### August 2024 EAGLE Uganda Activity Report

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1. **INTRODUCTION**

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

The project focused 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.

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 which included Busia, Malaba, Mubende, Mityana, Entebbe, Wakiso, Masindi, Bweyale, Gulu.

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.

Interviews for the investigations role were conducted and most applicants were not fit for the role. Several applications received to be considered for interviews in the new month.

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| **INVESTIGATION INDICATORS** |
| **# of investigations** | **# of investigations that lead to operations** |  |
| **22** | **0** |  |

1. **OPERATIONS**

No operations registered for the August month.

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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**

Activities carried out in the month of August 2024 by the legal department.

* Attended Anti – Corruption Court on the 13th, 19th & 28/8/2024 in the case of

 Uganda v Najjemba Shairfha, 2024 before H/W Asiimwe Esther Grade 1 Magistrate who

 later committed the case to H/W Aciiro Joan because of lack of jurisdiction. Before the

 Chief Magistrate, the matter came up thrice, first time for committal, second time for

plea taking and third time for mentioning. The Accused person pleaded not guilty on all

accounts and the plea of not guilty was entered. The defense counsel applied for bail by

presenting four sureties but the court found that the sureties were not substantial and

sound the bail was denied on the first application and on the second application.

The accused person was further remanded and the matter was adjourned to 23/8/2024

for the next hearing. 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 legal advisor attended in a joint meeting with URA team (Douglas Bakashaba

Donald and Ndagire Patricia, and UWA team Tuheisomwe Annet (head of prosecution),

Tushabire Shillah, Pauline police officer attached to UWA and Rebecca Ndabire to ensure

that there is effective and efficient handling of the Shairfha case in a transparent manner.

* The legal advisor built trust with H/W Asiimwe Esther and was able to secure her

contact .

* The legal advisor oriented Ashraf Ssengendo on the following; operational

reporting lines, ICS &amp; legal monthly activity report preparation, how to carry out a

jail visit and report, how to report on a court session, the EAGLE Charter, how to come

 up with the interrogation list, how to come up with the bail arguments and case analysis.

* Ssengendo Ashiraf, started his test period for the legal advisory role on 19th August

2024.

* Grace Mpagi, who rejoined the project in November 2023 after completing her

LDC, officially requested for a year study leave and will be embarking on her Master’s

program effective 01st September 2024.

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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** | **05** |

1. **MEDIA**

Department has not been operational.

1. **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** | **1** |
| **# external trainings** | **0** |

* July ICS investigations and legal, and Field Investigation reports were compiled and submitted to CCU.
* The projects mandatory financial monthly reports were submitted to the respective offices.
* Applicants for the accountant, legal and investigations roles were interviewed with the biggest number not qualifying with the exception of 1 legal advisor who started his test period.
* 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 aided working effectively monitoring reports, responding to emails and real-time calls where necessary.
* EAGLE Uganda Director held training sessions with the i07 to enhance his investigations skills.
* The interim coordinator analysed the call logs of a suspect on the run, and a strategy put in place to allow for investigations to be done.
* Minor repairs and fixtures to the new office premises were dealt with to make the premises comfortable for use
1. **EXTERNAL RELATIONS**
* The Interim Coordinator held meetings with the URA Head of the Legal department (Counsel Patricia) and Counsel Donald, UWA’s Annet (Manager Legal) on fostering a way forward on how key issues rotating around the lion skins case can be addressed.
* The interim coordinator visited the Uganda Wildlife Authority Offices and secured a meeting with the Executive Director, scheduled for 10th September 2024.
* A meeting with Next Media was planned for September after on going discussions on EAGLE Uganda’s involvement in the international tourism day celebrations/activities due 9th September 2024.

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| **EXTERNAL RELATIONS INDICATORS** |
| **# of external meetings**  | 3 |
| **# of requests for collaboration or support** | 1 |
| **# 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 the DPP’s office, the documents under question were submitted to forensics for hand writing experts to assess whether some of the documents were forged, pending the forensic report to be produced in September and this will aid the next steps in the matter.

It was also discovered that the file was illegally put away and a following led into the discovery of the file case number having been changed, file recovered in 2 days and submitted to the DPP for advice.

The case is to be followed up in the month of September.

Details of the old file;

Place: Mukono Police Station

SD REF: 124/13/05/2024

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

Suspect: Nalweyiso & Others

Details of the new and actual file;

Place: Mukono Police Station

SD REF: 130/13/05/2024

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

Suspect: Nalweyiso & Others

The interim coordinator followed up a request call for EAGLE Uganda activism intervention on a case that was seemingly mishandled by police, with the Directors recommendations, the matter was handled professionally.