



July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016

Yearly Report



Tengwood Organization



6/30/2016

Yearly Report, Tengwood Organization

July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016



PARTNERS - BUSHMEAT STUDY:



**Marianne & Benno
Lüthi Stiftung**

**BERND THIES
STIFTUNG**

*Maria and Kurt
Tenger*



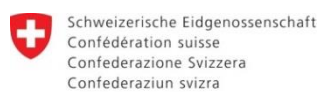
Stiftung Ormella



**Berggorilla
& Regenwald
Direkthilfe**

Wietlisbach Foundation

PARTNERS - CLEAN WATER FOR CONSERVATION PROJECT:



Embassy of Switzerland in Nigeria

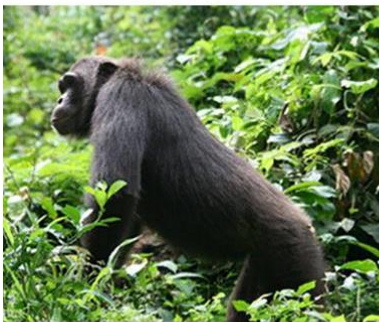


TENGWOOD ORGANIZATION

Tengwood Organization is now 6 years old; in this yearly report, we look back on the past fiscal year from 7/1/2015 – 6/30/2016.

Tengwood Organization was established on Dec 9, 2010 in Wallisellen, Switzerland, with a purpose of saving some of the most vulnerable primates in Africa.

Deforestation, illegal hunting, illegal trade and the loss of habitat are the greatest threats to animal and plant species in the present day. Tengwood Organization focuses specifically to the problem of illegal trade in wild meats (also known as 'bushmeat'). However, in our work on illegal trade in the Nigeria-Cameroon region, we have now included a project involving the illegal trade in ivory. In addition, we have initiated a program for rangers, who are on the frontlines in species protection; for this project, we combine clean water with species protection by providing safe, clean drinking water for ranger patrols and environmental education for peoples living around protected areas.



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Thanks to our partners, a number of private sponsors, and to our loyal passive members, without whom we could not implement projects. We were able to finance 90% of the costs associated with the first year of our bushmeat export study in Nigeria and Cameroon, with the remaining 10% financed by our organization's assets. For the upcoming year, we have unfortunately not yet met all of our operating costs. At present, we have arrived at 50% of the necessary financing and hope to find further support to continue our work.

Activities 2015 – 2016

On June 4th 2015 we arrived in Calabar, Nigeria and could be setting up our projects immediately, thanks to WCS director for Nigeria, Andrew Dunn, who provided us with a place to stay in the beginning, and later arranged with us to share accommodations with him in a shared, large house in Calabar. Since our arrival, we have cost-shared the house with WCS, which is a very good solution, as we work closely with WCS, who provide support and local expertise on some of our projects.

Of course, Nigeria is a land full of surprises and political changes and challenges are one of these. Our contact (the director of the Cross River State Forestry Commission), who was in the process of assisting us in obtaining an STR Visa (Nigeria's equivalent of a Green Card) was removed from office days before our arrival. This has meant for us that we had to rebuild important contacts for our work here within a new administration. Unfortunately, this proved to be a long and difficult task, as political struggles within and to restructure the Office of the Forestry Commission has been ongoing since our time here. Fortunately, one year later, we have successfully negotiated the new administration and finally received our STR VISAs, thanks to Dr. Alice Ekwu, Commissioner of the newly structured Ministry of Climate Change and Forestry in Cross River State, Nigeria.

Thanks to our friends at Julius Berger in Abuja, a Toyota Hilux pick-up was made available at a very good price, shortly after our arrival, and has been helping us travel to our various project sites and to accomplish all the necessary tasks in running the organization.

Our Bushmeat Export Study

Immediately upon arrival in Nigeria, we started work on our project that focuses on the illegal export of bushmeat out of Africa and into developed world countries. We have recruited a number of field workers and have been sending these field workers to known bushmeat markets, and markets about which less is known, to document the trade in the Nigeria-Cameroon region.

As an example of our work to date, our field workers collect data and related images of the bushmeat for sale and also speak with bushmeat sellers to find out where their bushmeat comes from and where they in turn sell the bushmeat. This is important information in the fight against the bushmeat trade as it highlights the paths bushmeat takes through the Nigeria-Cameroon region. For example, we were able to find out that much of the bushmeat in Nigeria's border region is supplied from Cameroon. Since the meat is smuggled across the border, this is already a CITES infraction, a fact that both countries must jointly address.

Some of the market sellers in this border region are also suppliers for Abuja and Lagos, two cities which have connection to international airports with multiple out-going flights

to Europe, such as Brussels and Paris. Our bushmeat study in Switzerland has already shown that flights from Brussels and Paris smuggle into Switzerland.

Most disturbing is the fact that we have found elephant meat in very large quantities. Chimpanzees are also offered regularly. At one, moderate-sized market in Nigeria, we evaluated 12 distributors of bushmeat; these 12 dealers approximate a monthly revenue of around 20 to 30 million Naira (this is the equivalent of approximately \$100,000-150,000 U.S. dollars), with a good amount of this at the expense of protected wildlife. The pictures included here illustrate some of the species and amounts for sale in this one market, and speak louder than words about the bushmeat trade in this region.



Elephant Meat



Chimpanzee Meat



A smoked Drill monkey can be seen here, along with other species of monkeys, duikers, and other assorted species.



A table of various species of monkeys as meat, including guenons and baboons.



Once again, monkey meat – in our study, it is currently the most popular type of bushmeat sold in the market.



Pangolins are also in danger – pictured here with various other types of bushmeat. The pangolin is currently considered one of the most traded species worldwide, now routinely found being smuggled together with illegal ivory out of Africa. Occurring in Africa and Asia, the use of pangolin scales and other body parts for traditional medicines has decimated Asian pangolin populations and caused a rising demand for their illegal export from Africa.



For our study, we created a species identification brochure, which data collectors use to assist bushmeat sellers in identifying the species they are offering for sale.



Above, one of our field workers discusses with a Bushmeat Trader-Seller the species he offers for sale. The study participants freely cooperate as they consider this is an opportunity to discuss the importance of their livelihood.



On left, frogs/toads on a stick, called “Chinese Food” by the local people, and on right, an array of various species of small mammals for sale.

Tengwood is playing a role in helping to halt the ivory trade

Tengwood Organization is active in the fight against all illegal trade in wild animals and their products. Thanks to our experience with DNA sample collection, and a presentation of our work in Switzerland to various government officials in the Nigeria-Cameroon region (see page 10-11), we were invited by the Ministry of the Environment in Cameroon (MINFOF) to participate in a project to determine the origin of ivory seized in Cameroon. Elephants in the Nigeria-Cameroon region are under serious threat from the illegal ivory trade. Together with MINFOF (www.minfof.cm), the GFA Consulting Group, Germany, department Cameroon (www.gfa-group.de), Wildlife Conservation Society, Cameroon (programs.wcs.org/cameroon), and Dr. Sam Wasser, director of the University of Washington's Center for Conservation Biology (conservationbiology.uw.edu, see also www.washington.edu/news/2015/06/18/evidence-from-ivory-dna-identifies-two-main-elephant-poaching-hotspots), we worked on a project intended to identify the origin of confiscated elephant tusks in Cameroon.

Although it was a detour from our bushmeat study, we are convinced that this work is an important contribution to combating illegal trade in ivory. It also provided us an opportunity to develop good relations with authorities in Cameroon, as well as with other conservationists in the Cameroon region and university colleagues worldwide.



A sample of our work collecting DNA samples from ivory tusks in Cameroon.



More pictures from our DNA sampling work on confiscated ivory tusks in Cameroon.

Tengwood has also initiated a 'Clean Water for Conservation' Project

Clean drinking water for people in combination with species protection – drinking water and conservation - how do these two fit together? Tengwood has initiated a 'Clean Water for Conservation' project that is making links between water and wildlife conservation. Rangers in protected areas are on the frontlines in species conservation, on a daily basis, they are on patrol these areas, with a goal of saving the species that live in these vulnerable habitats. Our idea is that clean drinking water helps the Ranger to do a very physically demanding job, and healthy rangers play an important factor in the fight against the bushmeat trade. Local communities living around protected areas can also have a huge impact when it comes to protecting the environment. Therefore, integration of these communities into a conservation ethic is important. In our project, communities around the Cross River National Park Divisional Headquarters can access clean water in return for educational training and materials regarding the importance of biodiversity and environmental protection. In local schools, programs about the links between and

environmental protection, healthy watersheds, and biodiversity will be included in the lesson plans.



CLEAN DRINKING WATER FOR THE GOOD OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND FOR SPECIES PROTECTION IS A NOVEL IDEA - THANKS TO THE AQUA PURA ORGANISATION, Tengwood Organization has initiated two pilot projects and are looking forward to their success. Already, these projects have

been embraced by both the rangers and the local community. We would like to sincerely thank AQUA PURA (www.aqua-pura.org), who have provided us with both available systems and is ready to take more steps with us, and also the Swiss Embassy in Nigeria, the Reformierte Kirche Opfikon in Switzerland, and one other unnamed foundation, for their financial support of installation costs and teaching materials. We are committed to the idea that combining clean drinking water with environmental education will help to protect all species living in and around protected areas.



The water program for the Afi Mountain Rangers (above) provides clean drinking water for patrols in the Afi Mountain Wildlife Sanctuary, Boki LGA, Cross River State, Nigeria. The water program for the Cross River National Park, Okwangwo Division, in the village of Butatong (below) combines clean drinking water for ranger patrols, park visitors, and conservation education in the nearby communities.



In December, we participated in a 3 day work shop in Calabar

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the protection of the highly endangered Cross River Gorilla (*Gorilla gorilla diehli*), which exists only in the Nigeria-Cameroon region. Updates by park rangers, government officials, and conservationists from both countries were presented. During these presentations, it became evident that the bushmeat trade is still very much a problem impacting species in the region. Tengwood also delivered a presentation about our study of the illegal bushmeat trade in Switzerland, and other developed world countries in Europe and North America, showing how the majority of the bushmeat being exported from Africa departs from Cameroon (for bushmeat arriving in Switzerland and France) and from Nigeria (for bushmeat arriving in Great Britain and the U.S.). Our presentation triggered a fierce debate, as authorities in Nigeria and Cameroon were unaware that bushmeat is smuggled out of their countries as a lucrative trade into developed world countries. After a long discussion of the bushmeat problem, Ministers of the Environment in Cameroon as well as in Nigeria newly classified it as a 'bushmeat crisis'.

The discussion also included the topic of illegal trade in general, including the illegal smuggling of ivory and pangolin scales to Asia. The new representative for CITES in Nigeria expressed concern in regard to the pangolin trade as well and stated that weekly, she was receiving applications for the export of 100 kilogram bags of pangolin scales to Asia – as a single pangolin's scales weigh about 2 kg, this represents a large number of individuals. As CITES manager, she requested that pangolins be re-evaluated to receive higher protection status – a good sign from Nigeria. In Cameroon, we also encountered large bags of pangolin scales that had been confiscated with the ivory we sampled. Both Nigerian and Cameroonian ministers pledged to work more closely together in this matter, and also sought to work closely with Tengwood on illegal trade issues, for which we were of course very pleased.



A presentation by Dr. Kathy L. Wood, Tengwood Co-director, at the Conference



Pictures from the Cross River Gorillas Workshop in Nigeria and Cameroon, in Calabar, Nigeria, December 2-3, 2015.

A Report in the Nigerian Chronicle

We have signed an MoU with the Ministry of Climate change (MCCF) in Cross River State, Nigeria (see link below). This memorandum partners us with the MCCF and the Afi Ranger program regarding our Clean Water for Conservation project and allows us to continue our bushmeat study and participate in political discussions on forest protection with support from the government of Cross River State.



The screenshot shows the Nigerian Chronicle website. The main headline is "CRSG, Swiss-based NGO sign pact on forest conservation". The article text includes: "Commissioner for climate change and Forestry, Dr. Alice Ekwu, (right), permanent secretary of the Ministry, Mr. Ogbang Akwaji, (2nd left) sealing the agreement, while the co-directors of Tengwood organization watch." Below the article is a Facebook widget for the Nigerian Chronicle page, showing 5,798 likes and 1,311 subscribers. The website navigation bar includes categories like HOME, BARRACKS ROAD, CARTOONS, COLUMNS, COMMENTARY, CRIME, ECONOMY, EDITORIAL, EDUCATION, ESSAY, FAMILY, FEATURES, HEALTH, ICT, and INTERVIEW.

<http://ngchronicle.com/2016/05/14/crsg-swiss-based-ngo-sign-pact-on-forest-conservation/>

We were also able to meet the ambassador from the United States and have had very good discussions with him about the problem of illegal trade in wildlife. The U.S. Embassy in Nigeria is another important contact for us as the U.S. is very involved in the issue of illegal trade.

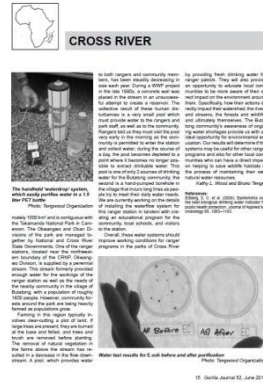


Welcoming the U.S. Ambassador James Entwistle at the Cross River National Park Headquarters in Akampa and Dr. Kathy Wood of Tengwood Organization in discussion with the Ambassador during a walk in the park.

Additional Media Presentations

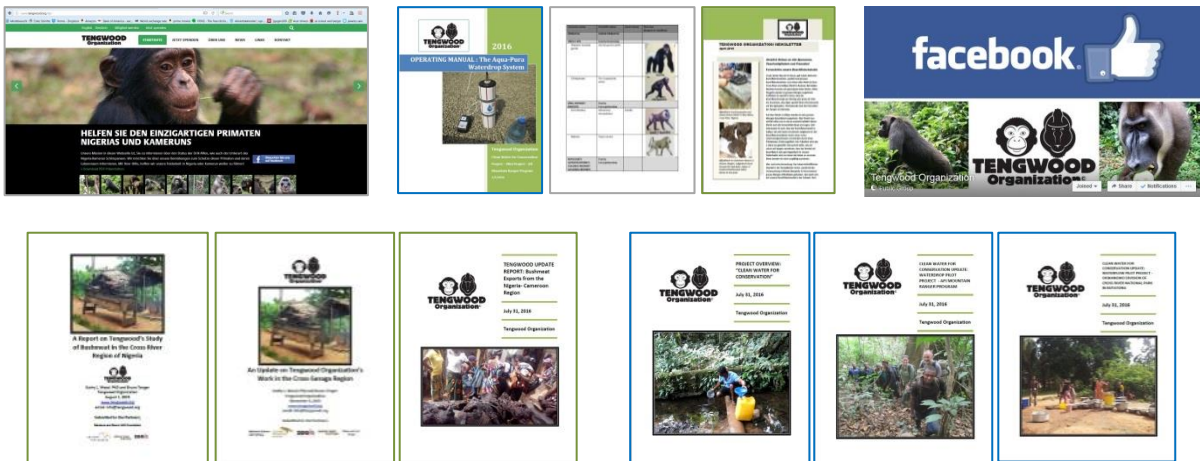
Article in the Gorilla Journal

We have also been present in the media (see link below).



http://www.berggorilla.org/fileadmin/user_upload/pdf/journal/journal-en/gorilla-journal-52-english.pdf

Information about our work can be found on our website www.tengwood.org and also on Facebook. Passive members and sponsors regularly receive a quarterly Newsletter with the newest updates on our work. Sponsors of projects also receive progress reports.



We have had a very productive, constructive und interesting first year in Africa!

Prospectus for the Coming Year

Our first priority continues to be our bushmeat export study. The focus this year will be bushmeat markets in some of the larger cities, which also have international airports.

We will also be implementing the educational component of our water project, which will focus on providing educational materials for the Cross River National Park and local community schools around the park, as well as continue to support the progress of these projects.

We also plan to collect ivory samples again this year; this project will sample some of the ivory in Nigeria, as Nigerian elephants are underrepresented in the regional database.

WE HAVE A VERY INTENSIVE, INTERESTING AND EXCITING YEAR AHEAD.

We would like to SINCERALLY THANK our board, Benno Lüthi and Kurt Tenger, who support us free of charge and with great and unwavering dedication. Thank you for your trust.

A WARM AND APPRECIATIVE THANKS TO ALL TENGWOOD SUPPORTERS FOR THEIR VARIOUS EXPERTISE AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF OUR WORK. WE HOPE TO CONTINUE TO HAVE YOU BY OUR SIDE DURING THE FOLLOWING YEAR. WITHOUT SPONSORSHIP, IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO IMPLEMENT OUR PROJECTS. WE ARE PUTTING ALL OF OUR CONSIDERABLE ENERGY FORWARD TOWARD THE PROTECTION OF PRIMATES AND THE FIGHT AGAINST THE ILLEGAL TRADE IN WILDLIFE AND WILD ANIMAL PRODUCTS IN 2017.

THANKS TO ALL OUR SPONSORS -

PARTNERS ON OUR BUSHMEAT STUDY:



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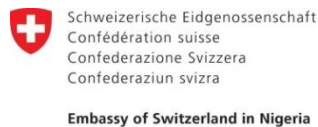
**Marianne & Benno
Lüthi Stiftung**

*Maria and Kurt
Tenger*

Stiftung Ormella

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PARTNERS ON OUR CLEAN WATER FOR CONSERVATION PROJECT:



PARTNERS - WEBSITE:



PARTNERS –COMPUTER/TECHNICAL:



IN NIGERIA, WE WORK TOGETHER WITH:



A SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL OUR PASSIVE MEMBERS, AND TO A NUMBER OF UNNAMED DONORS, WITHOUT WHOM OUR WORK WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE



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