



2021-2022

Tengwood Organization Yearly Report



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Yearly Report - Tengwood Organization

July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022



OUR SPONSORS:

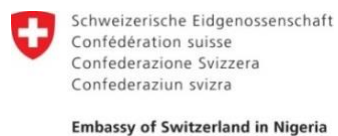
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TENGWOOD ORGANIZATION

Tengwood Organization was founded on December 9th 2010 in Wallisellen, Switzerland, and has now moved into its 12th year of existence. This yearly report covers the period from July 1st 2021 through June 30th 2022.

OUR MISSION

Tengwood Organization addresses conservation issues at a local and a global level. Since our inception, our conservation efforts have focused on two of Africa's most endangered primates, the Drill monkey and the Nigeria-Cameroon Chimpanzee and protection of the unique landscape in Nigeria and Cameroon where these primates live, as well as a host of other wildlife that share their habitat. Our global focus is broader; we concentrate our efforts on the problem of illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products, with a specific focus on the global trafficking of wild meat (i.e. "bushmeat").

THE PROBLEM

The problems that face wildlife start locally, but are part of a worldwide problem facing humanity as well – the loss of biodiversity. Deforestation and loss of habitat, illegal hunting and consumption of diminishing wild populations, and wildlife trafficking continue to be the greatest threats to animal and plant species in the world today. In the Nigeria-Cameroon region and many other places, a lack of adequate educational opportunities for local people to learn about the importance of the environment around them complicates effective conservation efforts.

OUR PROJECTS

Tengwood Organization's focus in 2021-2022 has been on our ongoing Environmental Education Initiative; this effort is centred around a number of posters created by Tengwood that are being used in conservation education programs for communities and schools in the Cross River Region of Nigeria. These posters and the programs utilizing them address the perceptions of local people about the wild areas around them and include messages that educate people living around protected areas about how nature and wildlife help to sustain all life, including their own and teach ways to better protect wild areas and wildlife.

In addition to this new project, Tengwood Organization continues to provide maintenance and consultation for our 'Clean Water for Conservation' program in the Cross River National Park, Okwangwo Divisional Headquarters in Butatong; this water project provides clean, safe drinking water, free of charge, to Park Rangers, as well as staff and visitors to the National Park, and to the nearby host community of Butatong. The project provides a direct benefit for the health of the Rangers, who are on the frontlines of wildlife protection, and for the people in the nearby community, who are then more supportive of the Park's efforts to protect forests and wildlife. We also continue to be involved in efforts to stop the international illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products, with a focus on the smuggling of wild meats (i.e. 'bushmeat').

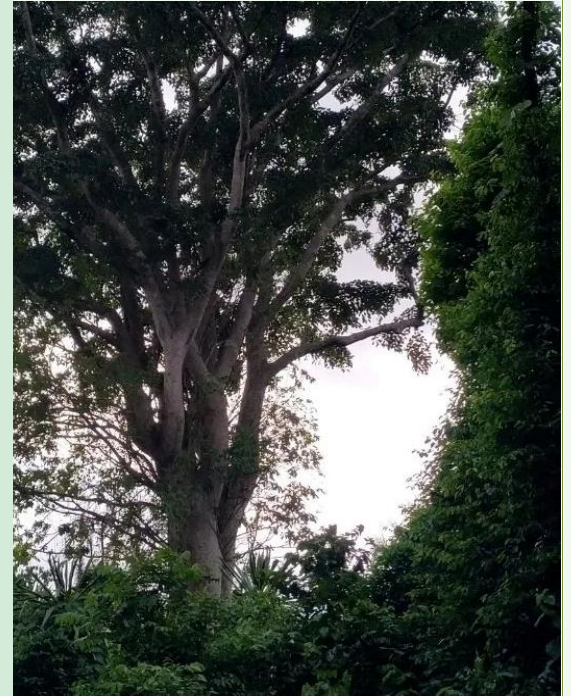
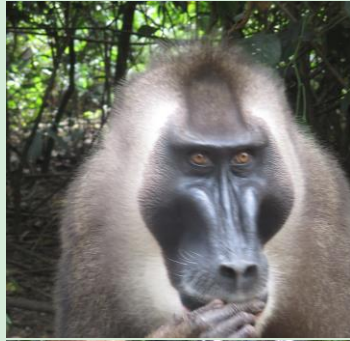
FINANCES

Tengwood Organization's projects and overhead costs are funded by various public and private sponsors and donors, grants through several charity organizations, and passive members. In addition, various services and technical support have been provided gratis to our organization. Because of this generous support, we have been able to successfully finance and run Tengwood Organization for the past 12 years.

Our efforts in 2021-2022 largely focused on moving forward with our Environmental Education Initiative, a project sponsored by the Bernd Thies Stiftung, with additional donors contributing to this project and to our operating costs. We appreciate all of our sponsors, partners, and donors for their continued support.

TENGWOOD PROJECTS

2021-2022



Dear Friends of Tengwood,

Tengwood Organization is still very much in operation, and was busy moving forward with our projects during the 2021-2022 period.

Our focus in the Nigeria Cameroon region remains on two ongoing projects; our **solar-powered clean water project** in the Cross River National Park and our **environmental educational initiative** in the larger Cross River region. We are also striving to create new projects that will help to save primates and other wildlife in this unique region.

Globally, our efforts to stop illegal trafficking in wildlife, especially **the smuggling of wild meats (i.e. bushmeat)** is an ongoing focus that has continues into the present day and remains an issue needing much more attention in the world.

This yearly report details the state of our ongoing projects and proposes ideas for the coming year. We thank you for your interest in Tengwood Organization and hope for your continued support of our work into the future.



Thank you for your support!



*Co-directors of Tengwood,
Dr. Kathy Wood and Bruno Tenger*

IN THIS REPORT:

A LOOK AT OUR ONGOING PROJECTS

An update of our ongoing projects and how you can help us achieve them

THE STATE OF WILD MEAT SMUGGLING

A look at wild meat smuggling and Tengwood's fight to help stop the illegal trade in wildlife

WHERE IS TENGWOOD TODAY?

Tengwood's plans for the upcoming year and into the future

Ongoing Projects in the Cross River Region of Nigeria

Our ongoing projects in Nigeria include;

- A solar-powered borehole and water purification system in the Cross River National Park's Okwangwo Divisional Headquarters, providing clean drinking water and environmental education to the National Park and a nearby village.
- An environmental educational initiative that provides educational materials to the Nigeria National Park Service and WCS Nigeria; a poster series is currently being used to educate people living around the National Parks in Cross River about how human activities impact water and wildlife and how they can better help to conserve the wildlife and natural areas around them.

TENGWOOD'S CLEAN WATER FOR CONSERVATION PROJECT; Connecting people and protected areas

Tengwood Organization's *Clean water for Conservation project* began in 2016, when we installed a solar-powered green borehole and water purification system in the Cross River National Park's headquarters in Okwangwo. Before this project, the park rangers and their local host village of Butatong shared a small, polluted stream as their only source of water and many people became sick from drinking this water. Educational materials at the taps to teach people about the connections between natural areas and clean water were also the beginning of our educational initiative. Tengwood has worked together with the Nigerian National Park Service for the past 5 years, providing support for this water project. It continues to run successfully and is maintained by park staff.

On our next trip to Nigeria in early 2023, we plan to carry out some necessary updates to the system. New UV-C bulbs for the water purification system will be brought to the park. We also plan to add 2 more solar panels, as during the dry season, when there is heavy harmattan (wind/dust from the Sahara desert), the solar powered pump will stop working for several days at a time. This work will be overseen by Tengwood and park staff will be trained on all changes to the working of the system (see page 7 for details on updating our clean water for conservation project).

TENGWOOD'S ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVE; Teaching how to protect water and wildlife

Tengwood Organization began an *Environmental Education Initiative* in 2019 that is still going strong. Originally part of our water project, we expanded our educational outreach to produce posters for use in all of the schools and communities around the Cross River National parks and throughout the larger Cross River region and beyond.



Tengwood's posters are now found in schools and community centers throughout the region. Local educators use them in programs that teach children how to preserve natural areas for their future.

The posters are being utilized in a number of conservation programs carried out by WCS Nigeria (<https://nigeria.wcs.org>) in cooperation with Rangers of the Nigerian National Park Service. (<http://nigeriaparkservice.gov.ng>).



Our educational project is already expanding; the posters have gained a following and are now part of a program in Otun-Ekiti State, Nigeria to study biodiversity.

Expanding Tengwood's Ongoing Projects in Nigeria

Tengwood's partnership with the Nigerian National Park Service is a valued connection inside Nigeria. The National Park Service embraces the participation and support of outside NGOs with a similar mission and goals and they have supported Tengwood's projects whole-heartedly, as well as help to host our visits to the country.

There are currently seven National Parks across the various ecological zones of Nigeria, covering a total land area of approximately 20,156 sq. km - about 3% of the country's total land area (~932,768 km²). These parks support ecological processes and each harbors a unique diversity of wildlife.

In countries where people struggle to survive, there is often little incentive for the people living closest to nature to protect the natural areas and wildlife around them. People living around protected areas in Africa are often some of the poorest in the world. Many survive by subsistence living, tending a small farm plot which provides food or income, with little access to paying jobs. Often, hunting is a means to procure meat, with local wildlife an inexpensive way to meet protein needs.



A typical subsistence level lifestyle in the Cross River region of Nigeria, where produce from small farms and what can be collected from the forests provides much of a family's daily needs or is sold to provide money for other types of goods or food.



Tengwood's projects in partnership with the Nigerian National Park Service have helped to establish better support between the parks and the communities living around them.

A Special Thanks to our Nigerian Partners and Supporters



The Nigerian National Park Service (NpS)

The Nigerian National Park System has always been enthusiastic about Tengwood's efforts to aid wildlife protection in Nigeria. Although the parks struggle under budgetary limitations, with little support from government, they have a dedicated staff that works daily to protect designated natural areas and the wildlife and plants within them.

Nigerian National Park Service

Mission Statement;

"To manage and regulate the use of the unique ecosystems designated as National Parks by such means and measures to preserve and conserve Nigeria's heritage, particularly the fauna and flora, the habitats they live in, and the unique sceneries they afford. To also provide human benefits and enjoyment in such manner and by such means so that these are left unspoiled for generations to come."

WCS (Wildlife Conservation Society) Nigeria's Conservation Education Program

WCS Nigeria has been a long-time supporter of Tengwood, throughout our time in Nigeria. They have embraced our Environmental Education Initiative and are using the posters we produced in all of their conservation education programs, reaching schools and communities throughout the Cross River Region.



Updating our Clean Water for Conservation Project

Since Tengwood began working with the park service in 2016, they have fully supported our efforts. In return, we are doing our best to support their efforts to protect wildlife by helping to maintain the water purification system installed in 2016.

Africa can be very hard on equipment and materials and daily usage results in wear and tear on parts. A number of components in the water purification system need to be replaced.

Part	Need
Addition of (2) solar panels	Water pump not functioning when Harmattan (winds/dust from Sahara) is heavy during dry season
Repairs to water tank	Several small holes in one of the water tanks need to be patched
Replacement UV-C bulbs (2)	UV-C Bulbs need to be carried to Nigeria (cannot be shipped)
Water filter (1)	Water filter is worn/dirty and needs to be replaced
Water taps (2)	Water purification system taps are worn/broken and need to be replaced
Maintenance to existing parts	Checking of batteries, water pump, solar panels, pipes, and wiring



Expansion of our Environmental Educational Initiative

In a meeting in Abuja in 2019 regarding our Environmental Education Initiative, the National Park Service Administration expressed their enthusiasm with our project in Cross River and their wish to have posters for each of the unique set of ecosystems, species and problems found in each park. Tengwood Organization is excited about the idea of expanding our educational posters to include additional parks and educational programs. This project would include the costs of designing new posters for each park, printing these in country on water-resistant materials, and distributing the posters through WCS Nigeria, the National Park's conservation education programs, and other educational efforts in the various parks.

Our Water and Education Projects Help Support Drill and Chimpanzee Conservation

These programs help to save wildlife by providing educational opportunities that allow local people become more involved in conservation of the wildlife around them

New Partners in Nigeria

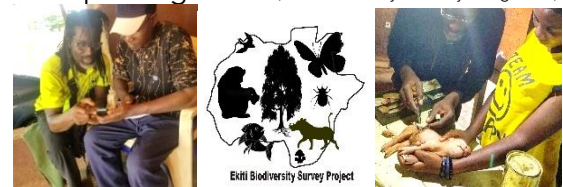
Tourism is rare in Nigeria as there is little infrastructure to support tourists; it is difficult and somewhat expensive to travel within Nigeria and safety is always a factor so few get to enjoy the beauty of nature in the country. However, there is a growing grassroots movement *within* Nigeria to appreciate native wildlife and wild places.

Babajide Agboola is a dedicated Nigerian conservationist and consulting veterinarian who has started a number of projects in his native state of Jos, as well as across Nigeria. The projects are diverse, but include wildlife advocacy and photography, leading and encouraging camping expeditions, and involvement in many other conservation-oriented pursuits. He is also a poet and a dedicated and passionate protector of native wildlife.



Tengwood met Babajide Agboola in 2019 in Nigeria through our shared vision of wildlife conservation. We are now supporting his educational efforts by providing posters for his projects, such as a biodiversity project in Osun, Ekiti State (pictured in this report), and sponsoring their printing.

(Photos courtesy of Babajide Agboola)



Tengwood's Continued Focus on Wild Meat Smuggling

THE WILD MEAT TRADE; IN AND OUT OF AFRICA

Since its inception, Tengwood Organization has been involved in projects aimed at stopping the illegal trade in wildlife. We continue to work toward developing new projects that have this topic in focus, from local efforts in rural areas of Africa to those at the highest levels of government in Switzerland and other developed countries. To this end, we have investigated bushmeat markets in the Nigeria/Cameroon region, bushmeat smuggling into Swiss airports, and the live trade in great apes and other species worldwide. Our goal is to have an impact on stopping the illegal trade in wildlife in any way possible.

RECENT TENGWOOD PUBLICATION: Bushmeat and Disease – Understanding the Connection



Tengwood was invited to publish an article in the most recent Gorilla Journal (www.gorillajournal.net/) about the connection between bushmeat and coronavirus. Despite the known link between wild meat and disease, many people continue to consume wildlife. When populations of wild animals are being monitored and harvested

sustainably, wild meat consumption may not be a problem. While wild meats are often considered less fattening and more healthy than domestic meats, this is not always the case. When wildlife and people come in contact, there is always the possibility of disease transmission. The ongoing global pandemic is likely to have begun in wildlife markets, where wildlife, domestic animals and humans come into close contact.

BUSHMEAT AND COVID-19; WHAT IS THE CONNECTION?



December 2021

The Simple Connection: Emerging Zoonotic Diseases and Human Health

'Bushmeat' is a term used to refer to wild meat in Africa, where forests are...

← [Link to the article here](#)



In Nigeria, hunter groups are well armed and use dogs to more efficiently hunt and procure bushmeat in bulk. (pictures; Nigerian Facebook group celebrating traditional hunting 2021).

HUNTING AND BUSHMEAT IN AFRICA

The problem of wild meat smuggling is ongoing. Despite the possibilities of disease transmission, bushmeat consumption remains prevalent in West and Central African cultures to the present day.



Pictures (above and below) were posted in 2021 on a Nigerian Facebook Group that celebrates traditional group hunting.

While meat from the forest is sometimes utilized for subsistence level needs, present day hunters and their families who are living at subsistence levels can no longer afford to eat the wildlife they catch. In fact, the sales price bushmeat can bring will buy them less expensive forms of meat, such as ice fish (frozen fish sold to Africa from Europe), or other necessary goods.

Hunting remains common near natural areas, despite laws existing to protect wildlife. Hunting clubs, like those pictured here, are a modern form of hunting that allows villages to obtain more meats for sale. Traders from urban areas travel to villages and buy meats to sell in markets across the region. The value of the meat increases as it travels.

There is still a demand for bushmeat throughout Nigeria and a number of cultural and traditional reasons for eating it in many communities; it is commonly consumed on holidays and for special events. Certain species are believed to convey some type of special characteristic to the consumer or are perceived as being healthier than farmed alternatives, despite campaigns that warn of the disease risks inherent in wild meats.

Bushmeat remains a limited resource that, while becoming more difficult to procure, is still in demand.

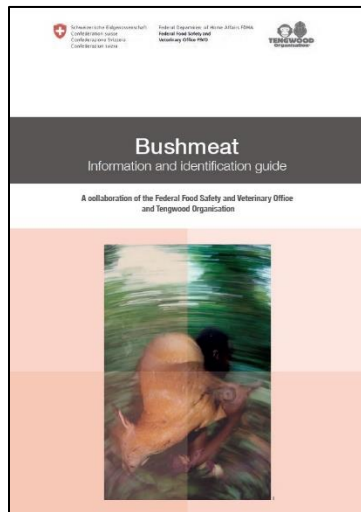
THE TRICKY PROBLEM OF IDENTIFYING WILD MEATS

Endangered species are protected. Therefore, they should not be able to be smuggled into Switzerland or other countries as meat for consumption. However, the problem of wild meat smuggling is not easily solved. One of the most difficult problems lies in recognizing differences between wild and domestic meats.

Wild meat is prepared many ways, with some preparations more common than others. In our Swiss airport study, meat was most often smoked and pieced, with identifying features such as heads and appendages removed. Swiss Customs Agents often used a generic 'bushmeat' category in their entries for those meats they couldn't identify. Confiscated meats are immediately destroyed due to the disease risks inherent in the meat and the information about what species are at risk from the trade is lost.

Our study in Nigerian markets further showed the problem to be even more complex. Local bushmeat sellers often didn't know species names - rather, common or native names are used to describe animals, in some cases lumping a number of different species into one category such as 'monkey' (which typically referred to any long-tailed monkey, including a number of guenon, mangabey, and colobus species, as well as other types of monkeys, such as drill monkeys).

Tengwood has learned from our studies that, for wildlife, *all along the route from forest to table, identification of species is difficult. Information is lost and vulnerable species are placed at risk.*



Recognizing this problem, Tengwood worked together with BLV and Swiss Customs after our airport study to produce a [bushmeat brochure](#) that helps Customs agents to recognize some of the more common types of species and presentations of wild meats.

Our bushmeat study in Swiss Airports and our study in markets in the Nigeria-Cameroon region of Africa

generated thousands of pictures of bushmeat. While the subject matter is grim, the pictures can be used to illustrate a number of things about types of species and meat preparations commonly sold and consumed (see box to right and page 14 for details of our picture archive).

A NEW STUDY USING TENGWOOD'S PICTURES

Recently, Tengwoods pictures from our airport study in Switzerland and from our Nigerian market study are again being utilized by scientists in a new study designed to help local people in the Cameroon-Congo region more correctly identify species at risk from the bushmeat trade.

A new study using Tengwood's bushmeat pictures: A new study is utilizing Tengwood's bushmeat pictures to help local people better identify species. The dichotomous key example (pictured below) shows how to accurately distinguish between a Cane rat and the African Brush-tailed porcupine. These decision trees are being created to help local people distinguish between the different species, and better identify those at risk from the bushmeat trade.

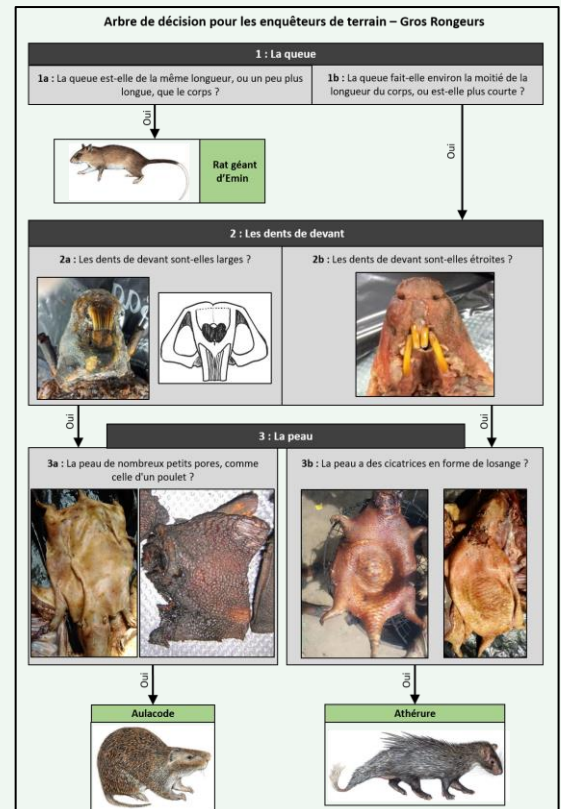


Photo courtesy of Fiona Maisels, WCS

WILD MEAT; THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE CONTINUES

In 2019, the arrival of a global pandemic challenged all efforts to combat wildlife trafficking around the globe. Attention almost completely fell away from the issue of wild meat smuggling, even though all scientific evidence points to the likelihood that the jump of COVID-19 from animals to humans took place in a wildlife market, where stressed wild animals, domestic animals, and humans come into close contact and the potential for disease transmission from blood and body fluids is present.

In our [study of bushmeat in Swiss airports](#), Tengwood identified Brussels, Belgium as one of the hubs for bushmeat transits from African flights into Switzerland. In December of 2019, Tengwood was invited to a conference ("[Dead or Alive: Towards a Sustainable Wildlife Trade](#)") put on by the EU that brought together over a hundred experts, with the aim to implement recommendations for ending the illegal trade in wildlife and wild meat, recognizing that its introduction into countries "can have adverse consequences for human and animal health, biodiversity and the environment".

At the conference, scientists from Brussels presented their findings of a [2016 study](#) similar to ours, estimating that 44 tonnes of bushmeat arrive at Zaventem airport each year – an amount very similar to what Tengwood estimated in our Swiss study (40 tonnes). Species found in Belgium were also similar to those in our study and also to an earlier [study in Paris](#) airports; primates, pangolins, and other protected and common bushmeat species, with the majority arriving from West or Central African countries. Both the Paris and [Belgium](#) studies also investigated markets in their countries and were able to buy bushmeat, including protected species, at these markets ([VRT video](#)).



BUSHMEAT IS STILL A RISK FOR BOTH WILDLIFE AND HUMANS; pictures from Tengwood's studies showing pangolins and other bushmeat being openly sold in a Nigerian market and as confiscated by Swiss Customs agents in the airport in Zurich.

As the world continues to deal with the economic aftermath of a global pandemic, the smuggling of wild meat around the world needs to be addressed. Wild meats continue to cross borders and arrive in international airports and freight facilities the world over. Because of this, Tengwood also continues our focus on this problem.

WILD MEAT IN AIRPORTS

Tengwood Organization continues to closely monitor the wild meat situation worldwide. Wild meats continue to be confiscated by Customs agents in Switzerland and other countries. Wherever there is a demand, there is a supply.

BULK BUSHMEAT IN AIRPORTS - A

HOLIDAY HAZARD; In Africa, bushmeat is a food that is commonly consumed during the Christmas holidays. Many naturalized citizens and permanent residents of various countries visit their native countries for the holidays and bring a little 'taste of home' with them when they return. A few incidences of large scale smuggling demonstrating this desire occurred in Germany and U.S.A in December of 2021;



GERMANY December

2021 - Köln/Bonne Airport Cargo/Post – Customs officers confiscated bushmeat from multiple packages, with over 500 kg (1/2 ton) of various types of bushmeat from Nigeria seized from these packages (including galagos and other primates, porcupines, antelope, crustaceans, snails, fish and cowhide). The parcels were being sent to various private individuals in Germany, France and Belgium ([Köln Stadt Anzeiger](#)).



Credit: US Customs and Border Patrol

United States

December 2021 – Minneapolis-St. Paul Airport, Minnesota – Customs officers confiscated 104 pounds of bushmeat (primates and other wildlife, dry fish, snails, and plants) from multiple passengers. This amount was confiscated over a 1 week period from U.S. citizens and permanent residents returning to the U.S. from Liberia ([U.S. Customs and Border Protection](#)).

A SAMPLING OF BUSHMEAT SMUGGLING INTO EUROPEAN AND NORTH AMERICAN COUNTRIES

Below, Tengwood has collected a sampling of reports in the news since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic of continuing efforts to smuggle bushmeat from various countries in Africa into Europe and North America. Bushmeat smuggling is more widespread than the rare news reports of notable incidents would suggest. Smuggling of wildlife is a daily occurrence at borders, but is often only known to Customs agents and the offense rarely punished unless it is a recognized repeat offender or a very large amount. And while customs agents are diligent in seizing meats when found, there are not enough agents to search every bag of every passenger. This means only a proportion of offenders are caught, while others make it into countries unimpeded. Below, we've collected a sampling of reports about some of the confiscations that caught attention of the media. (follow the links to the stories and photo credits)



Zurich airport, Switzerland



Zurich airport, Switzerland



Wallis train, Switzerland



Paris market, France

- **SWITZERLAND September 2018 – Zurich airport** – a Cameroonian passenger smuggled 6 kg of pangolin, crocodile and porcupine in their luggage from Cameroon (swissinfo.ch, L'essentiel).
- **SPAIN March 2019 - Madrid-Barajas airport** – The Civil Guard arrested a 35-year-old woman, flying from Equatorial Guinea through Morocco and smuggling 4 porcupines and a pangolin carcass in her suitcase (elFaro ceuta).
- **SWITZERLAND May 2019 – Zurich airport** – a woman from Cameroon who lives in Switzerland was stopped with 3.5 kg of Gaboon viper and white-bellied pangolin meat, prepared into a stew, in her suitcase. Both are protected species (Tagblatt).
- **SWITZERLAND July 2019 – Wallis Zug** – a British National traveling on the night train from Venice to Paris was caught smuggling 23 kg of antelope meat from South Africa (Friends of Serengeti Switzerland, netzfrauen).
- **U.K. August 2019 – U.K. Border Force** reported that the amount of illegal bushmeat seized by Customs agents has doubled in the past five years; a total of 1,149kg of meat from wild animals was seized at ports and airports and in posted packages in 2018-19, up from 946 kg the previous year and 544 kg in 2014-15 (Mirror).
- **FRANCE August 2019 – Paris Police**– French Police seized bushmeat in a grocery store raid in the 18th arrondissement in Paris, including frozen antelope quarters and thousands of caterpillars (Le Parisien).



Paris airport, France



Madrid airport, Spain



Brussels airport, Belgium



Geneva airport, Switzerland

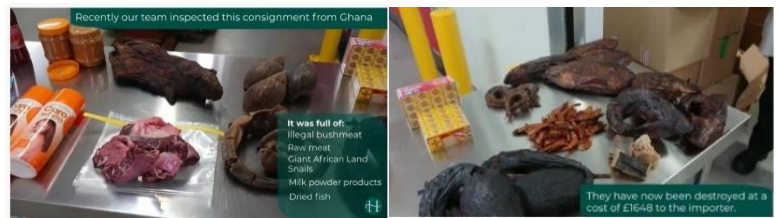
- **FRANCE February 2020 – Paris' Charles de Gaulle Airport** - a woman smuggling 20 kg bushmeat, including primates, pangolins, crocodile and unidentified wild meats was apprehended by Customs agents at Charles de Gaulle airport (franceinfo).
- **SWITZERLAND February 2020 – Geneva airport** – a man caught smuggling pangolin meat became angry when Customs officers seized the dish he had carried from Africa to serve to guests in his home (La Savoie./ Le Messenger).
- **SPAIN February 2020 – Madrid airport lost luggage warehouse** - A 25 year old Spanish woman was caught when Civil Guard inspected a lost suitcase and found 2 pangolin carcasses wrapped in plastic in her luggage, carried on a flight from Malabo (Equatorial Guinea) to Madrid, with a stopover in Casablanca (Morocco) (20minutos.es).
- **BELGIUM Sept-Oct 2020 – Brussels Zaventem Airport** – As part of 'Operation Thunder' (a world customs and interpol effort to monitor wildlife trafficking in 2020, Interpol), the luggage of 72 passengers from West and Central Africa was searched during 4 days of checks at Zaventem airport. Among the items found were 3 kg of crocodile meat and two dead monkeys. In total, 1.3 tons of other products of animal origin and 5.4 tons of products of plant origin were seized during these checks (VUB Today, The Bulletin).
- **SWITZERLAND December 2020 – Geneva airport** – an Angolan national arriving in Switzerland from Congo, via Addis Ababa, Ethiopia was smuggling 4 kg of bushmeat, including dried bats, unidentified bushmeat, and 1.8 kg of caterpillars (La Savoie./ Le Messenger).



Newark airport, N.J. USA



Houston, Texas airport, USA



London – Heathrow Airport – Cargo and Mail, U.K.

- **U.S.A. January 2021 – Newark, New Jersey Airport** – a U.S. citizen was caught smuggling 9 pounds of unidentified bushmeat from Ghana ([U.S. Customs and Border Protection](#)).
- **U.S.A July 2021 – Houston, Texas Airport** – a woman was caught smuggling 15 live snails and unidentified dried meats from Nigeria ([U.S. Customs and Border Protection](#)).
- **U.K. September 2021 - London Heathrow Airport cargo** – A large amount of bushmeat, raw meat, live snails, and dried fish were hidden in a large cargo consignment from Ghana, slated for sales in a U.K. store ([Harrow Online](#) / [Hillingdon London Council YouTube](#)).



Dusseldorf airport, Germany



Washington D.C. airport, USA



Beagle Brigade, Chicago O'Hare Airport, USA



Beagle Brigade works with customs agents at O'Hare



Leipzig/Halle Airport, Germany

- **U.S.A. January 2022 – Jacksonville, Florida Customs Office** – Customs agents report observing an increase in passengers bringing in bushmeat from various countries in Africa. Many identify their bushmeat as 'fish' and mix it in with actual fish, as passengers are allowed to bring up to 20 kg of dried fish ([News4 JAX](#)).
- **GERMANY January 2022 - Düsseldorf Airport** – a whole pangolin was declared by a German passenger who was carrying it home from Ghana ([tonightNEWS](#)).
- **GERMANY March 2022 – Braunschweig Customs Office** – Customs officers have reported a trend over a number of months of an increasing number of parcels from Africa which are found to contain bushmeat, some from protected species such as primates and bats ([Braunschweiger Zeitung](#)).
- **U.S.A. April 2022 – Washington D.C. Dulles Airport** – a U.S. citizen was caught smuggling 3.5 pounds of smoked bats and plants from Ghana ([CNN Travel](#)).
- **U.S.A. June 2022 – Chicago O'Hare Airport** – A story on the 'beagle brigade' reported how agricultural sniffing dogs detect prohibited meats and fruits being smuggled into the country on a daily basis, including bushmeat ([Fox32 Chicago](#), [Fox32 Chicago YouTube](#)).
- **GERMANY June 2022 –Leipzig/Halle Airport** – A Customs sniffing dog detects 800 dried, endangered seahorses, in transit from Senegal to Laos, and slated for use in fake Viagra medicine ([Newsweek](#)).

BUSHMEAT PRESENTS BAGGAGE HAZARDS FOR CUSTOMS WORKERS AND PASSENGERS:

Incidents in France and U.K., baggage told the story of the ongoing risks of bushmeat smuggling. Baggage handlers in France protested for better working conditions due to the many and repeated incidences of bushmeat and fish arriving in bloody, stinking and leaking bags. In the U.K., unclaimed bags in the airport due to the many canceled and delayed flights in 2022 were beginning to stink due to the presence of smuggled meats, including bushmeat, inside many bags.



FRANCE – May 2021 – D'Orly Airport – Baggage handlers carried out a protest because of the large number of suitcases arriving from Cote D'Ivoire and other West African countries that were leaking bloody fluids – many of the passengers arriving from West African countries were found to be carrying bushmeat and fish. Baggage handlers refused to work until their hazardous working conditions were addressed and they now wear protective suits because of the disease risks inherent in the numerous malodorous, leaking bags they deal with on a daily basis ([Le Parisien](#), [20 Minutes.fr](#)).



U.K. – June 2022 – London-Heathrow Airport - Recent travel upheavals have resulted in tons of unclaimed luggage – airport staff and passengers complained that the luggage was causing problems due to the stench of rotting meats, including bushmeat, present in many bags. Passengers reported the bags to smell like dead animals and excrement. The bags were unclaimed due to delays and cancellations of many flights ([Independent](#), [euronews.travel](#)).

WILDLIFE SNIFFING DOGS; AN EXCELLENT ANSWER TO THE BUSHMEAT PROBLEM AT BORDERS

Wildlife detection dogs can be the answer to the question of how to detect bushmeat at international borders. A detection dog can go through more bags faster than a human and their keen noses easily detect smells a human would not.

Tengwood's study in Swiss airports was the catalyst for Switzerland's wildlife sniffing dog program. After our study, BLV and Swiss Customs began a dedicated pilot program to train some of the detection dogs to combat wildlife trafficking. The wildlife detection dog program (CITES dogs) in Switzerland began in 2012 with 2 dogs (a pilot project by the Federal Veterinary Office started after our study) and the program increased from 2 to 5 dogs in 2013. Training for a detection dog takes between 2-3½ years; in 2015, one of the first CITES dog, Yukon, began to sniff out offenses in Zurich airport ([NZZ, 20minuten](#)). By 2021, Swiss Customs had trained 11 additional dogs for a total of 15 wildlife sniffing dogs today, in use at Zurich and Genf airports for passenger luggage, cargo, freight and post, and also at various border areas around the country ([Forum Z](#), [Tierwelt](#), [Forum Z](#)).

The species protection dogs are trained using various materials (i.e. feather, fur, skins, scented towels, etc.), from wildlife at Zoo Basel ([Zoo Basel](#)) and Zoo Zurich ([Zenger](#)). In 2018, the dogs were key in detecting over 800 breaches of species protection, including seizures of wildlife products such as ivory, Shatoosh shawls (made from the wool of an endangered Tibetan antelope) and reptile skins for watch bands.

But what about bushmeat?

The dogs are currently not trained to detect wild meats - it is one of Tengwood's goals to encourage this area of the detection dog program.



Dogs are an important ally in detecting wildlife at borders; on left, one of the first wildlife detection dogs in Switzerland 'Yukon' began work at Zurich Flughafen in 2015 ([20minuten](#)), in middle, Swiss Customs Administration's Technical Head of Service Dogs at Zurich Flughafen, Andreas Akeret, poses with dogs Yukon and Zimba (Zurich Flughafen Facebook post 2019 [#humansofZRH](#)). On right, Zookeeper and Tengwood member Doris Heimgartner collects hair and scent from Zoo Zurich's Orangutans, which is used by Swiss Customs to train the dogs on various scents ([Zenger](#)).



Tengwood would like to promote the efforts of species protection detection dog programs.

See page 14 for information about our 10 year jubilaum, where we will feature the topic of wildlife sniffing dogs.

Where is Tengwood now?



TENGWOOD'S TEN YEAR JUBILAUM

In 2019, Tengwood was preparing for our 10 year jubilaum when, unfortunately, the global pandemic waylaid our best laid plans. Now, with 12 years under our belts, we are prepared to gather all our donars, supporters, and anyone interested to help us celebrate ten plus years of work.

Special Guest Speakers; Our jubilaum will include 2 guest speakers, as well as the co-Director of Tengwood, Bruno Tenger, who will highlight some of our work over the 10+ year period.

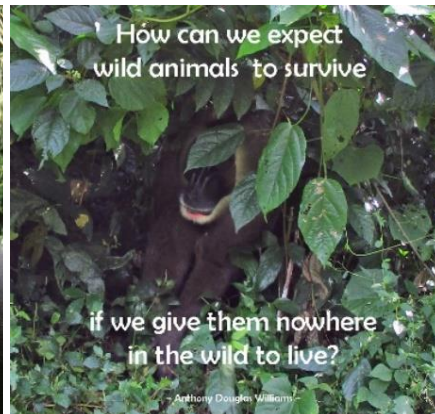
TENGWOOD SPEAKER: Bruno Tenger, Co-director, Tengwood Organization

GUEST SPEAKER: Lucia Studer, Head of Service Dogs BAZG, Swiss Federal Department of Finance (EFD), Swiss Federal Office for Customs and Border Security (BAZG)

GUEST SPEAKER: Volker Sommer, Anthropologist and Primatologist, Professor Emeritus for Evolutionary Anthropony at University Collage of London

We are planning this event for **October 22 of 2022**
Save the Date!

DETAILS of the event and invitation to follow >>>
Watch for it in your e-mail or contact us for more details



Ten Years of Tengwood

We've been busy! Here are some of our highlights over the past 10 years;

2010 Creation of Verein, board of directors, and co-directors of Tengwood

2011 Illegal trade in wildlife - work with Karl Ammann (Egypt, Armenia)

2012 Bushmeat study - Swiss airports

2013 Media - Bushmeat Identification Guide with BLV

2014 Report to CITES - global awareness on the issue of wild meat smuggling

2015 Relocation to Africa - Start of work in Nigeria-Cameroon region

2016 Bushmeat study - Nigeria-Cameroon markets

2017 Clean Water for Conservation Project

2018 Tengwood Environmental Education Initiative

2019 10 years and still going - start of global pandemic slows down conservation efforts worldwide

2020 - 2022 Continuation of clean water project, environmental education initiative project, bushmeat awareness efforts, and return to "normalcy" in the world

October 22, 2022 -
Tengwood celebrates our
10+ year anniversary -
YOU are invited!

IN PROGRESS 2022 - CREATING AN ARCHIVE FOR TENGWOOD'S DATA

Tengwood is currently creating an archive of our data; this includes all of the data collected during our studies and also our many photos and videos, with their accompanying information. While this is an arduous process, it is also a necessary one.

Once completed, our data will be more readily available to us and also to others. Data from our bushmeat study in the Nigeria-Cameroon region will join a large online database of other bushmeat studies in Africa (see www.wildmeat.org). This online database is being especially created so that the collected information about bushmeat in Africa can be utilized in studies that will impact policy decisions regarding wild meat.



Ten Years of Tengwood



Co-directors of Tengwood worked with Swiss Authorities to collect bushmeat samples for DNA analysis by UZH Institute of Forensic Medicine. Our studies and investigations into the illegal trade in wildlife and bushmeat highlights the global threat to wildlife from this trade.



People and wildlife come into conflict over shared but limited resources. Tengwood's water and education projects include programs that share information about how conflicts can be avoided and create a healthier future for the environment, animals and people.



HELP US PROTECT WATER AND WILDLIFE



Enjoy a few pictures from 2021-2022 of schoolchildren in the Cross River Region learning about and being empowered by information they can use to protect the wildlife and wild places around them.



Help us protect wildlife and move our projects forward!

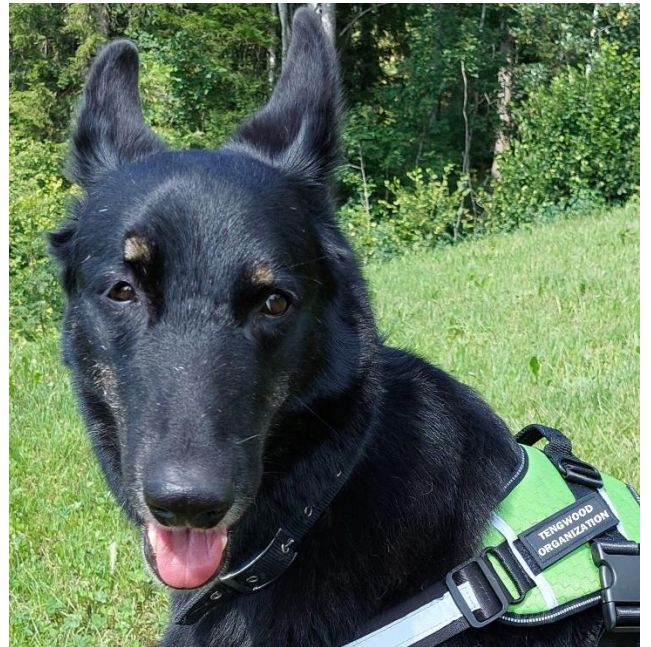
JOIN US...

Your help is essential!

Tengwood Organization is committed to our fight against the illegal trade in wildlife, especially the trade in wild meats (i.e. bushmeat). We are also dedicated to keeping our Clean Water for Conservation project in the National Park Headquarters in Okwangwo maintained and running smoothly and are also hoping to expand our Environmental Education Initiative by supplying posters to national parks. All of these efforts will help wildlife to survive.

YOU CAN HELP BY DONATING TO THESE PROJECTS -
See our website for details on donating - www.tengwood.org

STOP THE ILLEGAL TRADE IN WILDLIFE



Some steps that would help fight the illegal trade in wild meats;

- Addition of more detection dogs and programs that specialize in wildlife detection
- Stricter control of borders; strengthening of Customs and other public service agencies that control borders and stricter penalties for offenders
- Awareness campaigns by private sector, such as airlines and NGOs, to help curb the trade; inform consumers wildlife products and wild meats how their preferences impact humans and wildlife
- Increased efforts to study and inform on aspects of the problem that would allow for effective policy changes that would have an impact on lessening the trade



A THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS, PARTNERS AND DONORS:

A heartfelt thanks to all our sponsors, partners and donors;
We couldn't realize any of our projects without your support!

With the ongoing global pandemic, raising funds for conservation projects remains difficult. We are grateful for all of our sponsors who have stayed with us through these difficult times, as well as for new sponsors and donors who make it possible to continue our work.

As always, a very special thank you goes to our board members Benno Lüthi and Kurt Tenger, who support Tengwood organization free of charge and with great and sustained commitment. Thank you for your trust in our efforts.

OUR SPONSORS & PARTNERS:

Thanks to all our sponsors, partners, and all private donors - without you and your help, we could not have realized our projects. A heartfelt thank you from your Tengwood Team!

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**BERND THIES
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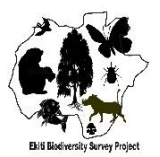
**Marianne & Benno
Lüthi Stiftung**

**Maria and Kurt
Tenger**



**Berggorilla
& Regenwald
Direkthilfe**

PARTNERS:



COMPUTER SUPPORT & WEBSITE:



Our website www.tengwood.org is certified climate friendly.

**A SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL TENGWOOD ORGANIZATION PASSIVE MEMBERS -
WE APPRECIATE YOUR INTEREST AND SUPPORT!**



DONATION INFORMATION:

WITHOUT YOUR DONATIONS AND YOUR HELP WE CANNOT IMPLEMENT OUR PROJECTS - WE ARE THANKFUL FOR ANY AND ALL SUPPORT!



Tengwood Address:

TENGWOOD ORGANISATION
c/o Comp Tax Treuhand
Hertistrasse 26/Postfach
8304 Wallisellen

Bank Information:

Credit Suisse AG
8070 Zürich
IBAN: CH 55 0483 5121 2960 1100 0
SWIFT: CRESCHZZ80A
Bank Clearing No: 4835

*If you are in Switzerland, you can make a donation at the Post;
Payment slips can be ordered via info@tengwood.org - we will be happy to send them to you*

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Please visit our website for more information about donation options.

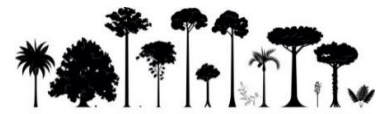
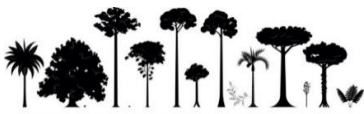
You can also donate via  on our website www.tengwood.org

ON BEHALF OF TENGWOOD ORGANIZATION, A HEARTFELT THANK YOU!



*Quote by
Marian Wright Edelman*

Education is for improving the lives of others and for leaving your community and your world better than you found it.



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