### May 2023 EAGLE Uganda Activity Report

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1. **INTRODUCTION**

The report herein covers the period from 01st – 31st May 2023. Major activities have been centered around management and the legal department with the project’s major task of recruiting good investigators has been ongoing.

1. **VESTIGATIONS**

The project has not conducted any serious investigations for the month under review mainly due to lack of good investigators. However recruitment has been ongoing but with no qualifying candidates to suit the project’s specifications and qualities. 1 candidate started his test period and opted out 3 days after starting his test period.

Feedback from the several meetings held with the different recommenders shows the need to understand the current state of the economy, counteract it positively in order to get good candidates.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **INVESTIGATION INDICATORS** | | |
| **# of investigations** | **# of investigations that lead to operations** |  |
| **3** | **0** |  |

1. **OPERATIONS**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **OPERATION INDICATORS** | | | |
| **# of operations** | **# of operations that lead to arrests** | **# suspect traffickers arrested** | **Contraband (specify units)** |
| **0** | **0** | **0** | **0** |

1. **LEGAL**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **LEGAL INDICATORS** | | | | | |
| **# of court prosecutions** | | **Maximum sentence given** | **# of cases followed** | **# hearings visited** | **# jail visits** |
| **Court of first instance** | **Appeal court** |
| **10** | **0** | **1year** | **10** | **10** | **1** |

This section outlines all the activities engaged in by the legal candidates on test with abit of explanation on what each activity entailed.

**Research on wildlife cases;**

The legal candidates conducted research on various cases that have been concluded by the Standards, utilities and Wildlife court and the various punishments that

were given to the offenders in line with the Wildlife Act, 2019. An example of said cases

is Uganda V Kiggundu Sabiti and anor who were found in possession with 127 pieces of hippo teeth weighing 56 kilograms and the second accused sentenced to 48 months.

**Attended court sessions;**

These are usually held every Wednesday and Thursday at the Standards, Utilities and

Wildlife Court. Some cases were finalized and the convicts were given sentences while

others were fined.

**a) Uganda V Mungujakkisa Isaac and two others**

This was finalized with the convict being given a sentence of one year imprisonment or

a fine of one million shillings. The facts of the case are that the accused persons were

found with 4.6 kilograms of ivory in Buliisa and taken to Buliisa police station.

**b) UWA V Gyirabakunzi**

The matter will be up for delivery of judgment on 15th June 2023 for determination on

whether the accused will be sentenced or not.

**Carried out jail visits;**

* The legal candidate visited Murchison Bay prison in Luzira where the convicts are

usually sent after they have been sentenced. The purpose was to follow up on

Mungujakkisa Isaac specifically who was sentenced to one year in prison or a fine of

1,000,000 shillings which he eventually paid off.

* A jail visit was also conducted in Kigo prison to follow up on any wildlife prisoner. Two

prisoners were found whose facts are that they were eight of them and were found with

a pair of parrots and sentenced to two years imprisonment or a fine of 8,000,000/=

shillings which they also had paid off and were awaiting release.

**Carried out further research;**

* The legal candidates conducted research on several interesting wildlife that could be of relevancy in the future, some of these are
* a hypothetical case where Chinese nationals were given bail and some absconded and failed to showup for trail.
* Researched on wildlife laws in Ivory Coast where EAGLE is a part of. The relevance of the research was to find out the wildlife laws that are relied on while trying wildlife traffickers in Ivory Coast.
* The legal candidate edited the wildlife article that had been drafted earlier and incorporated the changes that were advised by Aime.
* With China having the highest percentage involvement in illicit wildlife trade, the legal candidates researched on the China Wildlife laws and whether their implementation was in contrast with other wildlife laws in the different countries.
* A research on wildlife cases before the 2019 amendment of the wildlife act, on the major distinction between the wildlife act of 2019 and the current one in which it was concluded that although the 2019 act has brought some strictness in the laws and their implementation, the current gives very light sentences such as cautions for heavy offenders or simply a fine, appreciation of the Uganda Wildlife Policy 2014 singling out its strengths and weaknesses and solutions to the same.
* Research on why trafficking is rampant in Uganda and other neibouring states like the DRC, on international wildlife laws that enable the extradition of offenders.

1. **MEDIA**

Department has not been operational.

**6.MANAGEMENT**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **MANAGEMENT INDICATORS** | |
| **# investigators on test** | **1** |
| **# legal advisors on test** | **2** |
| **# advocates on test** | **0** |
| **# media journalists on test** | **0** |
| **# accountants on test** | **0** |
| **# internal trainings** | **0** |
| **# external trainings** | **0** |

* The recruitment process has been ongoing with several meetings held with potential recommenders from other investigation organizations/companies, Directors of transport companies, in the hospitality industry, media personnel, and several of the candidates not matching the projects specifications. 1 candidate was interviewed and started his test period on to quit 3 days later.
* Orientation was well conducted for 1 legal candidate who started her test period.
* Project reports ranging from financial, activity, ICS were submitted in time with online reports updated.
* Correspondence with CCU Investigations officer on specific tasks delegated and the Head of Intelligence (Kabagambe Douglas) was effectively handled in time.
* The Assistant Coordinator was in correspondence with the external auditors and required documentations were shared in preparation for audit of 2022 books of accounts.
* Filing, submission and payment of government taxes and subscription (Uganda Revenue Authority and National Social Security Fund) for the month of April was duly done.
* Progressive performance appraisals with the candidates on test were conducted leading to submission of evaluation reports that saw one of the legal candidate’s test period terminated for not matching the projects expectations.

1. **EXTERNAL RELATIONS**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **EXTERNAL RELATIONS INDICATORS** | |
| **# of external meetings** | 0 |
| **# of requests for collaboration or support** | 0 |
| **# follow-up meetings related to ongoing agreements/ collaborations** | 0 |
| **# meetings to renew agreements/ collaborations** | 0 |
| **# EAGLE trainings requested from external parties** | 0 |
| **# EAGLE trainings carried out for external parties** | 0 |
| **# EAGLE presentations requested from external parties** | 0 |
| **# EAGLE presentations carried out for others** | 0 |

1. **FOSTERING CIVIC ACTIVISM**

* The team put together ideas how to foster wildlife activism and came up with the idea of hosting a media talk show, share a theme with relevant government offices especially the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Wildlife, Tourism and Antiquities for adoption of themes that can be integrated in national school drama competitions.
* The Assistant coordinator conducted a general research on the different wildlife and environmental conservation agencies in trying to identify different activities that would require their activism involvement in order to remain relevant.