

Project: Combatting the Facilitators of the Illegal Wildlife Trade in Cameroon

Terms of Reference for a Maritime Counter Wildlife Trafficking Experts (Consultants) to design and deliver training on Seaport Law to Public and Private Stakeholders in Cameroon

Date of publication: **__ October 17th, 2024 __**

Deadline for application: **__ October 31st, 2024, 2pm UK time __**

Background

Environmental crimes, including poaching and timber trafficking, are amongst the largest and most profitable transnational criminal activities. The illegal wild species trade has been estimated at up to US\$ 23 billion per year, the fourth most lucrative type of transnational crime. The maritime sector can play an important role in combating wildlife trafficking, as these legal routes are exploited by traffickers to ship their products. Container shipping has been identified as the most cost-effective form of transport option for moving the fauna and flora as well as their products, due to its weight, bulk and the minimal risk of detection at seaports.

Cameroon is both a transit and source of this illegal wildlife trade, situated between West and Central Africa, with a coastline close to the gulf of Guinee and the Atlantic. The country possesses a complex mosaic of habitats with large biological diversity. European markets remain a significant trade partner on the import of timber from Cameroon. However, much of this trade has gradually shifted to Vietnam and China which account for around 70% of Cameroon timber export. Cameroon has four main ports and five marine terminals which handle its international trade with Douala being its key port, handling over 6 million tonnes of cargo and 2,800 vessels annually.

The shipping industry is an inherently complex international industry which presents a significant challenge to tackling illegal wildlife trade, particularly in ports where enforcement capacity is inadequate for monitoring the legitimacy of documentation. The rates of physical vessel verification are extremely low (typically less than 5% of containers are inspected). So-called shell companies are commonly used by smugglers and corruption and collusion of government officials is also a challenge.

TRAFFIC, the wildlife monitoring network, is addressing many of these challenges through training both public and private stakeholders in its “**Combatting the Facilitators of the Illegal Wildlife Trade in Cameroon (CFWC)**” project, funded by the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs in 2024-25.

TRAFFIC is seeking a trainer (or two trainers) to deliver two (02) workshops on maritime law and in illegal wildlife trafficking which will take place during one week between December 2024 to the end of February 2025 according to availabilities. We will prefer candidates who can provide both workshops.

Deliverables:

Workshop 1

1. Adapt and expand TRAFFIC's seaport law enforcement course with additional focus on container inspection, species identification and reporting of illegal wild species trade instances, to the Cameroon context.
2. Deliver three-day in-person training in Cameroon.
3. Write a short post-training report, summarising activity and insights into ongoing capacity-building gaps and priorities and fulfil TRAFFIC's internal monitoring and evaluation criteria.

Workshop 2

1. Develop a set of training modules to counter maritime route wildlife trafficking for the private sector (shipping companies, freight forwarders, cargo/container handlers) to be able to identify red flags and report potential illegal wildlife trade
2. Deliver two-day in-person training in Cameroon.
3. Write a short report, summarising activity and insights into ongoing capacity-building gaps and priorities and fulfil TRAFFIC's internal monitoring and evaluation criteria.

Deliverables 1 and 2 of each workshop must be developed in English or French, while delivery 3 should be in English only. TRAFFIC Central Africa team based in Yaoundé, Cameroon will facilitate with deliverable 2.

Target Audiences:

Workshop 1

- Ministry of Forestry and wildlife (MINFOF)
- Cameroon Customs
- Seaport officials (Douala, Tiko, Limbe, Garoua)
- Ministry of Justice (MINJUSTICE) - Judges and Magistrates.
- Lawyers of the Cameroon Bar Association

Workshop 2

- Shipping companies
- Port officials
- Container/Cargo handlers
- Freight forwarders

- Hauliers

Training content:

Workshop 1

- Set of modules including, but not limited to, the proposed topics:
 - Understanding maritime trafficking and the seaport law.
 - Raise awareness to counter maritime trafficking-related illicit flows
 - Understanding the different roles and responsibilities involved in control intelligence and conducting a container investigation.
 - Improving capacity to identify trafficking evidence and red flags for container search.
 - Strengthening inter-agency cooperation in maritime container investigation and intelligence gathering.
 - Employing key maritime transport-related red flags and typologies for Cameroon.
 - Practical sessions forming at least a third of the workshop
 - Promoting best practices in combatting maritime wildlife trafficking for the public sector.

The training modules should be based on the seaport law enforcement course developed under the TRAFFIC's WABILED project.

Workshop 2

- Set of modules including, but not limited to, the proposed topics:
 - Understanding maritime trafficking and the seaport law.
 - Raising awareness about maritime trafficking-related illicit flows
 - Improving capacity to identify trafficking evidence and acquire the techniques to report such cases.
 - Employing key maritime transport-related red flags and typologies for Cameroon.
 - Promoting best practices in combatting maritime wildlife trafficking in the private sector.

The training modules should complement FIATA's [online course on wildlife trafficking](#).

Timeframe and location:

Ideally the two workshops will be held back-to-back between December 2024 and February 2025 in Douala, Cameroon.

Trainer profile:

The consultant(s) will be expected to have:

1. Comprehensive experience in designing training modules to combat container maritime trafficking, and related offences, preferably in the context of wildlife and/or forestry crimes for law enforcement officers and/ or private sector organisations in sub-Saharan Africa.

2. Proven expertise in providing technical training to law enforcement and/or seaport related private sector (workshop 1 or 2) in sub-Saharan Africa on the maritime illegal trade preferably in wildlife and/or forestry context.
3. Good coordination, interpersonal and presentation/communication skills.
4. Fluency in English or French (preferably in both) and experience working with simultaneous translation.

Application

To apply, please send your written application to the TRAFFIC INL-CFWC Law Enforcement Support Manager Gabriel Sipos, copying Project Support Officer Laura Beasley via the email addresses below. Please indicate whether you can deliver one or both workshops. The application should be submitted as a single PDF file consisting of the following sections:

- A cover letter summarizing the relevant knowledge, skills, experience, and motivation for applying,
- Approach to the work, and budget.
- CV
- One-page sample proposal for module development and training delivery (one for each workshop you're applying for)
- Contact details of three professional references.
- Availability for workshop(s) during weeks from December 2024 to February 2025
- Financial offer

NB: Only selected candidates will be further contacted for interviews.

Deadline

October 31, 2024, 2pm UK time

For further information, contact

- Gabriel Sipos, email: gabriel.sipos@traffic.org, tel. +44 (0)1223 331 997
- Laura Beasley, laura.beasley@traffic.org, tel. +44 (0)1223 331 997