

APRIL 2022 NEWSLETTER

Money Laundering, a Fuel to Corruption







Dear Readers,

The Attorney General Alliance Africa (AGA-Africa) team is grateful to you for your continued readership of our monthly newsletters. This month, we have combined the April and May Newsletter and we would appreciate your feedback on how you like it.

It is now my pleasure to introduce the April and May 2022 issue of the AGA-Africa Newsletter, and to include a new monthly column on issues of concern to Africa and beyond, written by Otubea Asare, my former colleague.

During the month of April, AGA-Africa in collaboration with the Office of the Director of Public Prosecution Kenya held a 4-day workshop on Prosecution of Election Offence and Hate Speech from 4th -8th April, 2022, at the Kenya School of Government, in Nairobi Kenya.

During the same week, AGA-Africa in collaboration with the Department of Mercantile Law, University of Pretoria held a webinar on Food Law and Food Security on 7th April, 2022.

In collaboration with the Uganda Police, AGA-Africa held a two-day workshop on the Effective Investigation and Prosecution of Gender-Based Violence Offences from 20th -21st April, 2022 in Kampala, Uganda. AGA-Africa representatives also attended the Conference of Stakeholders and Partners to AML-TBH Project which was held on 27th April, 2022 in Nairobi.

On 29th -30th April, 2022, AGA-Africa in partnership with the Ministry of Justice - Directorate of Public Prosecutions Malawi held a two-day training on Oral Advocacy Skills for in Salima Malawi.

I wish to thank Her Lady Justice Martha Koome EGH, Chief Justice and President of the Supreme Court of Kenya, Noordin Haji CBS, Director of Public Prosecutions Kenya, Prof. Jacolien Barnard, Associate Professor, Department Mercantile of Law, University of Pretoria, Ann Tusime, Senior Commissioner of Police and Deputy Director Human Resources Department, Uganda Police, Frédéric BAYARD, AML-TBH Project Director & Team Leader and Dr. Steven S. Kayuni, Director of Public Prosecutions Malawi for their continued support for AGA-Africa programmes.

Markus Green ESQ. AGA-Africa Board Member



Expert Interview

1. How would you define corruption in Africa?

Corruption in Africa is a financial crime mainly associated with the abuse of entrusted power for private gain. It has been defined in anti-corruption legislation to include various acts of misconduct such as bribery; fraud; embezzlement or misappropriation of public funds: breach of trust, tax evasion, election offences. procurement fraud and bid rigging among other misconduct.

2. How prevalent is corruption in Africa?

Corruption is the most endemic financial crime in Africa and has become entrenched in all spheres of life, impacting both the public and private Sector. It has been estimated that more than USD 1 trillion is paid in bribes globally each year¹ and that Africa loses upto USD 88.8 billion in illicit financial flows each year, largely from corruption related offences.

In this regard, the global Corruption Perception Index 2021 by Transparency International indicates that Sub Saharan Africa had an average score of 33 out of 100 with no significant improvement from previous years scores, largely due to a lack of commitment by African governments to implement effective measures to eradicate the vice. Additionally, the investigation and prosecution of corruption related offences is hindered by various challenges including corruption and compromise of law enforcement and judicial officers, capacity and infrastructural constraints as well as the lack of political good will to deal effectively with corruption.

According to Transparency International's Global Corruption Barometer Africa 2019 more than one in four people who answered the survey had paid a bribe to access public services from healthcare to education in the previous year.

3. What is the relationship between corruption and money laundering?

Corruption is a predicate offence for money laundering. Illicit financial flows from corruption are laundered through financial systems worldwide, using complex schemes in the layering and integration stage of money laundering, to disguise the origin and destination of the funds.

4. How is money laundering being used to hide the proceeds of corruption in Africa?

The proceeds of corruption can be laundered in various ways e.g; deposits of cash or cheques in the

bank accounts of public officials(PEPS) or electronic transfers to these accounts, cashing of cheques over

the counter, with the money being deposited in the bank accounts of public officials or persons/entities related to public officials, conversion to foreign currency, purchases of high cost goods, shares, real estate, luxury vehicles etc. Complex financial flows or arrangements can also be used to transfer the proceeds to a PEPS account in another jurisdiction or the accounts of family members or close associates. Corporate structures are also set up as fronts to receive the proceeds of crime through their bank accounts.



Mercy W. Buku Anti-Monéy Laundering/ Combating the Financing of Terrorism (AML/CFT) Consultant

5. How can governments and law enforcement agencies in Africa enhance the fight on money laundering?

Governments need to put in place and commit to the implementation of effective policy and legislative measures to combat corruption and money laundering. Such measures would include adequate legislation to curb corruption in both the public and private sector with appropriate punitive measures and provision of appropriate infrastructural support to the agencies tasked with enforcing the law. This support includes investment in modern investigative tools to facilitate financial intelligence and evidence gathering, capacity building and training on corruption and money laundering and other financial crimes, monitoring of public officers' financial transactions

6. What is AGA-Africa doing to equip the justice system in Africa to tackle money-laundering cases?

AGA has played a pivotal role in building the capacity of law enforcement agencies, prosecution and judicial officers and other stakeholders to deal effectively with corruption, money laundering, terrorist financing and other financial crimes, through continuous training and awareness programmes on financial crimes, relevant international and regional regulatory frameworks, investigations, financial intelligence gathering, and the prosecution and adjudication of financial crimes.

² https://unctad.org/system/files/official-document/aldcafrica2020_en.pdf

World Bank Institute Report http://web.worldbank.org/archive/website00818/WEB/MEDIAMEN.HTM



Newsbytes

> Prosecution of Election Offenses & Hate Speech, Kenya, 4th -8th April, 2022

The right by a country's citizenship to exercise power through free and fair elections is what makes democracy and self-government possible. The Prosecution of Election Offenses & Hate Speech training was organised with an objective of equipping the participants with knowledge on election laws and emerging criminal jurisprudence in the electoral field as well as increasing their competencies in the handling of such cases for effective and efficient prosecution of election offences.

The event was attended by, Her Lady Justice Martha Koome EGH, Chief Justice and President of the Supreme Court of Kenya, Noordin Haji CBS, OGW, Director of Public Prosecutions-Kenya, Markus Green Esq, AGA-Africa Board Member, Wafula Chebukati, Chairperson of the Independent Elections and Boundaries Commission (IEBC), Yvonne Atakora, Director of Public Prosecutions-Ghana, Dr. Samuel Kobia, Chairman of the National Cohesion and Integration Commission-Kenya, and Ezra Chiloba, Director General Communications Authority of Kenya amongst other distinguished guests.

In his speech, Mr. Green noted that prosecutors are a key component of the legal fraternity uniquely tasked with ensuring electoral justice prevails by upholding the Rule of Law. It is therefore critical for prosecutors to enhance their knowledge of effective prosecution of election offences with the focus on hate speech.



Markus Green Esq, AGA- Africa **Board Member**



Her Lady Justice Martha Koome EGH, Chief Justice and President of the Supreme Court of Kenya



Noordin Haji CBS, OGW, Director of Public Prosecutions Kenya



A group photo of the participants during the Prosecution of Election Offenses & Hate Speech workshop



> Food Law and Food Security Law Webinar, 7th April 2022, South Africa

Access to sufficient amounts of safe and nutritious food is key to sustaining life and promoting good health. There is therefore need to share experience from different jurisdictions on food law and food safety in order to enhance knowledge and strategies for effective regulation and consumer protection in line with food safety and security.

The Food Law and Food Security Law Webinar was organised with an aim of laying a major focus on the food law regulatory framework in South Africa, the impact of the listeriosis outbreak 2018 on the Food Safety regime

in South Africa as well as enhancing cooperation between government departments, regulators, the food industry and private institutions to ensure food safety, traceability and quality.

In her opening remarks, AGA-Africa country coordinator for South Africa, Kim Robinson, noted that the recent increase in the sale of foods on-line, has brought about an increased focus on food safety, traceability and food quality hence the need for collaboration and regulation between states and/or countries to facilitate food security.



Prof. Jacolien Barnard Professor, Department Mercantile of Law, Law Faculty, University of Pretoria



Speakers at the Food Law and Food Security Law Webinar



> Effective Investigation and Prosecution of Gender-Based Violence Offences Workshop, Uganda, 20th - 21st April 2022, Uganda

Sexual and Gender-based violence affects both male and female in the society although most reported cases affect women and girls. Most Sexual and Gender-based violence cases however remain under-reported as this crime is clouded in shame and most investigation techniques have proven to be ineffective and further retraumatize the victims.

The Effective Investigation and Prosecution of Gender-Based Violence Offences Workshop which was organised to lay a focus on this topic, was attended by Ann Tusime, Senior Commissioner of Police and Deputy

Director of Human Resources Department, Uganda Police, John Edozie, AGA-Africa International Advisor, and law enforcement officers from the Uganda Police.

In his opening remarks, Mr. Edozie that Gender-Based violence disproportionately affects women and girls in the society and remains largely under-reported, emphasizing the urgent and critical need to discuss victim-centred ideas and solutions on how to effectively investigate and prosecute such crimes.



John Edozie, AGA-Africa international advisor



Ann Tusime, Senior Commissioner of Police and Deputy Director Human Resources Department, Uganda Police



A cross-section of the workshop participants



A group photo of the AGA-Africa and Uganda Police representative with workshop facilitators and participants



Conference of Stakeholders and Partners to the Anti-Money Laundering / Trafficking in Human Beings (AML-TBH) Project, Kenya

AGA-Africa representatives attended the Conference of Stakeholders and Partners to AML-TBH Project, which was held on 27th April 2022 in Nairobi.

The conference was aimed at promoting interactions among the participants as well as looking back at what the AML-THB Project has achieved and looking forward to what comes next after the project. Mr. Frédéric BAYARD, Anti-Money Laundering Project Head Manager among other dignitaries, officially opened the conference.

AGA-Africa was represented by Chukukere Unamba-Oparah, AGA-Africa Programme Director and Country Coordinator for Kenya and Lillian Mwaniki, AGA-Africa Programme Manager.

> Oral Advocacy Skills Workshop, 29th -30th April, 2022, Malawi

The Oral Advocacy Skills which was held in Salima, Malawi was attended by the Attorney General of the Republic of Malawi Thabo Chakaka Nyirenda, the Director of Public Prosecutions Malawi Dr. Steven S. Kayuni, and AGA-Africa Country Coordinator for Malawi, Gift Chikwakwa among local, regional and international subject matter experts and prosecutors from the Directorate of Public Prosecutions Malawi.

Speaking on behalf of AGA-Africa Board Member, Markus Green Esq, AGA-Africa Country Coordinator for Malawi, Gift Chikwakwa noted that good Trial Advocacy Skills are essential in upholding the Rule of Law as they enhance the capacity of prosecutors to effectively present evidence and witnesses hence mounting well-presented cases against criminals in court.



Dziko Malunda, Senior Assistant Chief Advocate Directorate of Public Prosecutions



Attorney General of the Republic of Malawi Mr. Thabo Chakaka Nyirenda



Caroline Gift Chikwakwa, AGA-Africa Country Coordinator for Malawi



A group photo of the AGA-Africa and Ministry of Justice - Directorate of Public Prosecutions Malawi representatives with workshop facilitators and participants



A cross-section of the workshop participants



A note from the Editor

We are proud to introduce a new column that will focus on issues of concern to countries in Africa and beyond by Otubea Asare. Otubea has a BSc in Finance and a BA in Economics from the University of the District of Columbia and a MA in international relations and graduate certificate in International Business Management from Georgetown University. She speaks German, French, Spanish, and other languages.

She has worked at Pfizer for 20 years and currently works in healthcare, risk awareness training, and economic advocacy. Otubea is honored to volunteer as Chair of Community Services for DC Hoyas, (an alumni group). Her late paternal grandfather was a large-scale cocoa farmer in Suhum, in Ghana's Eastern Region. We hope that this column, which may go beyond the focus of AGA - Africa's rule of law/legal issues, will present useful information that will build upon interrelated cooperation, and provide food for thought for future action.

The Dangers of Extreme Food Insecurity in

by Otubea Asare



Described as a consistent lack of regular access to adequate food and nutrition, food insecurity threatens the health, wellbeing, economic, political, and social gains that have been made in Africa, home to 1.3 billion people. If food security is not adequately addressed, the continent could be imperiled.

Observers are commenting on the potential scale of the disaster,

including Dr. Akinwumi Adesina, President of the African Development Bank, who fears that the war in Ukraine could trigger a food crisis in Africa and destabilize the continent, since 14 countries in Africa get at least half their wheat from Russia and Ukraine. Some countries in the Horn of Africa - Ethiopia (Tigray crisis), South Sudan, Kenya and Somalia - were already suffering severe food insecurity before the pandemic: 25% of the continent's population now lives with severe food insecurity, including south of the Sahara.

Factors contributing to food insecurity include, but are not limited to:

- Disruptions to the global food supply system and long-lasting conflict(s)
- · Price pressures due to agricultural shocks and shortages, lack of crop diversity
- Unequal access to food supplies amid systemic pricing inequities
- Unaffordable high fertilizer prices disadvantaging small scale farmers
- · Increased competition and demand for diminished

- supply
- · Global warming; climate change-induced drought causing crop failures

The 2020 SARS COV 2 Pandemic, and the current war in Ukraine are the latest shocks directly increasing worldwide food insecurity, the war has propelled matters to crisis levels. As a guest speaker on National Public Radio (NPR) put it in April, the war in Ukraine is "an era defining crisis with ripple effects across the globe." According to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the hardest hit regions include 418 million impacted in Asia, 282 million affected in Africa, and 60 million in Latin America and the Caribbean.

During a recent food security meeting with finance leaders from the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, U. S. Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen stated that "Moreover, the interconnectedness of the global food system means that people on every continent are impacted." Given the gravity of the situation, donor fatigue and competing crises must not defeat the moral duty to provide, as food is a necessity required in order to live. At this critical juncture, all countries suffering the disproportionate consequences of climate change and conflict should receive the vital food assistance needed to feed their populations: people living in African countries should not starve and neither should people living anywhere else.

Ukraine and Russia produce one third of the world's wheat - the FAO buys more than half of its wheat for distribution to crisis countries from Ukraine - and the war has exposed the dangers of near total dependence on "localized" globalization, sourcing the bulk of an important staple



crop from one region. This underscores the need for crop diversification and diversifying global food supply to other regions of the world, including Africa. Implementing medium or large-scale farming strategically in African countries could alleviate supply disruptions.

The current food insecurity crisis shows no signs of abating in the near future and normalization will take time. More resiliency and transparency are needed to withstand future shocks, man-made or natural. Climate change will present challenges even once the war and the pandemic are over, causing international mass migration, creating climate refugees, and increasing the number of internally displaced persons. NASA climatologist and agronomist, Dr. Cynthia Rosenzweig, recipient of the 2022 World Food Prize states that, "We basically cannot solve climate change unless we address the issues of the greenhouse gas emissions from the food system, and we cannot provide food security for all unless we work really hard to develop resilient systems." Certainly, these are intractable problems that must be resolved.

Protracted extreme food insecurity in Africa poses risks, with deleterious effects possibly extending beyond the African continent. The stalled progress, declining quality of life and resultant suffering would be monumental, giving

rise to wide-spread social unrest, political destabilization, rising crime, civil disobedience, domestic and genderbased violence, ultimately leading to mass migration and increased human trafficking. Rogue actors could feel emboldened to inveigle their way into exploiting the situation. Terrorists gaining traction, hijacking food convoys, and recruiting desperate young men, are distinct possibilities.

In the midst of an ongoing pandemic, food and nutrition are the first line of defense for maintaining health, especially for growing infants, children and the promising youth - hunger must no longer be allowed to play a role in their future, with or without the UN's Sustainable Development Goals of zero hunger by 2030. The world is at an inflection point, and Africa must get ahead in spite of the many obstacles.

In his book Things Fall Apart, the esteemed Nigerian author Chinua Achebe quotes from William Butler Yeats' The Second Coming: "Turning and turning in the widening gyre, the falcon cannot bear the falconer; things fall apart, the center cannot hold. Mere anarchy is loosed upon the world." The world cannot afford any more anarchy resulting from extreme and prolonged food insecurity in Africa or elsewhere.



Thank You

A big thank you to facilitators of the month:

Food Law and Food Security Law Webinar - University of Pretoria, South Africa

- Lauren Handel, Principle Attorney, Handel Food &Law
- Stephen Gardner, Expert Consultant, Food Law and Class Action Issues
- Joseph Yaw-Bernie Bennie Esq, Director, Legal and Corporate Affairs, FDA, Ghana
- Caroline Smith DeWAAL, Deputy Director, EatSafe
- Dr. Tracy Muwanga, Post-Doctoral Researcher, Faculties of Law and Natural & Agricultural Sciences, University of Pretoria
- John Ukegbu, Senior Staff Attorney, New Jersey Office, Northeast New Jersey Legal Services

Effective Investigation and Prosecution of Gender-Based Violence Offences Workshop, Uganda

- Jerrod Fussnecker, Assistant Attorney General, State of South Carolina
- Samali Wakooli, Assistant Director and Head of Department Gender, Children and Sexual Offences, Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions
- Rosemary Nalubega, Acting Commissioner, in Charge of Sexual Offenses and Children Cases CID, Uganda
- Maureen Atuhaire, Acting Commissioner, Child and Family Protection Department, Uganda Police Force
- Evelyn Mboya, Officer In Charge, Cyber Division, Directorate of Criminal Investigations, Anti Human Trafficking and Child Protection Unit (AHTCPU)

Oral Advocacy Skills Workshop- Directorate of Public Prosecutions, Malawi

- Brian McMath CIPP/US, Division Director, Consumer & Environmental Protection, New Mexico Office of the **Attorney General**
- Dr. Jean Phillipo-Priminta, Chief State Advocate, Ministry of Justice & Constitutional Affairs, Directorate of **Public Prosecutions**
- Gracilia Chipulu Mulenga, Principal State Advocate, Taxation and Financial Crimes Department, National **Prosecution Authority**
- Barbra Tsiga, Deputy Commissioner of Police and Director of Legal Services, Malawi Police Service
- Dzikondianthu Malunda, Senior Assistant Chief State Advocate, Directorate of Public Prosecutions
- Pirirani Masanjala, Prosecutor, Ministry of Justice -Director of Public Prosecutions, Malawi
- · Jacob Montfort Nambiri, Principal Paralegal Officer, Directorate of Public Prosecutions, Malawi
- Stephen Kiptinness, Senior Partner, Technology & Intellectual Property



AGA-AFRICA AFRICA PARTNERSHIP FOR JUSTICE

MAY 2022 NEWSLETTER



The Economic Impact of

Wildlife Trafficking



Foreword

Dear Readers.

It is my pleasure to introduce the May 2022 issue of the AGA-Africa Newsletter.

This month AGA-Africa, in collaboration with the Aviation Police and Uganda Civil Aviation Authority, held a 2-day workshop on Cybersecurity and Anti-money Laundering from 12th - 13th May 2022 in Entebbe, Uganda

AGA-Africa also participated in the International Association of Prosecutors (IAP) 4th Regional Conference of Africa and Indian Ocean, & the East Africa Association of Prosecutors (EAAP) Conference 2022, which was held from 16th - 20th May 2022 in Mombasa, Kenya.

In collaboration with the Anti-Corruption Commission of Zambia, AGA-Africa held a 3-Day training on Forensic Sciences and Examination of Digital Devices from 17th -19th May 2022 in Lusaka, Zambia. AGA-Africa also signed the 7th Memorandum of Understanding in Zambia with the Anti-Corruption Commission of Zambia on 17th May 2022.

During the same time, AGA-Africa also held a 3-day workshop on Virtual Currency Investigations in collaboration with the Anti-Corruption Bureau, Malawi from 17th -19th May 2022 in Salima, Malawi.

In collaboration with the Wildlife Investigators Training Alliance (WITA) and Department of National Parks and Wildlife (DNPW), Malawi, AGA-Africa held a series of Operation Safe Ranger Trainings from 24th-25th, 26th-27th and 30th-31st, May, 2022 in Malawi, aimed at providing critical skills that could save game ranger lives and promote community relations in and around protected areas.

In collaboration with the Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC), AGA-Africa also held a 4- day workshop on Internet Governance and Safeguarding the Cyberspace from 23rd -24th and 25th -26th May, 2022, in Abuja, Nigeria.

During the same time, AGA-Africa also held a 3-day symposium on Election Dispute Resolution for Court of Appeal judges, in collaboration with the Kenya Judiciary Academy (KJA) and the Judiciary Committee on Elections (JCE) supported by the Electoral Law and Governance Institute for Africa (ELGIA), the International

Commission of Jurists-Kenya (ICJ) and the International Foundation for Electoral System (IFES) from 25th -27th May 2022 in Mombasa, Kenya.

I wish to thank Fred Bamwesigye, Director General of Uganda Civil Aviation Authority, Noordin Mohamed Haji, OGW, CBS, Director of Public Prosecutions-Kenya, Silumesii Muchula, Acting Director General Anti-Corruption Commission - Zambia, Milner Muyambango, Deputy Inspector General Zambia Police Service, Dan Mponda, Director of Investigations Anti-Corruption Bureau (Malawi) and Vincent Chipeta, Acting Director General, Financial Intelligence Authority (Malawi), Shawn Karns, Criminal Investigator & President, Wildlife Investigators Training Alliance (WITA), Prof. Umar Garba Danbatta, Chief Executive Officer and Executive Vice Chairman, Nigerian Communications Commission and Hon. Justice Smokin C. Wanjala, Judge of the Supreme Court of Kenya and the Director of the Kenya Judiciary Academy for their continued support for AGA-Africa programmes.



Markus Green ESQ AGA-Africa, Board Member



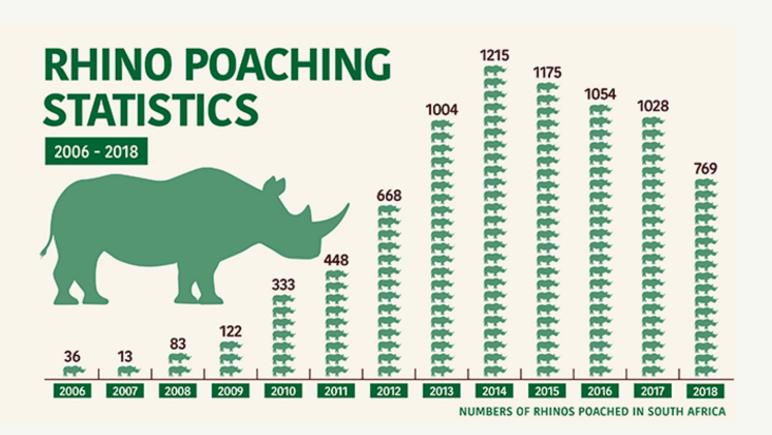
The Economic Impact of Wildlife **Trafficking**

The impact of Illegal Wildlife Trafficking is increasingly becoming a major threat to iconic wildlife species all over Africa. Illegal Wildlife Trafficking is now considered to be the world's fourth largest internationally-organized crime, generating between USD \$7 and \$23 billion every year. Additionally, the COVID-19 pandemic really hampered tourism leaving community conservation with little or no resources to help manage and finance activities.

Although there are many different threats to wildlife from multiple sources, such as pollution, deforestation and destruction of the natural habitat,

wildlife trafficking is one of the greatest threats contributing significantly to the problem through poaching, harvesting, or depleting significant quantities of already endangered or at-risk species.

Wildlife crime undermines the economic prosperity of countries and communities in the region, deteriorating their natural capital, social stability and cohesion, and threatening sustainable economic development, including the erosion of benefits derived from legal nature-based enterprises like tourism.



https://boucherlegacy.co.za/the-latest-rhino-numbers-2019/



Expert Interview





Shawn Karns. Criminal Investigator & President, Wildlife *Investigators Training Alliance (WITA)*

What role does Wildlife and Tourism play in African economies?

Wildlife and Tourism both play a vital part in African economies in many ways. A healthy and balanced wildlife population promotes ecological diversity which is necessary for our ecosystem to function properly. Everything, including humans, wildlife, land, air, and water must work in a symbiotic relationship; each aspect must interact in concert with the other. When there is a healthy environment with suitable habitat and sustainable wildlife populations, tourists bring money into the local economy in many ways. These tourists compensate locals for all aspects of the experience, including lodging, restaurants, guide services, art, and transportation.

In turn, wildlife tourism may open avenues for other types of tourism including cultural, adventure, relaxation, and historical opportunities.

Once local populations understand and experience the benefits of protecting intact ecosystems, local citizens become another set of eyes and ears when it comes to identifying, preventing, and prosecuting poaching activity. This promotes a collaborative relationship between Wildlife Rangers and the local community. Essentially, a dynamic is created wherein, everyone is working for the betterment of the wildlife population. This community policing approach assures that everyone who wants to promote wildlife conservation and tourism are on the same page.

No wildlife means no tourism dollars which translates

to loss of livelihood for Wildlife Rangers and the local community. However, with protected, intact wildlife populations, people from across the world come to Africa to see the great herd migrations, the majestic elephants, the beautiful landscape and unique flora and fauna.

How prevalent is wildlife trafficking in Africa?

Illegal wildlife trafficking (IWT) is an incredibly lucrative and sophisticated criminal network that generates billions of dollars in profits each year. It is strongly associated with other environmental crimes, corruption, and money laundering. In Africa, nearly every living thing that walks, swims, crawls and climbs has a price on its head. Elephants, rhinoceros, hippos, lions, mountain gorillas, pangolins, certain tortoises, primates, and cheetahs all have substantial, widespread markets for pet, medicinal or ornamental value.

Africa serves as a source, transit point, and market for IWT, and there is strong evidence that some governments support and foster these activities. The US State Department annually identifies Focus Countries and Countries of Concern in the realm of IWT. Countries of concern are those countries in which the government has actively engaged in or knowingly profited from illegal wildlife trafficking. Countries are those which function as major sources, consumers, or transit points for wildlife trafficking. Of the 28 Focus Countries across the globe, 13 are in Africa. Of the 6 Countries of Concern worldwide, 4 are in Africa.



Wildlife trafficking on the world stage represents billions of USD, only behind arms trafficking, narcotics, and human smuggling. Sadly, African wildlife is of the greatest demand; elephants for their ivory and hides, rhinos for their horns, and pangolins (the most trafficked mammal in the world) for their scales. Although there is a demand for many different species throughout the world, Africa's wildlife is particularly sought after in Asia where Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) is driving the demand where rhino horn and pangolin scales are used as medicinals (several studies show there is no medicinal value to these animal parts i.e. pangolins scales are composed of keratin, the same as our fingernails). Furthermore, elephant ivory is often carved in ornate patterns and displayed to depict status. The price of rhino horn, ground into a powder and used in TCM is worth more than cocaine. To put things into perspective, wildlife traffickers are involved in elaborate and sophisticated transnational criminal organizations. Oftentimes, wildlife crime intersects with other illicit and well-funded criminal networks. Wildlife trafficking and illegal charcoal trade have been shown to fund terrorist organizations such as Al-Shabaab, which has claimed responsibility for killing 64 humans in Kenyan villages as well as another 70 human souls during its siege of a shopping mall in Nairobi.

An additional element of wildlife trafficking that must be examined is that of the bushmeat trade. illegal harvesting of multiple species to feed starving communities appears at the surface as simply taking an occasional animal to feed members of a village. Unfortunately, it is more complicated than that. Bushmeat consumption has become a chic epicurean adventure, and exotic wild animals fetch high prices at fine dining establishments in large metropolitan areas. On our multiple trips to Africa, we have personally witnessed bushmeat being offered for sale at local markets and restaurants.

What impact does wildlife trafficking have on the economies in different African countries?

Wildlife trafficking greatly impacts the economy throughout Africa. Simply put, when there is no or little wildlife to see, tourism declines and the local economy suffers. When wildlife populations are exploited by poaching, there is little incentive for wildlife tourism.

Wildlife trafficking and the sophisticated cartels that drive the market are also engaged in other transnational crimes such as arms dealing, human smuggling, and narcotics distribution. These offenses also contribute to a more lawless and unstable society. When crime escalates, people are deterred from traveling, investing, and engaging at the local as well as the continental level. This ultimately leads to a chain reaction at all levels of society.

Wildlife and parks departments also suffer. They are dependent on tourism funds to support law enforcement and wildlife management efforts. Protecting wildlife properly requires well-trained and well-equipped rangers as these brave individuals are the first line of defense against poachers and wildlife traffickers. management is expensive. Habitat improvements, park boundary fencing, and promotion of National Parks account for a substantial portion of a National Parks and Wildlife budget. This was particularly highlighted during the recent Covid-19 pandemic. Government funding was limited, and outside investment was severely curtailed. Communities supporting the National Parks, Ranger salaries, habitat improvements, tour operators, and all those dependent on these resources suffered.

How can governments and law enforcement agencies in Africa enhance the fight against wildlife trafficking?

Funding, training, and equipment. All three components are necessary to combat wildlife trafficking at the local and international level. WITA encourages funding, training, and distributing equipment locally to fight wildlife trafficking globally.

As previously stated, outfitting rangers, and managing wildlife takes funding. It is imperative the governing bodies are educated about the value of wildlife and biological diversity and thus prioritize the allocation of funding those agencies that combat IWT.

These governments must also be receptive to working with NGO's such as AGA-Africa and WITA. Fighting wildlife trafficking takes teamwork, collaboration, and coordination. AGA-Africa has made it possible for WITA to deliver anti-wildlife trafficking training to over 1,400 Rangers, Investigators, Prosecutors, Financial Intelligence Organizations, other NGOs, and members of the judiciary in Malawi, Zambia, and South Africa, thus far. These trainings include topics such as Crime Scene Management, Intelligence Management, Time of Death, Prosecutorial Techniques, Anti-Corruption, Informant Handling, Digital Forensics, Undercover Operations, Surveillance, First-Aid, Financial Investigations, Analytical Techniques, and Ranger Safety. Most trainings are immersive and intense in-person sessions. However,



during the pandemic AGA-Africa also made it possible to deliver trainings virtually.

Complex investigations into money laundering and crimes associated with IWT are a critical next development in the fight against criminal syndicates. Single poachers must be apprehended and prosecuted, but the most effective way to end wildlife trafficking is to "follow the money" and apprehend the heads of these organized crime networks.

Going up against armed poachers from the local level to organized criminal trafficking cartels, Wildlife Rangers need to be properly equipped to both succeed and survive. Over the past four years, WITA and AGA-Africa have handed over multiple crime-scene processing kits, surveillance cameras, boots, clothing, body armor, tactical vests, handcuffs, rain gear, and comprehensive first-aid kits and tourniquets exceeding a value over USD 250,000.

These collaborative efforts between AGA-Africa and WITA seek to empower and equip the various governmental agencies throughout Africa to combat wildlife trafficking at all levels of the supply chain.

What is AGA-Africa doing to equip the justice system in Africa to tackle wildlife trafficking cases? AGA-Africa began in 2016 and has grown to a presence in nine African countries. AGA Africa's ability to address several aspects of transnational crime including Human Trafficking, Wildlife Trafficking, Preventing Counterfeit Drugs, Countering Terrorism, Cybercrime, Money Laundering, and Fighting Gender-Based Violence has been phenomenal. Furthermore, AGA-Africa takes an organic approach that provides training at all levels of the criminal justice system to include police, investigators, prosecutors, and members of the judiciary.

AGA-Africa's promotion of best practices within the criminal justice system leads to stronger cases resulting in successful prosecutions and appropriate sentences for the crimes committed. Additionally, AGA-Africa's

trainings and conferences advance the ability of those trained to network with other legal professionals... knowledge empowers people.

AGA-Africa's comprehensive approach to combatting transnational crime has been instrumental in highlighting and prioritizing the several billion-dollar wildlife trade business as real crime. AGA-Africa has supported this position at all levels of the judiciary. Society has traditionally looked at wildlife crime as a victimless crime and nothing could be further from the truth. The loss of wildlife affects society both financially and aesthetically. Additionally, Rangers are killed and assaulted in the line of duty regularly while on the front lines of protecting wildlife.

How has your experience been like working with **AGA-Africa?**

WITA is honored and proud to be partnered with AGA-Africa in the fight against transnational wildlife crime. AGA-Africa has made multiple trainings and donations of vital equipment to African countries possible bot financially and on the ground. AGA-Africa's country coordinators such as Gift Chikwakwa of Malawi, Dr. Freda Mwamba Brazle of Zambia, Kim Robinson of South Africa, and their support teams have been phenomenal to work with. Their on the ground support, guidance, perspective, and friendship have been invaluable to WITA. Their contacts in their respective countries make our job at WITA much more manageable. The amount of work by these dedicated people that takes place in preparation for a training is to be commended and is always appreciated by us.

The AGA-Africa leadership including, but not limited to Karen White, Marcus Green, John Edozie, David Blake, Chuks Unabma Omparah and their support teams are also to be acknowledged for the continued support of WITA. We are truly privileged to work with such a great group of leaders who drive the AGA-Africa mission and their partnership with WITA. We are forever grateful to work with such an amazing organization.



Newsbytes

> Cybersecurity and Anti-Money Laundering, 12th – 13th May 2022, Entebbe, Uganda

Uganda today is a critical regional hub for transnational crime networks since it sits at the heart of important routes that are not only responsible for trafficking drugs, money laundering and financing terrorism but also facilitating for trafficking in wildlife.

The Cybersecurity and Anti-money Laundering workshop was organised to educate the participants about the complexities of money laundering and cybercrime in Uganda and the tools to deal with emerging threats in the field. This useful information will then enhance capacity to detect, investigate and prosecute such cases in the country.

Participants includes: Olive Birungi Lumonya, Deputy Director General of Uganda Civil Aviation Authority, Caroline Mbabazi, AGA-Africa Country Coordinator for Uganda and over 50 officers and investigators from Aviation Police, Uganda Civil Aviation Authority (UCAA), and Immigration, among others.

Speaking on behalf of AGA-Africa Board Member, Markus Green Esq, Ms. Caroline Mbabazi, AGA-Africa Country Coordinator for Uganda, noted that Uganda's central position in East Africa makes it vulnerable to transnational crimes; Thus there is a need to build the capacity by equipping law enforcement officers with tools and knowledge to mount successful investigations and prosecution.



Ms. Caroline Mbabazi, AGA-Africa Country Coordinator for Uganda



Olive Birungi Lumonya, Deputy Director General of Uganda Civil Aviation Authority



A group photo of AGA-Africa, Aviation Police and Civil Aviation Authority of Uganda workshop facilitators



A group photo of workshop facilitators and participants



> The International Association of Prosecutors (IAP) 4th Regional Conference of Africa and Indian Ocean, & the East Africa Association of Prosecutors (EAAP) Conference 2022, 16th -20th May 2022, Mombasa, Kenya

The conference themed "Effective Mechanisms to Respond to Emerging and Transnational Organised Crime in Africa: Country Experiences and Challenges" brought together Attorneys General, Prosecutors General and Directors of Public Prosecutions to improve specialised knowledge on Transnational Organised Crime in Africa and to strengthen the prosecutorial networks to continue the sharing of knowledge and experience.

AGA-Africa was represented by Mr. John Edozie, AGA-Africa International Advisor, who briefly

introduced AGA-Africa and its work in Africa. Subject matter expert from AGA-Africa, Mr. Xavier Cunningham, Assistant United States Attorney in the United States Attorney's Office, Southern District of Georgia, spoke during the Money Laundering and Asset Recovery panel discussion.

Discussions focused on cross-border legal frameworks and how to handle proceeds of crimes from foreign jurisdictions.



Mr. John Edozie, AGA-Africa International Advisor



Xavier Cunningham, Assistant United States Attorney in the United States Attorney's Office, Southern District of Georgia



A group photo of the conference participants with H.E Uhuru Kenyatta, President of the Republic of Kenya among other key dignitaries



> Forensic Sciences and Examination of Digital Devices Training, 17th -19th May 2022, Zambia

The new technology has availed various schemes that criminals use to propagate corruption and other crimes across the globe. As a result, it is imperative that investigators and prosecutors acquire skills on forensics science and examination of digital devices.

The Forensic Sciences and Examination of Digital Devices training was aimed skills-building on how to retrieve, analyse, store and present this evidence in courts of law in order to improve investigation and prosecution of corruption and related cases.

The training brought together prosecutors from the Anti-Corruption Commission, Zambia Police Service, Drug Enforcement Commission, National Prosecutions Authority and Information Technology experts from Zambia Information and Communication Technologies Authority (ZICTA).

Dr. Feda Brazle, AGA-Africa Country Coordinator for Zambia, emphasized that law enforcement officers require skills in forensics and examination of digital devices in order to effectively keep up with cybercriminal tactics, which are ever changing.



Silumesi Muchula, Acting Director General, the Anti-Corruption Commission



Dr. Feda Brazle, AGA-Africa Country Coordinator for Zambia



Mr. Milner Muyambango, Deputy Inspector General, Zambia Police Service



A group photo of AGA-Africa, Zambia Police and Anti-Corruption Commission-Zambia representatives, workshop facilitators and participants.

> MOU Signing with the Anti-Corruption Commission of Zambia

AGA-Africa further solidified the relationship with the Anti-Corruption Commision of Zambia through the signing of the 7th Memorandum of Understanding in Zambia on 17th May 2022. Dr. Freda Brazle, AGA-Africa Country Coordinator for Zambia represented AGA-Africa while Mr. Silumesii Muchula, the Acting Director General of the Anti-Corruption Commission of Zambia Represented the Anti-Corruption Commission of Zambia.



L to R - Dr. Freda Brazle, AGA-Africa Country Coordinator for Zambia with Mr. Silumesii Muchula, the Acting Director General of the Anti-Corruption Commission of Zambia during the MOU Signing

> Virtual Currency Investigations Workshop, 17th - 19th May 2022, Malawi

The Virtual Currency Investigations Workshop was aimed at facilitating discussions to enhance participants' knowledge on the nature and extent of virtual currency transactions, and equip them with the skills to identify, investigate and prosecute corruption cases related to virtual currencies.

The event was attended by **Dan Mponda**, Director of Investigations Anti-Corruption Bureau (Malawi), Vincent Chipeta, Acting Director General, Financial Intelligence Authority (Malawi), Gift Chikwakwa, AGA- Africa Country Coordinator for Malawi among other participants.

Speaking on behalf of Markus Green, AGA-Africa Board Member, Ms. Chikwakwa emphasized the critical need to enhance the capacity of prosecutors in the effective investigation & prosecution of corruption cases related to virtual currencies.

Mr. Vincent Chipeta, Acting Director General, Financial Intelligence Authority (Malawi) also noted that the Covid-19 pandemic has been a factor that has facilitated growth of Virtual Assets and Virtual Assets Service Providers and their improved methods. As a response to the pandemic, Financial Institutions have promoted measures aimed at reducing face-to-face transactions. "These methods allow criminals to move around funds obtained from illicit activities such as fraud, theft, corruption, illegal wildlife crime, and drug trafficking, just to mention a few," noted.





Ms. Gift Caroline Chikwakwa, AGA-Africa Country Coordinator for Malawi



Dan Mponda, Director of Investigations at Anti-Corruption Bureau, Malawi



Vincent Steven Chipeta, Acting Director General, Financial Intelligence Authority, Malawi



A group photo of AGA-Africa, Financial Intelligence Authority (Malawi) & the Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) Malawi representatives with the workshop facilitators and participants

> Operation Safe Ranger of Trainings, 24th – 25th, 26th – 27th and 30th – 31st, May 2022, Malawi

Wildlife crimes threaten the natural ecosystem of Africa, and by consequence threaten human lives. Equipping rangers with fundamental skills like recognizing non-verbal threat signals, de- escalation techniques, and tactical situational control can save lives, which would otherwise be lost, undermining wildlife conservation.

The need for ranger safety and first aid was emphasized by testimonies from some rangers participating in the workshop. These rangers were attacked, shot, at and hacked with a machete by poachers. They also had broken legs during the attack but were saved through First Aid by their fellow rangers.

Ms. Gift Chikwakwa, AGA-Africa Country Representative (Malawi) during her opening remarks noted that the lack of First Aid supplies, like hemostatic agents and tourniquets, which are relatively inexpensive but nonetheless life-saving, and preventing deaths.

"These series of trainings will endeavor to provide the critical skills that could save game ranger lives and promote community relations in and around protected areas. Protect yourself first at all times. Put on your protective clothing. Do a rapid assessment to evaluate what you can do and prioritize and then give care, i.e. EVALUATE and PRIORITIZE. After giving care, document and communicate what you have done," noted Ms. Stephanie Durno Karns, Wildlife Biologist & Project Coordinator.



Caroline Gift Chikwakwa, AGA-Africa Country Representative for Malawi



Stephanie Durno Karns, Wildlife Biologist & **Project Coordinator**



Operation Safe Ranger workshop participants demonstrating a first aid scenario during the training



Shawn Karns, Criminal Investigator & President, WITA with Stephanie Durno Karns, Wildlife Biologist & Project Coordinator, WITA demonstrating survival skills in the forest to the rangers



A group photo of the workshop participants at the Operation Safe Ranger Series of Trainings

Internet Governance and Safeguarding the Cyberspace Workshops, `23rd -24th and 25th -26th May 2022, Nigeria

Cybercrime and e-fraud are currently the leading challenges facing Internet users all over the globe. The Coronavirus pandemic has sped up global digitalization as most of the world economies have been forced to move online and adopt new measures for business continuity, thus increasing cybersecurity threats across the world.

The Internet Governance and Safeguarding the Cyberspace Workshops were aimed at equipping the participants with knowledge on cybersecurity challenges and the role that internet governance plays in effectively curbing cybercrime and maintaining the integrity of cyberspace.

The trainings were attended by Prof. Umar Garba Danbatta, Chief Executive Officer and Executive Vice Chairman, Nigerian Communications Commission, Chief Anthony Idigbe, SAN, AGA-Africa Country Coordinator for Nigeria, and participants drawn from various departments of the Nigeria Communications Commission.

Chief Anthony Idigbe, SAN, Senior Partner at Punuka Attorneys & Solicitors, emphasized the need to examine and re-examine the role of Internet governance against the cybersecurity challenges to create a safe cyberspace and to empower the relevant players in the industry with information and skills on how to tackle cybercrime.





Ebelechukwu Enedah, AGA-Africa Country Coordinator for Nigeria



Felix Adeove, Director, Corporate Planning, Strategy and Risk Management, Nigerian Communications Commission



Ayoola Babatunde Oke, General Legal Practitioner, Communication Technology (ICT), Law, and Policy & Regulatory Services



A group photo of AGA-Africa and Nigerian Communications Commission representatives with the workshop facilitators and participants

> Election Dispute Resolution Symposium for Court of Appeal Judges, 25th -27th May 2022, Kenya

The Election Dispute Resolution (EDR) Symposium aimed at facilitating a comprehensive understanding of election framework and the EDR process while enhancing the Judges knowledge and skills in the application of the EDR processes. The goal was to share experiences and learning about emerging issues and trends.

The symposium was attended by Hon. Justice Smokin C. Wanjala, Judge of the Supreme Court of Kenya and the Director of the Kenya Judiciary Academy, Hon. Justice Mohammed Ibrahim, SCJ, Chairperson Judiciary Committee on Elections, **Hon**. Lady Justice Angelina Mensah Homiah, Judge, Court of Appeal, Republic of Ghana, Hon Justice Barishaki Bonny Cheborion, Judge Court of Appeal of Uganda, Felix Owuor, Executive Director,

Electoral Law and Governance Institute for Africa. Protas Saende, Chairperson of the International Commission of Jurists-Kenya, and Lamin Lighe, Senior Election Advisor. International Foundation for Electoral System as well as the esteemed judges of the Court of Appeal of Kenya, legal researchers and law clerks.

"The symposium comes at a very critical time as Kenya is going into a general election in August and it is pertinent to discuss issues of election dispute resolution so as to avoid conflict and violence that has rocked Kenya's elections in the past," noted Markus Green Esq, AGA-Africa, Board Member,



A group photo of the workshop participants



Hon. Justice Smokin C. Wanjala, Judge of the Supreme Court of Kenya and the Director of the Kenya Judiciary Academy



Hon. Justice Mohammed Ibrahim, SCI, Chairperson Judiciary Committee on Elections



Protas Saende, Chairperson of the International Commission of Jurists-Kenya



Hon. Lady Justice Angelina Mensah Homiah, Judge, Court of Appeal, Republic of Ghana



Hon. Justice Smokin C. Wanjala, Judge of the Supreme Court of Kenya and the Director of the Kenya Judiciary Academy

Related News:

Kenya:

The United States is offering a \$2 million reward leading to the arrest or conviction of two Kenyans wanted for wildlife trafficking and narcotics. The US accuses Abdi Hussein Ahmed and Badru Abdul Aziz Saleh of being part of an international organized criminal network that trafficked wildlife and sought to traffic illicit drugs to the United States....Read More

The United States Embassy has announced the arrest of one of the Narcotics and Wildlife Trafficking suspects who had a \$1-million-dollar bounty on his head. According to Charge d'Affaires Eric Kneedler, Badru Abdul Aziz Saleh was arrested following a tip-off from the public received by the Directorate of Criminal Investigations (DCI) and is in police custody in Nairobi....Read **More**

Zimbabwe:

Zimbabwe's government recently concluded a conference to attempt to rally international support for the sale of its ivory stockpile. Selling some of the 136 metric tons of elephant ivory and rhino horn that the Government holds — mostly from animals that died of natural causes — could fund its conservation efforts.... Read More

South Africa:

A new specialised academy in South Africa plans to arm conservationists from around the world with the forensic skills needed to gather crime scene evidence that can be used to prosecute poachers and traffickers. Launched in mid-May at its recently built premises in the Buffelsfontein Nature Reserve, near Cape Town, the Wildlife Forensic Academy (WFA) has created a variety of realistic wildlife and plant crime scenes to train its students.... Read More



Thank You

A big thank you to facilitators of the month;

Cybersecurity and Anti-money Laundering Workshop, Entebbe, Uganda

- Rachel Heintz, Assistant Attorney General (AAG), Southern Arizona White Collar and Criminal Enterprise Section, Arizona Attorney General's Office
- Acio Caroline Marion, Head, Cyber Crime Unit of the Institution and Chief State Attorney, Office of the Director of Public Prosecution, Uganda
- Kenneth Muhangi, Lecturer in Intellectual Property, and Partner-KTA Advocates
- Jimmy Haguma, Chief Security Officer, Uganda Communications Commission
- Mercy Buku, AML/CFT Legal and Risk Management Consultant, Banking and Digital Financial Services Sector
- Nurddeen Mohammed Suleiman, Investigator, Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC)
- Dr. Bright Gameli Mawudor, Cyber Security Professional and Chief Technology, Officer Xetova.

Forensic Sciences and Examination of Digital Devices Workshop, Zambia

- Travis Williams Supervising Special Agent, Arizona Attorney General's Office
- Dr Herbert Gustav Yankson, Assistant Commissioner of Police and Director Cybercrime Unit, Ghana Police Service
- Tara Swaminatha, Principal, Zeroday Law
- Mathias Kamanga, Head of Public Relations Unit, and Digital Forensics Expert, Drug Enforcement Commission, Zambia
- Chewe Mutale, Manager, Digital Forensics and Consumer Education, National Information And Communication Technology Regulator Zambia (ZICTA)
- Kelvin Masiala Kalaluka, Digital Forensics Investigator, Anti-Corruption Commission, Zambia, Michael Ilishibo, Digital Forensic Analyst, Zambia Police Service
- Davies Chimota, Physical Scientist, Forensic Science Laboratory, Zambia Police Service.

Virtual Currency Investigations Workshop, Malawi

- Prof, David C. Blake, General Counsel, Attorney General Alliance
- Kyle E. N. George, First Assistant Attorney General for the State of Nevada and Executive Board of the Office of the Nevada Attorney General
- Dr Jean Phillipo-Priminta, Chief State Advocate, Ministry of Justice, Malawi
- Beaunard Grobler, Open Source Information Specialist, Financial Intelligence Centre (FIC) South Africa
- Dr Emomotimi John Agama, Managing Director, Nigerian Capital Market Institute
- Sydney Gondwe, Africa Regional Manager, Crypto Gaming United Zambia
- Masautso Ebere, Compliance and Prevention Manager, Financial Intelligence Authority (FIA), Malawi.

Operation Safe Ranger Training, Malawi

- Stephanie Durno Karns, Wildlife Biologist & Project Coordinator, WITA
- Ndaona Kumanga, Assistant Parks & Wildlife Officer

Internet Governance and Safeguarding the Cyberspace Workshop, Nigeria

- Prof. David Blake General Counsel, Attorney General Alliance
- Tara Swaminatha, Principal, Zeroday Law
- · Ayoola Babatunde Oke, General Legal Practitioner, Communication Technology (ICT), Law, and Policy and **Regulatory Services**
- Basil Udotai Esq, Managing Partner, Technology Advisors LLP.

Election Dispute Resolution Symposium for Court of Appeal Judges, Kenya

- Hon. Lady Justice Angelina Mensah Homiah, Judge, Court of Appeal, Ghana
- Wayne Williams, Chair of Colorado Springs Utilities, and Member, Colorado Springs City Council



