CORRUPTION IN THE WILDLIFE TRADE LICENSING, A CASE STUDY OF UGANDA: THE PANGOLIN SCALE SCANDAL.

VINCENT OPYENE
CEO & FOUNDER NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION NETWORK (NRCN)
NRCN

- Incorporated in 2013 and signed 10 years MOU with Uganda Wildlife Authority in 2014.

- To supports Ugandan government in the prosecution led investigation, arrest and private prosecution of wildlife trafficking under a license issued by the Director of Public prosecution.
Corruption vs. connivances

• In wildlife crime law enforcement corruption is most preferred to be called connivances or collusion to decriminalize the practices and make it look lighter.

• Corrupt officers are not prosecuted but dismissed from service.
LICENSING OF EXPORT OF 7310 TONS OF PANGOLIN SCALE.

On average 3 giant pangolins = 1 Kg of pangolin scales
2,436 pangolins to meet the demand created by the license.
1 Kg = 150$ x 7310 = 1,096,500 $
Live Pangolins.
Pangolin Scales
Packed scale
Manifestation of corruption in the trade.

• No non detrimental findings conducted as required by CITES.

• Procedure for the disposal of public goods was flouted.

• Wildlife Authority paid using a postdated cheque for the pangolin scales disposed off from their stores.

• Ugandans deprived of the actual value for money for the pangolin scale
**CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES OF WILDLIFE FAUNA AND FLORA**

1. **PERMIT**
   - **Original**
   - **Sn. UG**
   - **003091**

2. **Validity**
   - **Until**
   - **22 January 2015**

3. **Consignee**
   - **Co Company Vannasaeng Trading Co. Ltd, Vientiane Laos PDR.**

4. **Permittee**
   - **Smith Ewa Mafy, SMICO Skin craft Industries Ltd. P.O. Box 16964, Wandegeya, Kampala, Uganda.**

5. **Special conditions for the Export/Re-export/Import**
   - Inspected by Uganda Wildlife Authority, Customs and Veterinary department on exit.
   - Copy of customs certified permit must be returned to our office within 14 days of export.

6. **Name, full address including Telephone, and national seat of Management Authority**
   - James Lutalo, Commissioner Wildlife Conservation, Ministry of Tourism, Wildlife and Antiquities. P.O. Box 2441, Kampala, Uganda. Tel: +256 (0)29 281 2087. Email: wildlife@tourism.go.ug

7. **COMMON NAME AND SCIENTIFIC NAME (Genus and Species) OF ANIMAL OR PLANT**
   - Giant Pangolin
   - *Manis gigantea*

8. **Skin Scales**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country of Origin*</th>
<th>Licence/Permit No. and Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Uganda 29353 04/07/14</td>
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9. **Description of part or derivative, including identification marks or numbers (age/sex if live)**

10. **License No. and source (W.C.A. or D)**

11. **Quantity:** number of specimens and/or net weight (kg)

12. **This permit is issued by:**
   - **James Lutalo, Commissioner Wildlife Conservation**
   - **Kampala 23rd July 2014**
THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

THE GAME (PRESERVATION AND CONTROL) ACT

LICENSE TO PURCHASE GAME TROPHY

(Issued under section 10 of the Act)

Station: Kampala
Date: 14/07/2014

Mr./Mrs./Miss: Smith Eva Maku
of: Genco Siln

Craft Industries Ltd.

Export to purchase 17.310Kg of scales of Giant Pangolin Manis Gigantea

Without contravening the provisions of the above Act.

Fee: NNT USD 100

*Indicate here the nature of the trophy obtained.

Valid for six months from month of issue
Recommendation

• Research and understand the form of corruption before investigation.
• Follow the money and asset of the convicts.
• Capacity development in the investigation of corruption incidences in wildlife crime.
• Selected prosecution should stop and every accused person arrested should pass through court.
• Every public servant involved in the illegal wildlife trade should be interdicted and prosecuted.
EFFECT OF THE LICENSE

• Massive indiscriminate killing of pangolins for their scales by the community.

• Supplies of scales was made from Uganda, Democratic Republic of Congo, South Sudan, and Zimbabwe.
**RECOMENDATIONS**

- Research and understand the form of corruption before investigation.

- Follow the money and asset of the convicts.

- Selective prosecution should stop.

- Every public servant involved in the illegal wildlife trade should be interdicted and prosecuted.
Our responsibility

• “The world will not be destroyed by those who do evil, but by those who watch them without doing anything.”

   Albert Elstein
NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION NETWORK

• THANKS