### July 2024 EAGLE Uganda Activity Report

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1. **INTRODUCTION**

The report herein covers the period from 01st–31st July 2024.

The month of July came with a major change in the management with Lydia Wazemba Nsubuga being appointed as Interim Coordinator for the project, a very good example of a project that natures and grows their own.

The project focused on Focus on deterring wildlife crime as it core goal/objective.

Activities carried out were in line with the current operational departments ranging from the Legal, investigations management and administrative.

The project’s interests are in staffing a dynamic, proactive, flexible and aggressive team players for visible results regardless of numbers.

The project officially relocated to its new premises in Bugolobi.

1. **INVESTIGATIONS**

EAGLE Uganda scope for investigations is not limited to Kampala but cuts across districts in trying to accomplish their mandate. Several missions where conducted within Kampala and the neighbouring districts with 2 missions intercity.

Both urban & rural investigations yielded information related to investigations that will be relevant in the near future, and this was done by the 2 investigators who exhibited excellent skills to make it past their test periods and now on contract.

Recommendations were made for potential investigators and these are to be interviewed in the following month of August 2024.

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| **INVESTIGATION INDICATORS** | | |
| **# of investigations** | **# of investigations that lead to operations** |  |
| **19** | **0** |  |

1. **OPERATIONS**

The trafficker arrested with 3 lion skins on 29th June 2024, was remanded at Luzira Women prisons where she awaits her judgment on the wildlife crimes she committed.

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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 activities here under were carried out by the legal advisor:

* Attended Anti-corruption Court in the case of Uganda v Nsamba Wilber and

Lukwago Godfrey 2021 before H/W Christopher Opiti. The accused were

charged with the offence of being in possession of 4 pieces of ivory (wildlife

products) C/S 200(d) I of EACCMA, 2004

The matter came up for hearing and the accused persons were in attendance.

The state‘s last witness Iroot Ezekiel from URA was present and the prosecutor

Kalungi Tony along with co- counsel Nayebare Stella also in attendance. Court

had adjourned the matter pending the response from DPP’s office because the

Magistrate had received a complaint from the office of the DPP raised by the

accused requesting the DPP to recall the file from Anti-Corruption Court on the

ground that there was someone the accused were arrested with who is not

prosecuted.

The State Prosecutor presented the written letter from the office of the DPP affirming that the Anti – Corruption Court should proceed with the matter. The copy was handed over to the Magistrate. However, Court discovered that the accused persons were not copied in neither served of the same. The accused persons pleaded that since it was the first time to know about this response, they prayed to court to have the issue adjourned so that their defense lawyer can respond on the same. In the interest of fair hearing, the court adjourned the matter to 5 th / 8/2024 at 2: 00 pm.

* Attended Anti- Corruption Court on the 8 th /7/2024 in the case of Uganda v

Najjemba Shairfha 2024 before H/W Christopher Opiti who presided over on behalf of H/W Asiimwe Esther who was on official duty outside Kampala. The accused person was charged with the offences of being in possession of 3 female adult lion skins (prohibited goods) and being in possession of endangered species without a license C/S 200 (d) I of the EACCMA 2004 and C/S 71(1) (b) of the Wildlife Act, 2019.

The matter came up for plea mentioning and plea taking and the accused person

pleaded guilty on all counts and the matter was adjourned to 23/ 7/ 2024 and

she was accordingly remand to Luzira Women Prison.

* Attended Anti – Corruption Court on the 23/7/2024 in the case of Uganda v

Najjemba Shairfha 2024 before H/W Asiimwe Esther. The before H/W

Asiimwe Esther Grade 1 Magistrate.

The matter was coming up for hearing because prosecution in the last hearing

had mentioned that the investigations were complete. The accused person was

not in attendance because the Prison Authority did not avail all prisoners on that

day for fear of insecurity because on that day, there was a public demonstration

around Kampala. The prosecution also sought adjournment having realized that

further investigations were going on. Court adjourned to 13/8/2024 for the next

hearing.

* The legal advisor participated in building trust with Counsels Tuheisomwe

Annet and Lattif Hamis of UWA with the purpose that UWA should

participate in the prosecution of the Shairfha case.

* The legal advisor participated in building trust with court clerks Sauda and

Phiona in the Anti-Corruption Court who are handling the Ug v Nsamba

Wilber case as well as Ug v Najjemeba Shairfha respectively.

* The legal advisor conducted jail visits on Sharifah Najjemba from the time she was in police custody and after being remanded at Luzira prisons.
* The test period of Stacey-Legal Advisor on test was terminated for not meeting the projects expectations for anyone in the legal role.

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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** |
| **02** | **0** | **0** | **02** | **03** | **09** |

1. **MEDIA**

Department has not been operational.

**6.MANAGEMENT**

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| --- | --- |
| **MANAGEMENT INDICATORS** | |
| **# investigators on test** | **0** |
| **# legal advisors on test** | **1** |
| **# advocates on test** | **0** |
| **# media journalists on test** | **0** |
| **# accountants on test** | **0** |
| **# internal trainings** | **5** |
| **# external trainings** | **0** |

* June ICS investigations and legal, and Field Investigation reports were compiled and submitted to CCU.
* The Interim Coordinator made ready final audit documents for the still ongoing audit that will upgrade the reports to the international reporting standards.
* The Uganda team will be embarking on French clases, a potential instructing institution (Kampala Language Center) was sourced and will be providing the required services.
* The projects mandatory financial monthly reports were submitted to the respective offices.
* Afew candidates were recommended for the investigations and legal roles and are to be interviewed in the month of August.
* Followup meetings on the suspect sharifah Najemba were conducted to build on the case, discussing strategies and way forward and covering any loop holes that could cost us.
* The Interim coordinator followed up on the amount debited on the projects USD account without prior notice, the project will still follow-up on the matter especially after liaising with the personnel responsible for digital banking.
* Several correspondences with CCU that aids working effectively through spot monitoring reports, responding to emails and realtime calls where necessary.
* EAGLE Uganda Director conducted several training sessions with the new investigator i07 to enhance his investigations abilities.
* The Interim Coordinator with the legal advisor had interactive meetings with Counsel Blair (Former Lawyer Uganda Wildlife Authority) in trying to foster health collaborations to advance the lion skins case.
* The project acquired a new laptop for the Interim Coordinator after several blackouts from the one she has worked with since 2019.
* The audit of 2021,2022 and 2023 books of accounts continued with auditors from RONA & Partners, with several minor issues raised and were dealt with.

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 |

1. **Civic Activism**

The Interim Coordinator followed up on the illegal sale of land case at Mukono police and found out that the documents had not yet been submitted for forensics, she contacted the respective persons requesting to have the file sanctioned but the Scene of Crime Officer was on leave and yet he is the responsible for such submissions. The case will be followed up until justice prevails.

Details of the case:

Place: Mukono Police Station

SD REF: 124/13/05/2024

Offence: F/S/O/Land & M/Damage

Suspect: Nalweyiso & Others