

**PROGRESS REPORT**  
**ON**  
**NIGERIA NATIONAL IVORY ACTION PLAN**



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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 65<sup>th</sup> 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 transboundary 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 local 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 THYE 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>	Ministry of justice input on the species protection draft		<p>Submit bill to National 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 (all not yet started, till 30<sup>th</sup> April 2016).</p> <p>Complete drafting and approval of the National Wildlife Protection Bill which includes the penalty that is sufficient and National Assembly approval of the amended bill (not yet started, till 31<sup>TH</sup> October 2016).</p> <p>A collaboration mechanism establish between Federal States (regional). 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 (all not yet started, till 30<sup>th</sup> April 2016).</p> <p>Legislation harmonization strengthen in at least three states with International airports e.g Lagos,</p>

				<p>Portharcourt, Kano, Abuja (not yet started, till 31<sup>TH</sup> October).</p> <p>Compendium existing legislation and penalties prepared and printed (not yet started, till 30<sup>th</sup> April 2016).</p> <p>Compendium distributed to court (not yet started, till 31<sup>th</sup> 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 (30<sup>th</sup> April 2016).</p> <p>Recommendations implementation at the level of Nigeria and Training session for the judiciary personnel on wildlife legislation (31<sup>th</sup> October 2016).</p>
B. Prosecution				<p>Workshops organized with the Ministry justice and police to develop recommendation on wildlife law and how to apply the law (30<sup>th</sup> April 2016.).</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. (31<sup>th</sup> October, 2016).</p> <p>Consultation with Ministry of Justice on how to develop and manage the database (30<sup>th</sup> April, 2016).</p> <p>All date on seizures of ivory are centralized at FMENV and Training for FMENV staff (10) on how to submit reports to ETIS in close cooperation with TRAFFIC (30<sup>th</sup> April 2016).</p>

				Database designed and tested in different transit route and Regular report to ETIS ensured (31 <sup>th</sup> October, 2016).
C. Intelligence and investigations actions	Inventory made of the most significant domestic ivory markets and also hotels		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 address it and to develop recommendations	<p>Based on the recommendations, develop intelligence and investigation procedure and setup a network between all agencies to share intelligence on trafficking (30<sup>th</sup> April 2016).</p> <p>Train of 15 staff each of relevant agencies in wildlife investigation and the use of intelligence and investigation procedure (30<sup>th</sup> April 2016).</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 other agencies and government service (30<sup>th</sup> April 2016).</p> <p>All confiscated items with other agencies will be brought together for proper documentation (30<sup>th</sup> April 2016).</p> <p>Intelligence network operation in combatting illegal ivory trafficking (not yet started, till 31<sup>th</sup> October 2016).</p> <p>Carry out an audit of the NESREA storage facilities and other storage facilities used for ivory and the rescue facility for confiscated wildlife products is reinforced and well secured (31<sup>th</sup> October 2016).</p> <p>All confiscated items with other agencies will be brought together for proper documentation (by 30<sup>th</sup> 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</p>

			<p>market (Lagos) and detailed recommendations for actions developed ( by 30<sup>th</sup> April 2016). Intelligence gathered to better understand supply chains to the domestic markets identified NESREA staff to have a para-military training, if possible uniform will be recommended (not yet started, hoping by 30<sup>th</sup> April 2016).</p> <p>Train staff of (FMENV), (FDF), NESREA staff on forensic analysis of seized items (at least 5 staff from different agencies (hoping by 30<sup>th</sup> 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 (31<sup>th</sup> October, 2016).</p> <p>A specialist training for at least 20 each for (FMENV), (FDF) and NESREA staff targeted for enforcement activities (31<sup>th</sup> October 2016).</p> <p>Establishment of forensic laboratory to use its capacity for wildlife crime investigations and Forensic expert hired (31<sup>th</sup> October, 2016).</p>
D. National and international wildlife crime cooperation			<p>Meeting with agencies of neighboring countries especially Republic of Benin, Chad and Cameroon to discuss improving wildlife crime enforcement at common border and develop recommendations (30<sup>th</sup> April, 2016).</p> <p>Present NIAP to potential stakeholders and ensure their participation and TOR of coordination committee agreed between agencies</p>

			<p>involved in NIAP implementation (30<sup>th</sup> April, 2016).</p> <p>Increase levels of wildlife staff like five (5) each in every exit points and borders (by 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2016).</p> <p>Provision of equipment for identification of ivory and wildlife specimen on Nigeria borders 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 30<sup>th</sup> April 2016 if funded). 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 (30<sup>th</sup> April 2016).</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 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2016).</p> <p>Develop and implement specific action plan with identified priority countries to curb cross boundary trafficking of ivory (by 31<sup>th</sup> 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 31<sup>th</sup> October, 2016).</p>
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				Permanent coordination set up mechanism between the agencies and Printing of flyers and distribution to the airlines and customs (31 <sup>th</sup> October, 2016).
E. Law Enforcement Operations actions	List of priority site established	Modern equipment for patrol and management have been supplied in Yankari Game Reserve and other priority sites.	<p>Training of rangers to implement SMART at Yankari Game Reserve, 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</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 other priority elephant sites (by 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2016). SMART operational in Yankari Game Reserve, Cross-Rivers National Park, Okomu National Park, Edo State and local intelligence system functional in key elephant sites (30<sup>th</sup> April, 2016).</p> <p>Anti-poaching strategy implemented in other Game Reserves and SMART operational in other priority sites (by 31<sup>th</sup> October, 2016).</p> <p>Patrol coverage outside protected areas increased and improved intelligence gathering and data base management on potentially illegal activities (by 31<sup>th</sup> October, 2016).</p>
	Anti-poaching strategy developed with all stakeholders on each of the priority sites.	Awareness raising activities 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.	Application of SMART on elephant priority site (Yankari Game Reserve)		
	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.	On track	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 included)	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
	A5.Review national wildlife legislation and compare penalty frameworks with neighboring countries.	On track	Desktop review of different legislations and penalty frameworks in the region carried out.

B. Prosecution			
C. Intelligence and investigations actions	C1.Develop and implement appropriate wildlife crime intelligence and investigation procedures by strengthen links with other agencies, provide opportunities for interaction.	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 recommendations.
	C3.Gather intelligence on domestic illegal ivory markets e.g Lekki market, hotel (Eko and crack down on illegal trafficking at these markets.	On track	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 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 other to avoid arrest. The ivory tusks were traded in disguise as a souvenir like combs, Key holders, bangles and human figurines for easy patronage.
D. National and international wildlife crime cooperation			
E. Law Enforcement Operations actions	E1.Develop and implement a detailed and concrete anti-poaching strategy (including timely and benchmark) for Yankari Game Reserve, Cross-Rivers National Park, Okomu National Park, Edo State and other priority elephant areas detailing the roles and responsibilities of all agencies	Substantially achieved in Yankari Game Reserve but On track in others priority site	List of priority elephant site 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

	involved and specific capacity requirement.		
	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*

**Removed by CITES Secretariat since showing confidential information**

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



Annex-5: Photo showing *XXX was arrested around Faliyaram area, July 2015*

**Removed by CITES Secretariat since showing confidential information**

Annex-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

