and only after a lot of misery, shot it to death in short range. This arrest shows a link between the illegal wildlife trade and jihadists and armed factions in Mali, Burkina Faso and Niger with connections to some North African countries.







## **Pangolin - the most trafficked mammal in the world**

Over 1,730kg of pangolin scales were seized during 10 operations against 22 traffickers who were arrested in 2022. In the month of October alone, 4 traffickers were arrested during two operations with over 200 kg of giant pangolin scales. The two operations took place in Cameroon's capital city Yaounde. During the first operation, 56 kg of giant pangolin scales were recovered from two traffickers who travelled some 75 km from Ntui, to Yaounde, using public transportation. During the second operation, 180

kg of pangolin scales concealed in 7 sacks were seized. They transported the pangolin scales hidden inside pepper and wild fruits using trucks from Lomie, located some 380 km to Yaounde.

It is not always the case that entirely giant pangolin scales are seized during operations. On the contrary, it is very rarely the case. Most of the time, very little or no giant pangolin scales are found in seizures that are usually made up of scales from the white bellied and black bellied pangolins. The reason is simple, finding the giant pangolin has become very difficult even for the poacher. Scientists doing research on pangolins in the country use camera traps. This is most probably due to the intense poaching and trafficking that has been afflicting the species for several decades. Extinction for this species may be coming too soon.

The giant pangolin is the largest living pangolin species; weighing up to 35 kg. Its range stretches along the equator from West Africa, passing through Central Africa to Uganda and Tanzania. Feared extinct in some countries like Rwanda, the giant pangolin is classified as endangered (very high risk of extinction in the wild) on the IUCN Red List. It gives birth to a young every one to two years and feeds on ants and termites. It is uncommon to find in the wild and generally rare. It is hunted for its meat and scales for trafficking by the local poachers who are activated by trafficking networks.



# Annex I - Summary of the Results

## Number of investigations per month per country

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	<i>total per country</i>
Cameroon	4	14	18	16	14	16	16	16	22	21	15	11	<b>183</b>
Congo	19	10	14	14	10	10	16	16	2	6	13	6	<b>136</b>
Gabon	6	7	7	6	8	8	9	8	8	8	9	8	<b>92</b>
Togo	35	58	51	57	38	56	57	17	13	11	8	3	<b>404</b>
Senegal	5	8	6	0	21	14	5	7	2	7	44	21	<b>140</b>
Uganda	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
Côte d'Ivoire	26	42	40	36	29	31	13	27	30	36	20	23	<b>353</b>
Burkina Faso	14	19	19	12	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>73</b>
<b>total per month</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>1,381</b>

## Number of arrests per month per country

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	<i>total per country</i>
Cameroon	0	3	7	10	1	0	0	0	11	4	0	7	<b>43</b>
Congo	0	6	0	1	4	2	1	1	5	0	0	2	<b>22</b>
Gabon	1	1	5	5	0	4	0	1	6	0	1	0	<b>24</b>
Togo	0	0	3	0	4	0	0	5	0	3	3	0	<b>18</b>
Senegal	0	2	0	3	0	1	1	0	1	4	2	0	<b>14</b>
Uganda	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
Côte d'Ivoire	0	2	1	1	0	2	0	2	0	5	3	0	<b>16</b>
Burkina Faso	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>4</b>
<b>total per month</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>141</b>

**Number of media pieces by month by country**

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	total by country
Cameroon	0	27	36	36	36	33	20	2	53	39	49	36	<b>367</b>
Congo	0	27	47	37	47	25	26	0	44	60	9	27	<b>349</b>
Gabon	22	23	27	20	0	45	7	20	6	28	13	0	<b>211</b>
Togo	39	42	37	39	89	22	57	52	30	30	45	0	<b>482</b>
Senegal	0	46	0	45	1	28	28	0	29	0	58	0	<b>235</b>
Uganda	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
Côte d'Ivoire	0	0	36	0	0	0	50	54	0	49	106	0	<b>295</b>
Burkina Faso	0	0	0	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>27</b>
<b>total by month</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>280</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>1966</b>

**Number of prosecutions by month by country**

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	total
<b>Cameroon</b>	3	0	1	0	7	2	1	1	0	7	1	3	<b>26</b>
<i>sentenced to jail</i>	3	0	1	0	3	0	1	0	0	5	1	0	<b>14</b>
<b>Congo</b>	5	0	2	2	8	2	2	2	1	6	2	5	<b>37</b>
<i>sentenced to jail</i>	0	0	1	2	5	0	0	2	1	3	0	2	<b>16</b>
<b>Gabon</b>	9	5	11	2	2	12	8	5	1	0	0	5	<b>60</b>
<i>sentenced to jail</i>	9	3	11	1	2	12	8	5	1	0	0	5	<b>57</b>
<b>Togo</b>	4	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	5	0	0	<b>14</b>
<i>sentenced to jail</i>	3	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	5	0	0	<b>13</b>
<b>Senegal</b>	1	0	2	4	0	1	1	1	0	1	5	0	<b>16</b>
<i>sentenced to jail</i>	0	0	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	2	0	<b>7</b>
<b>Uganda</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
<i>sentenced to jail</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
<b>Côte d'Ivoire</b>	0	0	3	1	0	0	2	2	0	0	8	0	<b>16</b>
<i>sentenced to jail</i>	0	0	2	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	5	0	<b>10</b>
<b>Burkina Faso</b>	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>4</b>
<i>sentenced to jail</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
<b>total</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>173</b>
<i>sentenced to jail</i>	<b>15</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>117</b>

## 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 nine African countries and keeps expanding.

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

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

**Contacts:**

1. Cameroon – LAGA: [ofir@eagle-enforcement.org](mailto:ofir@eagle-enforcement.org)
2. Congo – PALF: [tiffany@eagle-enforcement.org](mailto:tiffany@eagle-enforcement.org)
3. Gabon – AALF: [luc@eagle-enforcement.org](mailto:luc@eagle-enforcement.org)
4. Togo – EAGLE Togo: [darius@eagle-enforcement.org](mailto:darius@eagle-enforcement.org)
5. Senegal – EAGLE Senegal: [cebloch@eagle-enforcement.org](mailto:cebloch@eagle-enforcement.org)
6. Côte d'Ivoire - EAGLE Côte d'Ivoire: [gaspard@eagle-enforcement.org](mailto:gaspard@eagle-enforcement.org)
7. Uganda - EAGLE Uganda: [ofir@eagle-enforcement.org](mailto:ofir@eagle-enforcement.org)