

Wildlife Law Enforcement Briefing

- ✓ *3 traffickers arrested in Congo.*
- ✓ *2 ivory traffickers arrested with 4 tusks, hitting cross border trafficking from Gabon*
- ✓ *An ape trafficker arrested and a baby chimpanzee rescued.*



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

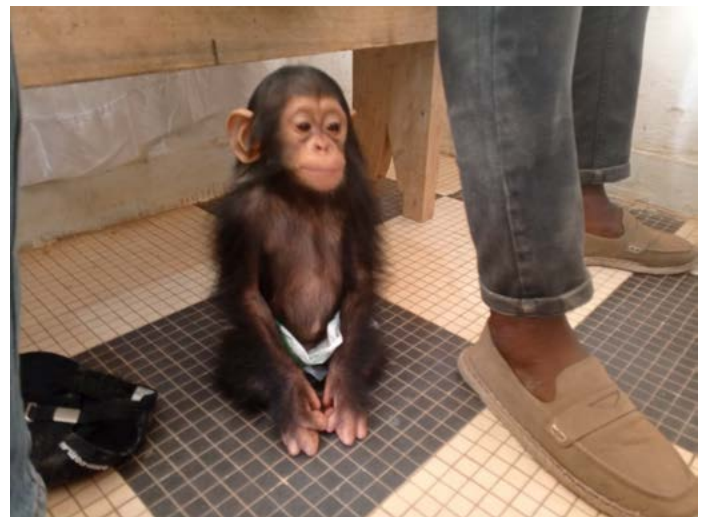
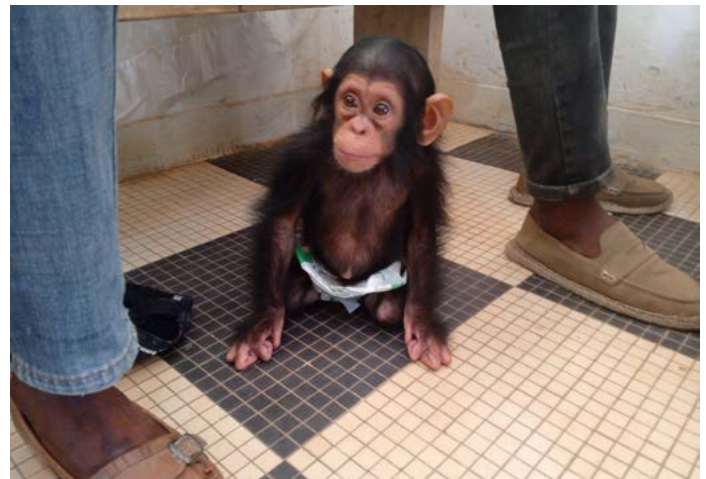


2 ivory traffickers were arrested with 4 tusks in Congo

Summary

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

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



2 ivory traffickers were arrested with 4 tusks in Congo

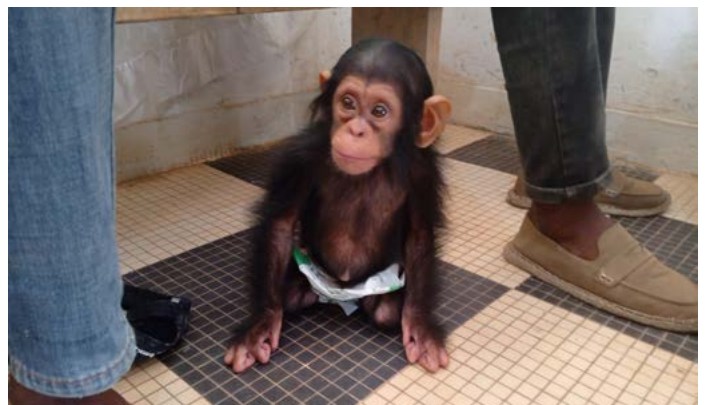
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Cameroon – LAGA

- The Deputy Director participated at an online preparatory meeting for the CITES Conference of the Parties to be held later this year in Uzbekistan.
- The Head of the Legal Department held a meeting with wildlife officials of the South Region to strengthen collaboration in the fight against wildlife crime.
- The Legal Team held meetings with several State Counsels to follow up cases pending at their various jurisdictions.

Republic of the Congo – PALF

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- An ape trafficker was arrested and a baby chimpanzee rescued. The trafficker transported the baby on his motorbike concealed beneath his shirt to avoid detection. He was arrested when he revealed the baby and confidently attempted to



trade it. The baby chimpanzee was taken to the Jane Goodall Institute where it shall receive life-time care.

- The Coordinator held discussion with the Forestry and Environment Cooperation Officer at the European Union Delegation in Brazzaville on the project's activities



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- He held discussions with the Head of INTERPOL's National Central Bureau in Brazzaville on arrest operations.
- He held meetings and discussions with several wildlife and gendarmerie officials of Niari, Bouenza and Nkayi to strengthen collaboration in the fight against wildlife crime.
- The Legal Team held meetings with judicial officials in Dolisie, Madingou and Impfondo to strengthen collaboration in the fight against wildlife crime.

Togo – EAGLE Togo

- The Coordinator met with the Secretary General of the Ministry of Territorial Administration, Local Governance and Customary Affairs to follow up on the registration of EAGLE-Togo.
- The Coordinator met with the Director of Prevention at Togo's anti-corruption commission (HAP-LUCIA) to strengthen collaboration in the fight against wildlife crime.
- Recruitment was intensified with an experienced investigator joining the project for a month-long consultancy and over 100 recruitment posters pasted at strategic locations in Lome. Prospecting was carried out at the Confucius Institute
- The Team is redoubling efforts to ensure that arrest operations are carried out in the upcoming months.

Senegal – EAGLE Senegal

- The Coordinator and Antonia Gustafsson, a super volunteer who recently arrived the country from Cameroon, carried out a mission to the Republic of Guinea. The aim of the mission was to strengthen relations with the Guinean authorities, strengthen the Team in Conakry through recruitment and provide support in achieving its objectives.
- She met with the Attorney General at the Dakar Court of Appeal to strengthen collaboration in the fight against wildlife crime. It was also an opportunity to discuss establishing a focal point at his office.
- The Team gave presentations on wildlife crime, identification techniques, and marine species during the African Wings operation organized by French Customs in Senegal. The training aims to raise awareness on the challenges of combating trafficking at airports. Participants included law enforcement officials from 16 African countries among which Cameroon, Congo Brazzaville, and Côte d'Ivoire.

Côte d'Ivoire – EAGLE Côte d'Ivoire

- The Interim Deputy Coordinator held a meeting with UCT officials on several issues related to the execution of operations and strengthening collaboration in the fight against wildlife crime.
- The Team carried out several presentations on wildlife law enforcement during a training for officials of OIPR (the Ivorian agency managing the national parks).
- During the training, the Interim Deputy Coordinator met with two top OIPR officials and discussed strengthening collaboration in the fight against crime involving protected species.

Guinea - EAGLE Guinea

- The EAGLE Senegal Coordinator and the super volunteer arrived in Conakry to provide support to the project. During their stay they held meetings with the Chargé d'Affaires of the US Embassy in Conakry, the Security Service of the French Embassy and with the Deputy Director General and Director of Investigations of Customs to strengthen collaboration in fighting wildlife crime.
- They held a meeting with the Head of the National Central Bureau of INTERPOL to discuss wildlife law enforcement and strengthen collaboration in the fight against wildlife crime.
- They also carried out several recruitment sessions to fill in vacant positions within the project. 17 candidates were interviewed for positions in the investigations, legal and media departments and 2 were retained. One of them shall be traveling to begin his training next month in Senegal.
- The Team followed up the administrative procedures on the MoU with the Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development, the Directorate General of the National Police and the Directorate General of Customs.
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- The Team followed up on the registration application filed with the National Department for the Regulation and Promotion of Association (DNAR-PROMA), attached to the Ministry of Territorial Administration and Decentralization.

Uganda - EAGLE Uganda

- The Legal Adviser conducted jail visits to Luzira prisons. 2 traffickers who were convicted for illegal possession of elephant tusks and a third who was convicted for illegal possession of 3 lion skins continue to serve their prison sentences.
- Recruitment for various positions within the team was intensified and the Coordinator held meetings with several recommenders for candidates.

THE EAGLE Network

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

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

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

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