### January 2024 EAGLE Uganda Activity Report

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1. **INTRODUCTION**

The report herein covers the period from 01st – 31st January 2024. With focus on the projects core goal of deterring wildlife crime, major activities in the line of investigations have been at 60% with 2 candidate on test.

The project emphasizes on proactivity and creativity therefore all team members’ flexibility and aggressiveness is expected in all departments.

Key areas that call for immediate attention and action :

* **Project to process and finalize the process of the operational permit renewal which has several compliance strings attached from key government agencies that work directly on the monitoring of NGO’s in Uganda, these agencies include URSB (Uganda Registration services Bureau- Beneficial Owners database) and the PDPO (Personal Data Protection Office).**
* **The Project is yet to identify an international audit firm(certified to work in Uganda) that will audit our financial reports with a motive of providing audit reports that are recognized by the ICPAU (Institute of Certified Public Accountants) plus any other government agency.**
1. **INVESTIGATIONS**

The search for good investigators continued with a follow-up on potential recommenders. The month ended with few interviews conducted but candidates not meeting the projects specifications. There is need to re-strategize and adopt new recruitment methods for example recruitment through the network branches with a motive of sending to Uganda, implement the job rotation/swapping program (investigators from the branch networks are sent to Uganda for the same role for a specified period of time).

One candidate started his test period bring the number to 2 candidates on test.

The project has undertaken to work with informants as way to expand its scope of gathering information relevant and aligned to the goals and objectives of the project.

Investigations have been on-going at 60% field engagements with 2 candidate on test, with leading information, photos of contraband shared and of different animal species that will lead to an operation in the long run.

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| **INVESTIGATION INDICATORS** |
| **# of investigations** | **# of investigations that lead to operations** |  |
| **15** | **0** |  |

1. **OPERATIONS**

The planned operation was suspended/put on hold for the targets to comply with agreed terms and conditions.

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

1. **LEGAL**

The legal advisor carried out the following activities;

**>>**  Held a dissemination session with the team where the factors that contribute to the successful operation where fully internalized and discussed with members. Through the discussion, members appreciated these factors to include but not limited to;

* Leaving at the wrong time
* Not sending messages (lack of effective communication)
* Not being able to identify the product seen.
* Not meeting the right dealer.
* Unable to control the trafficker in time and space.
* Being drunk during the operation.
* Failure to respect reporting lines.
* Not convincing enough. (dress code)
* ETC

However, the above factors can be done with when the team is appreciated and understood its roles and also when there is effective supervision and coordination.

**>>** The legal advisor led the whole team in the discussion about the article titled “the myth and facts about trophy hunting”. These were the views of the team. The team was strongly against trophy hunting despite the activity being lawful for the following reasons;

* The team wonders whether the hunters first examine the animals to be hunted to check if in case of females ae pregnant or not to ascertain whether they are due or not because some animals have a long gestation period. For instance, the elephants which take 18- 22 months.
* The facts in the article do not the hunters carry out bio statistics ratios of preys to predators to know which number is to be regulated.
* Some animals have life partner for example some foxes, barn owls, dik-dik etc. Therefore, when one of these animals is killed, it means its lineage is completely cut off.
* In addition to myth cited in the article trophy hunting may lead to loss of animals with the best genotypes and phenotypes thus causing depletion in genetic factors which may lead to production of poor off springs with poor traits like running and hunting. This would father lead to ecological imbalances by reducing the number of predators.
* Killing of old animals will lead to loss of indigenous knowledge, its old animals that have knowledge for example for migration patterns. It’s the old animals with this kind of knowledge. Therefore, the animals with this kind of knowledge might die in harsh conditions like drought.

To the team despite trophy hunting being a lawful activity, it has more harm than good in terms wildlife conservation.

**>>** The legal advisor carried out a hotel search at KABz hotel. The purpose of this search was to ascertain the strategic position of team 2. The findings revealed that the deployment position of the team had a clear view of the hotel main entrance and exit. Further, the findings revealed that Tina’s local restaurant, the team would strategically be positioned.

**>>** The team updated the 3 docs that was meant to be used in the expected operation for the arrest of Francis and Janeth and 2 leopard skins.

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

1. **MEDIA**

Department has not been operational.

**6.MANAGEMENT**

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

* December ICS investigations and Field Investigation reports were compiled and submitted to CCU.
* December ICS legal was compiled and submitted to CCU
* A new investigator who started his test period in December continued his test period and is still under supervision.
* The projects mandatory monthly reports to include the December financial and donor report, activity report, were submitted to the respective offices.
* The assistant Coordinator followed through the FIA (Financial Intelligency Authority) compliance requirements and the project registered as one of the requirements for renewing the operational permit.
* Update on the approved 3docs in preparation of the operation that was in the pipe line was well done.
* The Assistant coordinator continued with the supervision and overseeing of the team members, having relevant contracts renewed.
* The Assistant Coordinator compiled an excel template to help generate the standard income and expenditure reports in preparation for the audits and process to be finalized.
* General fixtures and replacement on the guest room door was done after the access key was stuck and a carpenter attended to it.
* The Assistant coordinator followed through the permit renewal process and engaging respective offices, process to be continued in the month of Feb.
* The Assistant coordinator finalized submissions to the 2022 audit report and submitted to the auditors for review and integration.
* 3 interviews were conducted with 2 for investigations and 1 for the legal advisory role but all candidates did not meet the projects expectations.
1. **EXTERNAL RELATIONS**

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| **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 |