Project Update: August 2022

As part of the Bale Monkey and Bamboo Conservation and Research Project supported by Rufford, I have attached our latest three Bale monkey and bamboo research articles published in high-impact factor and reputable journals: *Journal for Nature Conservation, American Journal of Primatology*, and *International Journal of Primatology*.

Because of Rufford Small Grants funding support for my long-term ecology, behaviour, genetics and conservation project work, the Bale monkey (*Chlorocebus djamdjamensis*) is now recognised for the first time as two subspecies: Bale Mountains monkey (*C. d. harennaensis*) and Djam-djam monkey (*C. d. djamdjamensis*). Both subspecies are classified as Endangered (EN) by IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2022. Such IUCN Red List status updates give more attention to conserving these endangered subspecies. I have attached the most recent IUCN Red List assessment of the Bale monkey and its two subspecies where the PI is a co-author.

Further research and conservation work are urgently needed to help address research gaps and save these two endangered subspecies and bamboo forest habitats. My team and I have been working hard to save these two endangered subspecies from extinction and conserve the bamboo forest habitat by integrating research and conservation intervention as well as working with the local community, NGOs, and decision-makers.

I greatly appreciate the contribution of The Rufford Foundation for the financial support of the Bale Monkey and Bamboo Conservation and Research Project to ensure the long-term persistence of the endangered monkeys, bamboo forest, and the local community in southern Ethiopia. Thank you very much for your continued support of our research and conservation project.

Published articles:

Mekonnen, A., Fashing, P.J., Chapman, C.A., Venkataraman, V.V. and Stenseth, N.C. (2022). The value of flagship and umbrella species for restoration and sustainable development: Bale monkeys and bamboo forest in Ethiopia. *Journal for Nature Conservation* **65**: 126117. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jnc.2021.126117

Mekonnen, A., Fashing, P.J., Venkataraman, V.V., Chapman, C.A., Stenseth, N.C. and Hernandez-Aguilar, R.A. (2021). Sleeping site and tree selection by Bale monkeys (*Chlorocebus djamdjamensis*) at Kokosa forest fragment in southern Ethiopia.
International Journal of Primatology **42**: 915–932. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1007/s10764- 021-00251-1

Mekonnen, A., Fashing, P.J., Bekele, A. and Stenseth, N.C. (2020). Use of cultivated foods and matrix habitat by Bale monkeys in forest fragments: Assessing local human attitudes and perceptions. *American Journal of Primatology* **82**: e23074. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1002/ajp.23074

IUCN articles:

Butynski, T.M., **Mekonnen, A.** and De Jong, Y.A. (2022). *Chlorocebus djamdjamensis*. *The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2022*: e.T4240A205910680. DOI: https://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2022-1.RLTS.T4240A205910680.en.

Butynski, T.M., **Mekonnen, A.** and De Jong, Y.A. (2022). *Chlorocebus djamdjamensis ssp. harennaensis. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2022:* e.T205910110A205910458. DOI: https://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2022-1.RLTS.T205910110A205910458.en.

De Jong, Y.A., **Mekonnen, A.** and Butynski, T.M. (2022). *Chlorocebus djamdjamensis* ssp. *djamdjamensis*. *The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* 2022: e.T205910256A205910259. DOI: https://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2022- 1.RLTS.T205910256A205910259.en.