

# Pangolin Conservation in Central Africa

*2nd Congo Basin Forest Partnership  
(CBFP) Roundtable Discussion*

*Douala, Cameroon  
October 24, 2017*

Credit: Tim Wacher / ZSL

Pangolins or scaly anteaters are the most trafficked mammals in the world. All eight species of pangolin (four in Africa and four in Asia) are threatened by unsustainable and illegal international and domestic trade of their scales, which are used in traditional Asian medicine, and their meat, which is considered a luxury food in many cultures, as well as by habitat loss.

All species of pangolin recently received increased protection at the 17th Conference of the Parties of CITES (Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) where they were uplisted to Appendix I. As of 2 January 2017, the CITES listings have gone into effect, banning the commercial trade of all pangolin species and their parts. This empowers pangolin range states to increase domestic protections to fight the tremendous threats facing pangolins.

In 2015, the Congo Basin Forest Partnership (CBFP) hosted the 1st Roundtable Discussion on pangolin conservation in Central Africa. The information from this CBFP Roundtable was shared at the First Pangolin Range States Meeting hosted by the governments of Vietnam and the United States.

**Recently, there has been a surge in pangolin trafficking from Central Africa to Asia. Additionally new analyses show that a significant portion of pangolins are eaten as bushmeat locally in the Congo Basin countries. Holding a technical discussion is critical to exchange information on current threats to pangolins in the Congo Basin and actions to address these threats.**

Despite escalating demand for pangolins, little is known about the four species found in Central Africa (see below). Connecting with partners will facilitate improved efforts for pangolin conservation in Cameroon and the region.

**WHAT:** 2nd Technical Round Table Discussion on *Pangolin Conservation in Central Africa*, followed by *TRAFFIC* side event on *Ivory, Timber and More*

**WHEN:** Tuesday, 24 October 2017  
3:00pm – 5:30pm

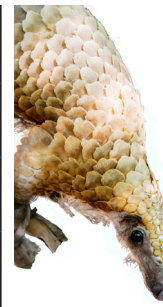
**WHERE:** Sawa II Conference Room,  
Hotel Sawa, Douala, Cameroon

**GOAL:** To update partners on current pangolin conservation activities and to discuss future plans in Central Africa.



*Photos, left to right: White-bellied tree pangolin (Phataginus tricuspis), credit: Frank Kohn / USFWS; black-bellied tree pangolin (Phataginus tetradactyla), credit: Rod Cassidy / Sangha Lodge; giant ground pangolin (Smutsia gigantea), credit: Ekwoke Abwe / Zoological Society of San Diego & Drexel University; Temminck's ground pangolin (Smutsia temminckii), credit: Darren Pietersen / African Pangolin Working Group.*

Agenda for Informal Technical Roundtable Discussion on Pangolin Conservation in Central Africa	
3:00pm – 3:05pm	<b>Welcome remarks</b> - <i>Dirck Byler, USFWS Africa Branch Chief</i>
3:05pm – 3:15pm	<b>Threats to Central Africa's Pangolins</b> - <i>Ichu Ichu Godwill, MENTOR-POP (Progress on Pangolins)</i>
3:15pm – 3:30pm	<b>Keynote Address: Efforts by the Government of Cameroon to Address Threats to Pangolins</b> - <i>Lekealem Joseph, Director of Wildlife and Protected Areas, Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife (MINFOF), Cameroon (to be confirmed)</i>
3:30pm – 3:55pm	<b>Informal Roundtable Discussion</b>
3:55pm – 4:00pm	<b>Closing remarks</b> - <i>Francis Tarla, MENTOR-POP (Progress on Pangolins) Program, Zoological Society of London and and University of Dschang, Cameroon</i>
4:00pm – 5:30pm	<b>TRAFFIC Session on Ivory, Timber and More</b>

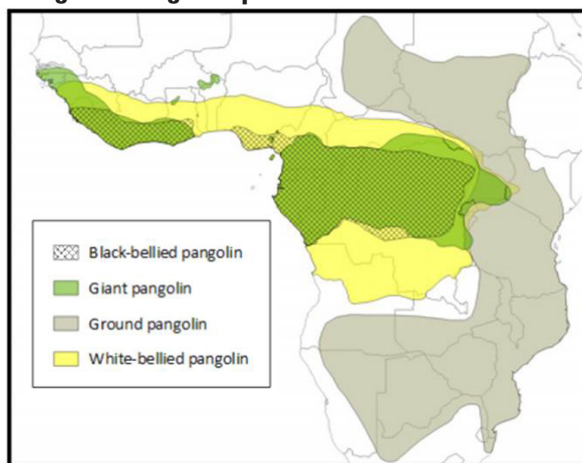


*What is being done for pangolins in YOUR country?*

*Are you interested in staying involved in regional efforts to raise awareness and coordinate actions?*

*If so, email Francis Tarla at [tfrancisnchembi@gmail.com](mailto:tfrancisnchembi@gmail.com).*

### Pangolin Range Map for Africa



Map credit: IUCN SCC Pangolin Specialist Group

### Recent Large Confiscations (>1,000 kg) of Pangolins and Pangolin Scales Originating in Central Africa, 2014 - Present

Date	Quantity seized	Trade Route	
		Export	Destination
Jan. 2017	5,400 kg	<b>Cameroon</b> <sup>1</sup>	China
Dec. 2016	3,000 kg	DRC	<b>Thailand</b> <sup>2</sup> (final dest. Laos)
Dec. 2016	3,000 kg	Africa	<b>China</b> <sup>3</sup>
June 23, 2016	4,000 kg	Cameroon	<b>Hong Kong</b> <sup>4</sup>
June 11, 2014	2,340 kg	Cameroon	<b>Hong Kong</b> <sup>5</sup>
June 2014	1,360 kg	<b>Cameroon</b> <sup>6</sup>	Not reported

**Bold denotes country of confiscation.**

Sources: 1. Camerbe via [allafrica.com](http://allafrica.com); 2. [dailymail.co.uk](http://dailymail.co.uk); 3. [shanghaidaily.com](http://shanghaidaily.com); 4. and 5. Hong Kong Government; 6. Last Great Ape Organization (LAGA)

### Pangolin Conservation Leadership: An Example from Cameroon



Photo: Pangolin scale burn in Douala, Cameroon on February 17, 2017. Credit: Kenneth Cameron / USFWS

*In 2017, the Government of Cameroon emerged as a leader for pangolin conservation, uplisting all of their pangolin species to Class A to give them full protection, and conducting the first known pangolin scale burn, sending a strong message that poaching and trafficking of pangolins will not be tolerated.*

*The Round Table is an opportunity for partners from governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), universities and donors to learn about this and other key actions.*

## WORLD PANGOLIN DAY

February 18, 2017

Fouh mënn àynen ndabba wíéténgá hemsíel

Protegeons Nos Pangolins

Together Let's Protect Our Pangolins

Photo: Darren Pietersen

È len in ndo mma è hakali o kaka mbi gna kè

For more information on pangolins, please visit: [www.fws.gov/international/animals/pangolins.html](http://www.fws.gov/international/animals/pangolins.html)



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