

## Fast Facts about USFWS Criminal Investigator Training

- 33 wildlife officers from six African countries (Botswana, Kenya, Gabon, Cameroon, Republic of the Congo, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo) completed this two-week course taught by USFWS Office of Law Enforcement personnel (OLE) at the International Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA) outside of Gaborone, Botswana, on September 6, 2013.
- OLE has provided this training yearly at ILEA Botswana as part of that facility's core law enforcement curriculum since 2002.
- This year, in response to the poaching crisis in Africa, OLE presented the course twice. The first session wrapped up in early June.
- With today's graduates, more than 420 wildlife law enforcement officers from sub-Saharan Africa have now completed the course.
- The training is typically offered in English. Simultaneous translation into French was provided at this most recent session (and for the session conducted last year), making the course accessible to officers from francophone African nations.
- The training team consisted of four USFWS special agents and a wildlife inspector.
- During the course, students learn to:
  - Collect and manage intelligence
  - Write case reports
  - Process crime scenes
  - Utilize forensics support
  - Interrogate suspects and interview potential witnesses
  - Conduct surveillance
  - Plan and carry out undercover operations
  - Develop sources of information and work with informants
  - Plan and execute raids
  - Execute search warrants
  - Present cases to prosecutors
- The course also provides an overview of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and instruction on policing wildlife import/export trade and conducting vehicle and border inspections for smuggled wildlife.
- Students attend classroom lectures; complete "hands on" exercises; and work in teams to carry out a mock investigation from beginning to end.

- Since its inception in 2002, the course has helped support wildlife law enforcement and conservation efforts in countries that include:

|                                  |                       |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Botswana                         | Mozambique            |
| Cameroon                         | Namibia               |
| Democratic Republic of the Congo | Republic of the Congo |
| Ethiopia                         | Rwanda                |
| Gabon                            | South Africa          |
| Kenya                            | Swaziland             |
| Lesotho                          | Tanzania              |
| Madagascar                       | Uganda                |
| Malawi                           | Zambia                |

- The program will be offered twice again in Botswana in 2014 and will be presented for the first time at the ILEA facility in Bangkok, Thailand.
- ILEA Botswana is one of six law enforcement training institutions funded and managed worldwide by the U.S. Department of State.
- ILEAs are located in Budapest, Hungary, and San Salvador, El Salvador, in addition to Gabarone, Botswana, and Bangkok, Thailand. The program also operates an academic ILEA in Roswell, New Mexico, and a Regional Training Center in Lima, Peru.
- The ILEAs help advance U.S. interests through international cooperation and promote social, political and economic stability by combating crime and violence.
- They provide training and technical assistance; support institution building and enforcement capability; and foster relationships between U.S. law enforcement agencies (including the Fish and Wildlife Service) and counterparts in global regions.

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