

Project Update: April 2009

Activity	Notes
Fieldwork progress	The project has completed the field phase of first round. Despite of continuous rains in the region that have hampered with our field activities, we have continued for the second round onto sites of our possible reach.
List of Sites	The project has chosen to collect data on 22 field sites and they include; Dimo, Bbale, Runga, Kyengeza, Kasonke, Gulwe, Mulubanga, Kabasanda, Koko, Gangu, Ziika, Butugiro, Kyizzi-Kyeru, Kinyo, Kyansozi, Kalandazi, Lukalu, Buwa, Makerere Campus, Kitubulu, Kifu, Park Alexander, Lwamunda CFR and Buvuma CFR.
Main observation	We have consistently maintained Point Counts (PCs) method on bird data collection. 10 minutes are spent at each point recording each bird seen/heard within the mentioned time. The latter is human activity at each point. The points are 200 m apart. Our main observation during data collection is that communities surrounding the forests where data are being collected basically depend on the forests for their livelihood. The value of biodiversity-derived ecosystem services provided as the benefits people derive from ecosystems. These differences are related to the intensity and spatial configuration of land use, which in turn are affected by factors such as natural resource conditions, population pressure and market demand, and current and past land use and management practices. We will relate data accordingly.
Capacity building of local people	As part of the capacity building of the project, community members especially youth, have been already selected and enthusiastically all set to extend the skills to other community members. They include Alex Kamukama of Park Alexander, Rogers Ainembabazi of Kitubulu and Hannington Kasasa of Mabamba.
Conference and workshop	The team leader will participate in the 2 nd Eastern Africa Ecological Society conference scheduled on 16 th -19 th June 2009 in Uganda. We anticipate comparing our study and learning from the regional studies that will be presented.
Way forward	Next activities will include: Collection of baseline data on avifauna continues. Conduct site workshop. Identification of best land use management practice regarding sustainable conservation of hornbills will be the next activity after carrying out partial analysis of the results. Dissemination of best management of fragmented forests to organizations and local communities will be later.