

Projects Update: October 2019

Projects activities conducted:

This project has three key project activities, first, conducting survey to assess household bird bushmeat consumption pattern, second, field data collection on bird bushmeat hunting and trade and third, assessment of population density of birds in areas where bird trapping is thought to be occurring. Our initial project activities started in August 2019 by seeking research permit from Sokoine University of Agriculture and from Dodoma region and two districts of Kondoa and Chemba where the target five villages are located. Approved research permits from the two districts were submitted to the Village executive officers (VEO) responsible for the target villages for consent to start the household field surveys. Alongside applying for the research permits, we prepared research tools including a questionnaire and the unmatched count technique control and treatment cards for both bird consumption and bird trapping and trading question asked by this project. We also trained two field assistants on how to do the survey including pretesting the questionnaire to a few respondents before we started the actual household surveys.

We started off a 2-week fieldwork trip in early October 2019 for three villages, Ausia in Kondoa district and Kelema West and Kelema East in Chemba district. Upon arrival at each village, we requested for a village register to identify total households available from which we selected households for survey covering at least 30% of all the households. We requested from VEO for a street chairman or his/her appointee to accompany us and to help to locate the selected households for survey. During this survey trip, we collected data from 205 households from Ausia (n= 68), Kelema West (n= 85) and Kelema East (52). We collected photographs of traps used for catching birds and our own when collecting data using a household questionnaire (Figure 1A-F). Our second field work will survey the remaining villages in the coming few weeks.



