

League of Endangered Animal Protectors

Organization Background:

The League of Endangered Animal Protectors (LEAP), based in Switzerland, is an international non-governmental organization (NGO) founded in 1996. LEAP works worldwide as a wildlife conservation organization. It aims to protect the world's ecosystems and combat wildlife trafficking, focusing specifically on endangered species, including elephants, tigers, and pangolins, to halt illegal wildlife trade, and to advance sustainable and efficient environmental practices across the globe. This organization's goal is to influence our global economic structure toward greater protection of endangered species and more sustainable practices.



As non-profit organizations, NGOs such as LEAP rely on a variety of sources for funding projects. Fundraising efforts are important for an NGO's existence and success. Funding sources include membership dues, the sale of goods and services, private sector for-profit companies, philanthropic foundations, grants from local, regional and government agencies, and private donations.

LEAP partners with corporations, humanitarian groups, and government agencies to achieve their goals. LEAP collaborates with the U.S. Department of State (DOS), including the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and the United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP).

LEAP has accomplished a great deal in addressing and combating wildlife trafficking. In an effort to improve global practices, LEAP works to eliminate the threat of pangolin extinction. It has worked with international governments to analyze market-driven practices and criminal network operation patterns. One possible solution includes training hunters how to follow sustainable wildlife regulations without participating in illegal wildlife trafficking. Other methods focus on educating local populations on pangolin conservation, and partnering with international governments and NGOs to encourage sustainable, legal wildlife trade, and conservation. LEAP also works to expand and create protected wildlife parks by collaborating with nations and experts on secure wildlife protection.

Opening Position:

- LEAP has global reach; you are respected internationally.
- You will be critical of the apparent unwillingness in Keneselles to police illegal wildlife trafficking.
- You will be critical of Trangalia's refusal to become a signatory of CITES.
- You believe that illegal wildlife trafficking is irresponsible. Allowing illegal wildlife trafficking threatens legitimate and legal wildlife trade and biodiversity.
- You can rely on effective emotional arguments and sympathy generated by public campaigns with foreign communities.
- You would like to see CITES play a stronger leadership role on this issue.

Questions to Consider:

- How does LEAP work with these three nations and CITES to address issues of wildlife protection?
- How do NGOs, such as LEAP, support the education of the public? How do they go about this?
- How are NGOs funded? Who pays for their programs and campaigns? Does that shape their work?

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- What are the goals of LEAP?
- How can LEAP work specifically with DOS, Keneselles, Trangalia, and/or Bengkano to protect pangolins?
- Can LEAP advise stakeholders on finding alternative means for national income rather than participating in the illegal pangolin trade?
- Why might CITES' stronger leadership role be helpful in the protection of pangolin?
- Though Keneselles has laws on record to protect endangered pangolin, they don't appear to enforce them. Why might this be the case in Keneselles?
- Trangalia is a member of the UN Security Council for the next two years. How can this worldwide leadership role be used to persuade Trangalia to accept the goals LEAP has to protect wildlife, and specifically pangolin?

