

PROGRESS REPORT
ON
NIGERIA NATIONAL IVORY ACTION PLAN



PREPARED BY
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SUBMITTED TO
THE CITES SECRETARIAT

SYNOPSIS OF NIAP IMPLEMENTATION

Nigeria was included as one of the eleven countries identified as countries of “Secondary Concern” by the CITES Standing Committee at 65th Meeting (SC65, Geneva, July, 2004). Various evidences show that the country is identified as transit for illegal trafficking of wildlife products including elephant ivory. Illegal trade and trafficking in wildlife is one of the challenges that is negatively affecting wildlife resources particularly those species that have market value example is elephant which is mainly limited for its ivories.

Amendment the legal frame work on Endangered Species law, inter-agency collaboration, anti-poaching strategy developed on priority sites, effective monitoring and protection of elephants Game Reserves (Yankari Game Reserve ,Cross-River National Park and Okomu National park) are among the activities performed by some relevant agencies to address the challenges. Federal Ministry of Environment, Department of Forestry and Wildlife Management Division is the legislative authority has not been able to work in close cooperation with other relevant agencies such as NESREA, custom authority, airport authority, Ministry of Justice (judiciaries), police due to lack of funds for holding regular meetings between the shareholders and agencies to tackle illicit trade in wildlife and wildlife products as a result of this challenge the illegal trade of ivory and other wildlife products is at alarming rate.

Nigeria new government transition had brought a setback in finalizing Nigeria NIAP and implementation as a result of lack of funds which could not enhance dedication vehicles for enforcement activities, meeting among stakeholders (Regional and National) insufficient manpower and trans-boundary collaboration are among the challenges we encountering in the implementation. One of the progress report is that we are able to input Nigeria NIAP into 2016 Nigeria budget hoping it will be part of project to be approved by the National Assembly.

Nigeria NIAP has been developed and transmitted to the CITES Secretariat as an effort to eradicate illegal ivory trade across the country. The priority action plan has organized in five section which include legislation, prosecution, intelligence and investigations, National and International wildlife crime cooperation and law enforcement operations. Total number of 25 key priority actions each of which involve several activities to be done within the milestones as indicated While the NIAP could only be submitted at (DATE), it is important to note that efforts for the implementation of important activities have started even before its submission. This progress is documented in the current report

There are some NIAP in progress few months ago. During this period of time various activities have been undertaken which includes

- Amendment of legal frame work
- Meetings convened with few relevant agencies eg NESREA, Custom Authority,Scientific Authority(National Park services)

- List of priority elephant sites established eg Yankari, Cross-River and Okomu National park, Okomu.
- Improvement status and capacity building of patrol staff in key priority elephant sites
- Involvement of local communities in law enforcement activities through local intelligence gathering in key elephant sites
- Training of rangers to implement SMART at Yankari Game Reserve and Cross-River National Park.

Part of the progress report was arrest made in connection to illegal possession of wildlife and wildlife products in the country. All suspects (among were Chinese) were convicted and penalized with fines but our organization is yet see the documentation of the report also the document covers numbers of ivory seizure, number of arrest and number of pending case if any are taking to court.

SUMMARY OF THE PROGRESS REPORT

A total of 25 priority actions and some have been implemented while some are still in progress. The table below shows the summary of the progress report

Category/pillar	Substantially	On track	Challenging	Unclear
A.Legislation	<p>The species protection draft is Submitted to Federal Executive Council (Government) for approval.</p> <p>Desktop review of different legislations and penalty frameworks in the region carried out.</p> <p>Ministry of justice input on the species protection draft. Submit bill to National</p> <p>Assembly (parliament) for passage into law, National assembly (parliament proceeding) on the endangered species amendment of the species act and Final draft species protection bill.</p>	<p>A collaboration mechanism established between Federal States (regional).</p> <p>Meeting with Federal States and other stakeholders to discuss and identified the challenges in their wildlife legislation and modus operandi on how to handle illegal wildlife trade.</p> <p>National Assembly approval of the</p>		<p>Legislation harmonization strengthened in at least three states with International airports e.g Lagos, Portharcourt, Kano, Abuja (not yet started, till 31st October).</p> <p>Compendium distributed to court (not yet started, till 31st October, 2016).</p> <p>Recommendations implementation at the level of Nigeria and Training session for the judiciary personnel on wildlife legislation (31th October 2016).</p> <p>Regional meeting organized in cooperation with neighboring countries to discuss the discrepancies between the different wildlife legislations and to develop recommendation (31st October, 2016).</p>

	Complete drafting and approval of the National Wildlife Protection Bill which includes the penalty for each degree of crime committed.	amended bill. Compendium existing legislation and penalties prepared and printed.		
B. Prosecution	<p>All date on seizures of ivory are centralized at FMENV.</p> <p>All confiscated items with other agencies will be brought together for proper documentation.</p>	<p>Consultation with Ministry of Justice on how to develop and manage the database.</p> <p>Workshops organized with the Ministry justice and police to develop recommendation on wildlife law and how to apply the law.</p>		<p>Implement the workshop recommendations (for example specialized prosecutors appointed in each of the Federal State and Legislation training session organized for judiciary, police in different enforcement institutions and trained personnel on enforcement targeting on wildlife crime and the understanding of the fines.(31th October, 2016).</p> <p>Training for FMENV staff (10) on how to submit reports to ETIS in close cooperation with TRAFFIC (30th October, 2016).</p> <p>Database designed and tested in different transit route and Regular report to ETIS ensured (31th October, 2016).</p>
C. Intelligence and investigations actions	<p>Inventory made of the most significant domestic ivory markets and also hotels.</p> <p>Inventory of stocks of ivory seized and update the date the items were confiscated and sources of the ivory and comprehensive list of stocks of ivory held at NESREA and by</p>	Meeting to be convened with all relevant agencies to bring agencies to create inter-ministerial understanding on illegal trade and the use of intelligence to	Train of 15 staff each of relevant agencies in wildlife investigation and the use of intelligence and investigation procedure (30 th April 2016).	<p>Intelligence network operation in combating illegal ivory trafficking (not yet started, till 31th October 2016).</p> <p>Rescue facility for confiscated wildlife products is reinforced and well secured.</p> <p>Intelligence gathered to better understand supply chains to the domestic markets identified</p>

	<p>other agencies and government service.</p> <p>Carry out an audit of the NESREA storage facilities and other storage facilities used for ivory</p>	<p>address it and to develop recommendations</p>	<p>Based on the recommendations, develop intelligence and investigation procedure and setup a network between all agencies to share intelligence on trafficking (30th April 2016).</p> <p>Meetings held with Lagos State Conservation unit to discuss the modus operandi on how to tackle the illegal wildlife trade in Lekki ivory market (lagos) and detailed recommendations for actions developed (by 30th April 2016).</p>	<p>NESREA staff to have a para-military training, if possible uniform will be recommended (not yet started, hoping by 30th April 2016).</p> <p>Train staff of (FMENV),(FDF), NESREA staff on forensic analysis of seized items (atleast 5 staff from different agencies (hoping by 30th April 2016 because of lack of funds).</p> <p>Supply chains to domestic markets broken through targeted law enforcement action and large scale operation to close down illegal ivory trafficking at Lekki market(31th October, 2016).</p> <p>A specialist training for at least 20 each for (FMENV),(FDF) and NESREA staff targeted for enforcement activities (31th October 2016).</p> <p>Establishment of forensic laboratory to use its capacity for wildlife crime investigations and Forensic expert hired (31th October, 2016).</p>
D. National and international	Increase levels of wildlife staff like five (5) each in every exit		Meeting with agencies of	Provision of equipment for identification of ivory and wildlife specimen on Nigeria borders

wildlife crime cooperation	points and borders (by 30 th April, 2016).		<p>neighboring countries especially Republic of Benin, Chad and Cameroon to discuss improving wildlife crime enforcement at common border and develop recommendations (30th April, 2016).</p> <p>Present NIAP to potential stakeholders and ensure their participation and TOR of coordination committee agreed between agencies involved in NIAP implementation (30th April, 2016).</p>	<p>which includes Chad Border, Republic of Benin border, Cameroon border and Niger border and Staff trained on the use of equipment for effective identification of wildlife specimen (hoping by 30th April 2016 if funded).</p> <p>A high level of meeting organized with officials of the enforcement agencies present at the border post (police, custom and wildlife officers to discuss how to improve coordination in wildlife crime enforcement and Awareness workshop with airlines and custom at the airport (at least 3 workshops) by (hoping by 30th April 2016 if funded).</p> <p>Development and signature of code of conduct with airlines on the measures they will take to ensure no ivory or other illegal wildlife contraband is transported (by 30th April, 2016).</p> <p>Develop and implement specific action plan with identified priority countries to curb cross boundary trafficking of ivory (by 31th October 2016).</p> <p>Increase levels of detection of illegal/wildlife specimen and coordination committee meets once every 6 months to evaluate progress in implementation (by 31th October, 2016).</p> <p>Permanent coordination set up mechanism between the agencies and Printing of flyers and distribution to the airlines and customs (31th October, 2016).</p>
E.Law Enforcement	List of priority site established.	Training of rangers to		Anti-poaching strategy implemented in other

Operations actions	<p>Modern equipment for patrol and management have been supplied in Yankari Game Reserve and other priority sites.</p> <p>Training of rangers to implement SMART at Yankari Game Reserve.</p> <p>Sufficient financial means and resources made available to provide capacity building and apply the lessons learned on the ground and training of rangers in SMART in priority elephant sites especially Yankari Game Reserve (by 30th April, 2016).</p> <p>SMART operational in Yankari Game Reserve.</p>	<p>implement SMART at, Cross-Rivers National Park, Okomu National Park, Edo State.</p> <p>Anti-poaching strategy implemented in Yankari Game Reserve, Cross-Rivers National Park, Okomu National Park, Edo State. Sufficient financial means and resources made available to provide capacity building and apply the lessons learned on the ground and training of rangers in SMART in other priority elephant sites (by 30th April, 2016).</p>		<p>Game Reserves and SMART operational in other priority sites (by 31th October, 2016).</p> <p>Patrol coverage outside protected areas increased and improved intelligence gathering and data base management on potentially illegal activities (by 31th October, 2016).</p>
	Anti-poaching strategy developed with all	Awareness raising activities		

	stakeholders on each of the priority sites. Application of SMART on elephant priority site (Yankari Game Reserve)	implemented ensure participation of local communities around key elephant sites in law enforcement		
	Patrol Staff. (Law Enforcement Managers, Rangers, Staff at all sites properly trained and equipped for effective monitoring, self-esteem and protection) in Yankari Game Reserve, Cross-Rivers National Park, Okomu National Park, Edo State.			
	Modern equipment for patrol and management will be supplied in Yankari Game Reserve and other priority sites.			

DETAILED EVALUATION OF ACTIONS

Category/pillar	Key Action Name	Evaluation	Summary of Progress(comment) in Terms of State of Activities
A.Legislation	A1.Amendment of the legal frame work on endangered species law, with a focus on increasing the fine.	Substantially achieved	Existing wildlife legislation was reviewed by the reviewing team of wildlife base background and legal practitioners.
	A2.Complete drafting and approval of the National Wildlife Protection Bill which includes the penalties that are sufficient enough to serve as a deterrent (fines and prison sentence	On track	Complete drafting of the legal frame work on endangered species law which includes adequate penalties/fines sufficient enough to serve as deterrent. Ministry of justice input of the completed draft before submission to National Assembly.

	included)		Submission to the National Assembly Parliament for First Readings. Approval of the First Reading achieved. Second Reading is on tract before public hearing.
	A3. Strengthen different wildlife legislation in Federal States (Sub regions) for harmonization	On track	Legislation harmonization strengthened in two exit point in two state (lagos and Portharcourt) and also sensitizing the key officers at the transit route on illegal shipment of ivories which is a continuous process. CITES permit is being use has a management technique also which involve thorough inspection in any two exit point before CITES Permit is issued.
	A5.Review national wildlife legislation and compare penalty frameworks and management techniques with neighboring countries	On track	Desktop review of different legislations and penalty frameworks in the region carried out. Sub-regional action planning was held to strengthened regional collaboration in Kinshasha. Nigeria delegates were unable to attend but NIAP report was submitted to assist with the development. The report of the workshop was sent to Nigeria.
B. Prosecution	B1. Develop and implement recommendations with the Ministry of Justice and police on how to more efficiently implement the wildlife law, in particular by creating specialized police brigade to deal with wildlife crime.	Challenging	Workshops organize with the Ministry of Justice and police and creating specialized police brigade to deal with wildlife crime is challenging due to lack of funds
	B3. Improve reporting to ETIS	Substantially achieved	Report of ivory seizures to ETIS is done on a regular basis by the enforcement agency (NESREA). All date on seizures of ivory are centralized at FMENV. All confiscated items with other agencies are brought together for proper documentation. Attached is inventory of seized document from 2011- till date which include name and country of suspects, date and location of apprehension, type of trade, type of CITES specimen etc.
C. Intelligence and investigations	C1.Develop and implement appropriate wildlife crime intelligence and investigation procedures by	challenging	Meetings were held with all relevant agencies. Create inter-ministerial understanding on illegal trade and the use of intelligence to address it and to develop

actions	strengthen links with other agencies, provide opportunities for interaction.		recommendations.
	C2. Carryout audit on stocks in the custody of National Environmental Standard Regulations and Enforcement Agency (NESREA)	Substantially achieved	Attached is inventory of seized document from 2011- till date which include name and country of suspects, date and location of apprehension, type of trade, type of CITES specimen. Rescue facilities for confiscation wildlife products (ivories) is reinforced and well secured
	C3. Gather intelligence on domestic illegal ivory markets e.g Lekki market, hotel (Eko) and crack down on illegal trafficking at these markets.	Substantially achieved	Survey/inventory was conducted on wildlife/wildlife products where Lekki market is selected as the case study. Questionnaire was administered to collect data on different species of ivories, sources and pictures of elephant ivory in the shops. The survey was carried out by Uzu Joshua Temiofe and Elizabeth Ehi-Ebewele, <i>Ph.d.</i> Part of the results was that majority of the buyers are Chinese. Market prices per ivory item data were also collected e.g human figurine (busts), 125 Dollars and human figurine (virgin Mary) of length 18cm is 75 Dollars. It was discovered that the ivories were sold secretly in order to avoid arrest. The ivory tusks were traded in disguise as a souvenir like combs, Key holders, bangles and human figurines for easy patronage.
	C4. Hold specialist training on wildlife crime investigation	On track	
D. National and international wildlife crime cooperation			
E. Law Enforcement Operations actions	E1. Develop and implement a detailed and concrete anti-poaching strategy (including timeline and benchmark) for Yankari Game Reserve, Cross-Rivers National Park, Okomu National Park, Edo State and other priority elephant	Substantially achieved in Yankari Game Reserve but On track in others priority site	List of priority elephant sites were established and secured. 24 hours monitoring by anti-poachers on illegal poachers. Shifting of duties by the rangers for effective monitoring of the priority elephant sites. Camouflage uniforms for the rangers and operation signs on patrol were recommended for effective monitoring.

	areas detailing the roles and responsibilities of all agencies involved and specific capacity requirement.		Zero elephant carcass was recorded and 63 arrest were made in Yankari Game Reserve.
	E2.Ranger- Based Monitoring.(SMART?) implemented in all priority elephant sites.	Substantially achieved in Yankari Game Reserve but On track in others priority site	Over 20 rangers in Yankari Game Reserve were well trained in CyberTracker monitoring program but Cross-River and Okomu National parks still on track
		On track	Implement the new SMART software at the end of 2015.
	E3.Improve status and capacity building of patrol staff in key priority elephant site.	Substantially achieved especially in yankari Game reserve where we have highest number of elephants. Also at Cross-River National Park	Patrol Staff. (Law Enforcement Managers, Rangers, Staff at all sites were properly trained on effective patrol within the elephant priority site. Over 50 personal were employed and equipped for effective monitoring and protection) in Yankari Game Reserve, Cross-Rivers National Park,Okomu National Park, Edo. A total of 48 camping patrols were completed by rangers during the period covering a total distance of 5,272 km; and 37 people were arrested for various offences (23 poachers, seven grazers, and five others for collecting firewood).
	E4.Involvement of local Communities in law enforcement activities through local intelligence gathering in key elephant sites.	On track	Contacts and meetings held with local community's security forces on regular bases on intruders into elephant priority sites. Awareness creation between community stakeholders on fines/penalties that goes with illegal possession of wildlife and wildlife products most especially elephant ivory.

REPORTING INDICATORS?

ANNEX

Annex-1 Photo showing learning camera trapping techniques in Yankari with senior ranger Jonah Umar.



Annex -2: Photo showing Two brand new 4X4 Toyota Hilux vehicles supplied by WCS to support conservation and protection of Yankari



Annex-3: Photo showing *Six grazers who attacked rangers around Rimi area in police custody, July 2015*



Annex-4: Photo showing *Elephant herd*, July 2015



Annes-5: Photo showing *Abdullahi Ibrahim* was arrested around *Faliyaram* area, July 2015



Annes-6: Photo showing ivory items (fish keyholder and cigarette holders) of different shapes in lekki market



Annes-7: Photo showing ivory virgin Mary (Right Corner) in lekki market



Annes-8: Photo showing ivory Oryx (Oryx species) in lekki market

