



EAGLE

July 2024
EAGLE Network

Wildlife Law Enforcement Briefing

- ✓ *10 traffickers arrested in 3 countries*
- ✓ *5 ivory traffickers arrested with 2 huge elephant tusks weighing over 60 kg in Côte d'Ivoire*
- ✓ *4 traffickers, arrested with 4 elephant tusks in Cameroon, including engineers of a logging company and of a government ministry*
- ✓ *A legal procedure taken against an elephant poacher in the Republic of Congo*



4 traffickers arrested with 4 elephant tusks in Cameroon.



5 ivory traffickers arrested with 2 huge elephant tusks weighing over 60 kg in Côte d'Ivoire.

Summary

5 ivory traffickers arrested with 2 huge elephant tusks weighing over 60 kg in Côte d'Ivoire. The traffickers were extremely careful pulling many tricks to avoid getting caught till their eventual arrest. Two of the traffickers attempted to escape but were quickly apprehended. The tusks were probably from of a forest elephant from Tai National Park. The elephant tusks were dug out from a field where the traffickers had hidden them.



4 traffickers arrested with 4 elephant tusks in Cameroon.

4 traffickers arrested with 4 elephant tusks in Cameroon. One of them is a forestry engineer working in a logging company and another is an electromechani-

cal engineer in a government ministry. The three traffickers were arrested with the tusks concealed in a rice sack. They attempted to sell the elephant tusks. A swift and effective interrogation led to the arrest of the 4th who was hiding around waiting in safety for the money from the transaction.

PALF initiated the legal procedure for a trafficker arrested on murder charges with elephant parts. The



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trafficker is a former rebel in the Congo Democratic Republic and was found in possession of a bag containing elephant feet and hair. He took the arresting team to the spot where the elephant was killed in the forest. The murder charges were dropped while his trial for wildlife crime continues.



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Cameroon – LAGA

- 4 traffickers arrested with 4 elephant tusks in Cameroon. One of them is a forestry engineer working in a logging company and another is an electromechanical engineer in a government ministry. The three traffickers were arrested with the



tusks concealed in a rice sack. They attempted to sell the elephant tusks. A swift and effective interrogation led to the arrest of the 4th who was hiding around waiting in safety for the money from

the transaction. A government secondary school teacher is also among the arrested traffickers.

- The Deputy Director presented on wildlife crime in Central Africa in a meeting organized by United for Wildlife in Nigeria to launch its West African



Chapter. The meeting brought together several wildlife experts from Europe and Africa, Nigerian law enforcement and government officials.

Republic of the Congo – PALF

- PALF initiated the legal procedure for a trafficker arrested on murder charges with elephant parts. The trafficker is a former rebel in the Congo Democratic Republic and was found in possession of a bag containing elephant feet and hair. He took the arresting team to the spot where the elephant was killed in the forest. The murder charges were dropped while his trial for wildlife crime continues.
- The Coordinator held a meeting with the Economic Adviser at the US Embassy to discuss issues related to wildlife crime and law enforcement.
- He also held a meeting with an official of the Delegation of the European Union to Congo Brazzaville to discuss wildlife crime and strengthen collaboration.
- He held meetings with some departmental forestry and judicial officials to strengthen collaboration in the fight against wildlife crime.
- The Legal Team followed several ongoing cases and prosecutions especially in the departments of Oyo, Dolisie, Brazzaville and Sibiti.

Togo – EAGLE Togo

- Darius Prénom Tcheyi, the Interim Coordinator, was promoted to the position of Coordinator. Darius had held the position of Interim Coordinator since October 2022.
- He met with the new Head of the Wildlife and Protected Areas Division who doubles as the CITES Focal Point to establish contact and strengthen collaboration in the fight against wildlife crime.
- He met with the Director of Prevention of HAP-LUCIA -Togo's anti-corruption commission (High Authority for the Prevention and Fight against Corruption and Related Offences) to discuss on the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding on the fight against corruption in the wildlife law enforcement process.
- He held several meetings in the Savannah Region with officials including the State Counsel of the Dapaong Court of First Instance, the Director of Police, the Commander of the Dapaong Police Research and Investigation Brigade, and the Prefectural Director of the Tone Environment Department to strengthen collaboration in the fight against wildlife crime.
- Recruitment was intensified and a candidate started his test for the position of investigator.



Darius Prenam Tcheyi - the New EAGLE Togo Coordinator

Darius Prénom Tcheyi has been promoted to the position of Coordinator of EAGLE Togo. He formerly held the position of Interim Coordinator since October 2022 until his appointment on July 4, 2024 as the Coordinator. From 2012 to 2015, Darius volunteered to support a community in northern Togo, in the management of human resources and the mobilization of local resources. He then developed not only the love to defend animals but equally human rights. Darius was so passionate about fighting wildlife crime that he decided to join EAGLE Togo.

He joined the EAGLE Togo Project in 2017 as a legal advisor and showed several qualities: a fighter, a fine legal mind and a true activist. This earned him a promotion to the position of an Interim Coordinator. He was a resolute and determined Interim Coordinator who led the Team to arrest dozens of traffickers. He played a pivotal role when a shipment from Brazil of highly endangered 12 Lear's macaws and 17 golden lion tamarins on a sailing boat was stopped and 5 traffickers arrested in Lomé, Togo. These accomplishments and many others proved he had the capability to fully lead the project and has now been trusted with the huge responsibility.

Darius was born in Tcharè in the Kozah prefecture of Togo on March 15, 1982. He holds a Masters Degree in Public Law from the University of Kara. He is married and has two children.

Senegal – EAGLE Senegal

- EAGLE Senegal celebrated ten years of existence in Senegal and the fight against wildlife crime. It was an opportunity for the activists not only to celebrate their work but also to focus on the results achieved and the future of the fight.
- The Team participated at a training for 18 police and customs officers where they presented modules on combating wildlife crime. The training that was organized by the Joint Operational Programme was delivered in two phases, the theoretical and practical phase.
- The Team participated at a training for 32 non commissioned gendarmerie officers where they presented modules on wildlife crime, criminal law, CITES and contraband concealment and identification techniques. The training that was organized National Gendarmerie Judicial Training Center

Côte d'Ivoire – EAGLE Côte d'Ivoire

- 5 ivory traffickers arrested with 2 huge elephant tusks weighing over 60 kg in Côte d'Ivoire. The traffickers were extremely careful pulling many tricks to avoid getting caught till their eventual arrest. Two of the traffickers attempted to escape but were quickly apprehended. The tusks were probably from of a forest elephant from Tai National Park. The elephant tusks were dug out from a field where the traffickers had hidden them. They were then concealed in a rice bags and transported to the place of transaction. The traffickers are closely related and worked in a family network.



- The Coordinator and the Head of the Legal Department held a meeting with the new Director of the UCT to introduce the project and strengthen collaboration.

Guinea - EAGLE Guinea

- The Team followed up the administrative procedures on the Memorandum of Understandings with the Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development, the Directorate General of the National Police and the Directorate General of Customs and the partnership agreement with INTERPOL National Central Bureau.
- The intense recruitment process continued. An investigator was recruited after successfully completing his test.

Uganda - EAGLE Uganda

- Nsubuga Lydia Wazemba, the Assistant Coordinator, was promoted to the position of Interim Coordinator.
- The trafficker who was arrested with 3 lion skins last month was arraigned and remanded at Luzira Prisons in Kampala, while awaiting trial.
- Recruitment was intensified and several potential candidates for investigator and legal adviser positions were recommended to be interviewed very soon.
- The Team held meetings with prosecutors, officials of the Uganda Revenue Authority and Uganda Wildlife Authority on the prosecution of the arrested trafficker.



Nsubuga Lydia Wazemba - the New EAGLE Uganda Interim Coordinator

Nsubuga Lydia Wazemba has been promoted to the position of Interim Coordinator of EAGLE Uganda.

She joined the project in 2019 as an accountant and appointed to administration by the end of 2019.

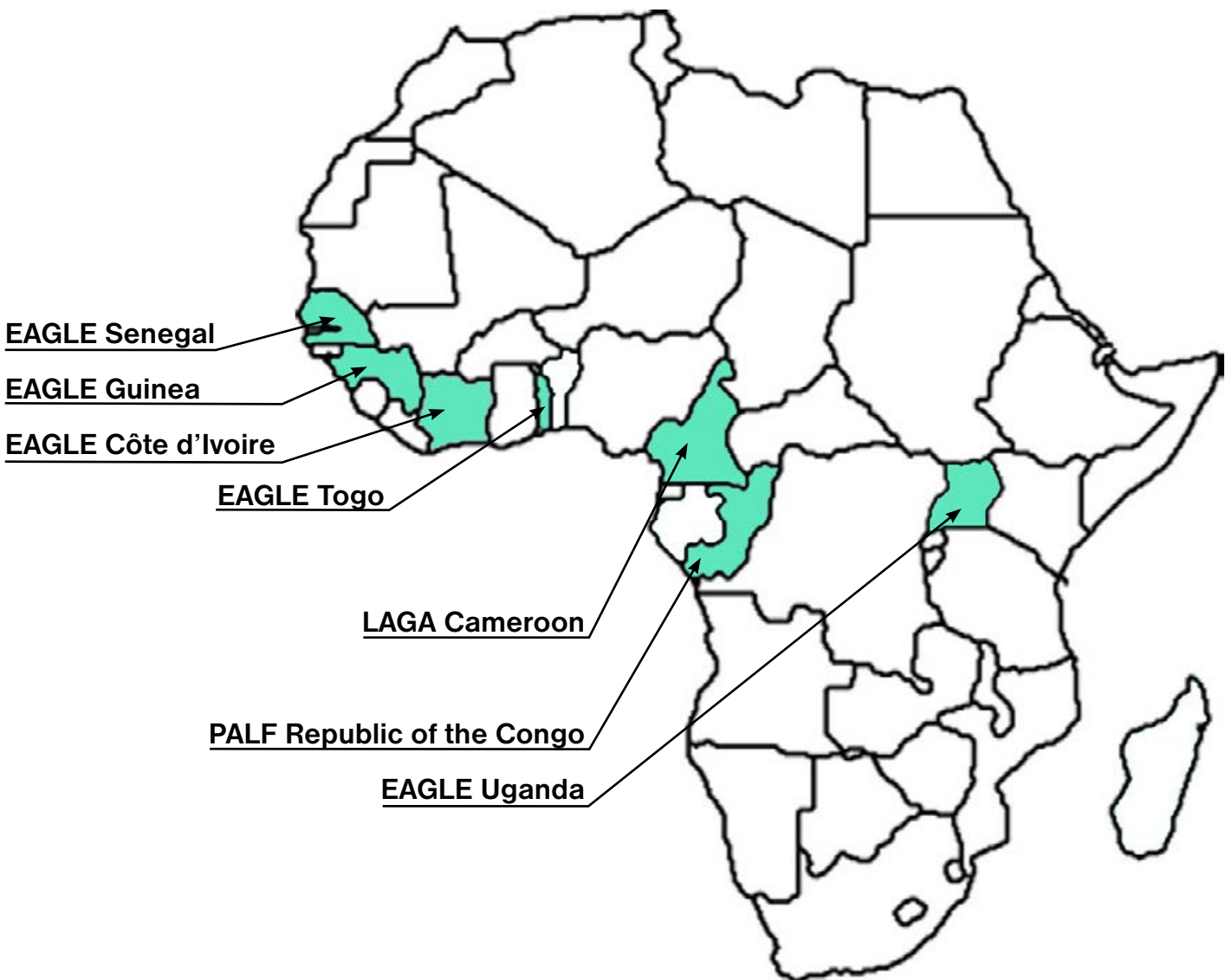
Her meteoric rise continued as she was appointed Assistant Coordinator in 2020 which position she has held to end of June 2024 following her appointment to her new role. She was entrusted with the difficult task of building a new team and led the team to 2 successful arrests of 4 traffickers with 39 kg of ivory in 2021.

She exhibits excellent administrative & multitasking skills, dynamic team leader, aggressive, go getter and involved in several activist activities, this plus several other qualities earned her the position of an Assistant Coordinator.

Recently, she was instrumental in the operation that led to the arrest of a trafficker with 3 lion skins in 2024 and showed vital leaderships skill.

Her passion for activism, wildlife and environmental conservation has seen her involvement in fighting for the justice and rights of the less privileged, writing poetry as a silent communication of the heart and mind of the animal mind.

Structure of the EAGLE Network



THE EAGLE Network

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

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

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

Contacts:

1. Cameroon – LAGA - ofir@eagle-enforcement.org
2. Congo – PALF – jules@eagle-enforcement.org
3. Togo – EAGLE Togo: darius@eagle-enforcement.org
4. Senegal – EAGLE Senegal - cebloch@eagle-enforcement.org
5. Côte d'Ivoire - gaspard@eagle-enforcement.org
6. Uganda – EAGLE Uganda - ofir@eagle-enforcement.org
7. Guinea – EAGLE Guinea - cebloch@eagle-enforcement.org