

The Last Great Ape Organization – LA GA May 2013 Report



Highlights

- **An operation led to the arrest of a female dealer in protected bush meat in Sangmelima – South.**
- **Female dealer in live primate sentenced in Douala – Littoral**
- **2 new babies welcomed into the LAGA family**

General

This month was marked by the arrest of a lady dealer in meat of protected wildlife

A long time **female dealer** in meat of protected wildlife species with a network of suppliers in Djoum - South and a ready market in Yaounde - Center. She was **arrested with 4 large bags of bush meat containing 40 different animal carcasses including 2 full mandrills, 10 yellow-backed duikers** among other protected wildlife species. She was arrested between the Djoum - Sangmelima route while attempting to take them to Yaounde.

The Court of First Instance of Douala - Bonanjo sentenced a female dealer in live primate to **3 months suspended sentence during three years and to pay a sum of 595.000 FCFA as damages and 280.000 FCFA as fine.**

LAGA participated and presented a paper in an Interpol Sub-Regional meeting on wildlife crime.

The LAGA family welcomed 2 new members this month through births – the LAGA Assistant Manager delivered a baby girl, and the wife of the Head of Media Department delivered a baby boy. We welcome the brand new babies and wish their parents the best of luck in raising them.

Investigations

- **32 investigations** of varying lengths were carried out in all the **10 Regions** of Cameroon- North West, South West, South, East, West, Adamawa, Far North, North, Littoral and Center.
- LAGA Director still carried out special training sessions with Investigators so as to enable a more effective performance in terms of intelligence, evidence gathering with use of equipment and reports on high level target dealers.
- More good information from an informant in Sangmelima – South led to the arrest of a long time female dealer in meat of protected wildlife species
- Field test was done this month with 1 candidate.
- LAGA Investigations Department assisted PALF-Congo Investigations Department on Investigations and assisted in operations.
- LAGA Investigations Department also collaborated with AALF Investigators and Jurists on setting up a network of informants and joint investigations in North Gabon and South Cameroon.

Operations

An operation carried out this month led to the arrest of a major dealer in meat of protected wildlife

- **21/05/13** – A long time **female dealer** in meat of protected wildlife species with a network of suppliers in Djoum - South and a ready market in Yaounde - Center. She was **arrested with 4 large bags of bush meat containing 40 different animal carcasses including 2 full**

mandrills, 10 yellow-backed duikers among other protected wildlife species. She was arrested between the Djoum - Sangmelima route while attempting to take them to Yaounde.

Legal

- LAGA Legal Department carried out **13 missions** out of Yaounde - Centre Region: 1 in Douala (Littoral), 3 in Limbe (South West), 2 in Djoum (South), 1 in Sangmelima, 1 in Ebolowa (South), 2 in Kribi (South), 1 in Abong-Mbang (East), 1 in Bertoua (East) and 1 in Yokadouma (East).
- There are **42 dealers behind bars during this month**: 16 in the East Region, 4 in the South West Region, 3 in Centre region, 1 in North West region, 16 in South Region, and 1 in Littoral region.
- **35 cases** were followed up by the Legal Department this month.
- **30 cases** are scheduled and being trailed in the court this month.
- **Prosecutions**: 1 dealer was sentenced this month.
 - **24/05/2013**: The Court of First Instance of Douala - Bonanjo sentenced ELIMA Florence **3 months suspended sentence during three years** and to pay a sum of **595.000 FCFA as damages and 280.000 FCFA as fine**. She was arrested in Douala for illegal detention of a live baby baboon.

Media front

- **30 media pieces** were produced and pushed through to radio, and written press including: 25 written press material (11 in English 14 in French), 1 radio talk show in English, 1 radio news feature in French and 3 news flashes (2 in English and 1 in French).
- **Guests include**: Fako divisional delegate of the ministry of forestry and wildlife.
- **Subjects focused on wildlife law enforcement including**; 20 ivory tusk dealer arrest in Djoum, Limbe arrest of a Chinese pangolin scales dealer alongside 2 Cameroonians and Djoum-Sangmelima arrest of bushmeat dealer.
- 17 media pieces in English, 13 in French making a percentage of 56.7% in English and 43.3% in French.

External Relations and Policy

- LAGA participated and presented a paper in an Interpol Sub-Regional meeting on wildlife crime.
- LAGA met with BIR - Cameroon's elite unit recently tasked with fighting poaching, on strategies in the fight against wildlife crime

Management

- The LAGA family welcomed 2 new members this month through births – the LAGA Assistant Manager delivered a baby girl, and the wife of the Head of Media Department delivered a baby boy. We welcome the brand new babies and wish their parents the best of luck in raising them.

Activism Front

All the education activities carried out by the LAGA family are online; this could be gotten at the LAGA website – <http://www.laga-enforcement.org/Activism/tabid/77/Default.aspx>.

Replication

During this month, LAGA worked with other replication projects in planning and coordinating missions with PALF, AALF and GALF on investigations and operations.

LAGA Investigations Department assisted PALF-Congo Investigations Department on Investigations and assisted in operations; collaborated with AALF-Gabon Investigators and Jurists on setting up a network of informants and joint investigations in North Gabon and South Cameroon.

LAGA Management Department worked on the financial reports of TALFF-Togo and GALF-Guinea Conakry. The Media Department translated reports and media pieces from French to English for AALF and PALF.

Finance

LAGA Expenditure by Budget Line for May 2013

Amount FCFA			Amount USD
2,598,198	Investigations	30 inv, 10 Regions	\$5,095
475,000	Operations	1 Operations against 1 subjects	\$931
2,845,603	Legal	follow up 35 cases 37 locked subjects	\$5,580
1,626,860	Media	30 Media pieces	\$3,190
2,079,675	Policy & External Relations	Congo/Gabon/Togo/Chad/Guinea/Israel	\$4,078
978,570	Management	Coordination	\$1,919
1,584,047	Office		\$3,106
135,000	LAGA Family		\$265
12,322,952	TOTAL EXPENDITURE MAY		\$24,163

LAGA Expenditure by Donor for May 2013

Amount CFA	Donor	Amount USD
2,731,675	FWS	\$5,420.0
0	FWS-Replication	\$0.0
1,027,253	BornFree UK	\$2,038.2
3,409,482	Rufford	\$6,764.8
61,000	IFAW	\$121.0
505,000	EIA	\$1,002.0
	ProWildlife	\$0.0
4,588,543	ARCUS Foundation	\$9,104.3
0	Conde Nast Award	\$0.0
12,322,952	TOTAL	\$24,450.3

This Month in Pictures



A long time female dealer arrested with 4 large bags of bush meat (left) containing 40 different animal carcasses including 2 full mandrills, 10 yellow-backed duikers among other protected wildlife species (right). She has a network of suppliers in Djoum - South and a ready market in Yaounde - Center. She was arrested between the Djoum - Sangmelima route while attempting to take them to Yaounde.

Links of this month

- A Chinese wildlife trafficker and his 2 Cameroonian accomplices arrested – Canal 2 International, a Television Channel with international coverage based in Cameroon. They were arrested with 7 big sacs of Giant Pangolin scales while attempting to send them to Nigeria through the Bota Port in Limbe - South West by the Limbe custom officials and MINFOF Fako Delegation.

http://www.youtube.com/edit?video_id=IXu-Y0-pPIY