

## Project Update: December 2019

The project implementation has started, and it is going on successfully as planned. From Bukavu (my home town), I travelled to Kindu by ferry and plane with the botanist John KALUME MUGULA. In Kindu I met Placide KINYAMA MASUDI who became my field assistant one more time - I worked with him before in the first project funded by The Rufford Foundation.

From Kindu we travelled by canoe, motorbike and on foot to reach the core zone and the buffer zone of Lomami National Park. In the core zone, we set up two permanent plots of 1 ha each, and in the buffer zone we set up 30 non-permanent plots of 40 x 40 m. In each plot, tree diameter at 1.3 m along the stem from the ground (or above buttresses if present) and tree height (measured using a handheld laser Nikon Forestry Pro) of each tree  $\geq 10$  cm diameter were recorded following RAINFOR protocols ([www.rainfor.org](http://www.rainfor.org)), and stems were identified to species where possible (or a sample collected if unknown species). For the permanent plots, all trees were tagged and point of measurement painted, so that they can be easily re-measured in the future. In the plots in the core zone, regeneration was also quantified.

In order to raise awareness of the park's importance among children in the area, I visited six primary schools located around Lomami National Park. I visited class 5-6 (in French school system), I talked to children about the importance of preserving the forest, and I distributed colouring pencils and a 1-page leaflet in Swahili (a quiz about forest importance, for colouring, see below).

I am back in Bukavu. First, I will go to the Herbarium of Lwiro with the botanist John KALUME MUGULA to try to identify the samples of unknown trees I collected (about 150 samples). After, I will finalise data entry, data analysis and start writing a non-academic report, which I will share with communities and park managers in the future. I will also prepare a scientific publication. There is no information on the density, population structure and regeneration of the species perceived as declining in the park, as mentioned by local communities. This small research project will help fill in this gap, and help inform the management plan which will regulate the extraction of certain forest products.



Left: View of the savanna-forest edge in Lomami National Park. Right: The team at one of our camp sites in the forest.





Left: Plot delimitation with compass. Right: Plot delimitation, sampling the edge with a decametre.



Left: Stick to mark the edge. Right: Tree diameter sampling using a ladder to avoid the buttress.



Left: Measuring a large liana. Right: Sampling tree height with a laser.





Left: Writing the measurements in the field. Right and below: Visiting primary schools and talking to children about the importance of preserving the forest.



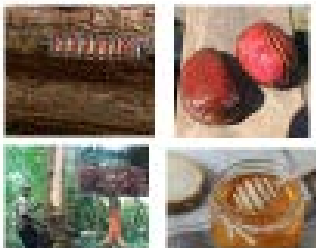
Poster used to raise awareness about the importance of preserving the forest (in Swahili)

## FAIDA WA MUSITU LOMAMI


**Rodrigue Batumike**

Misitu ina faida kubwa kwa binadamu kama vile Nyama, Asali, Kuni, Fisi.

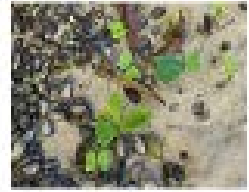
Misitu pia inatupatia dawa za Asili na mbinzo, pose...




Misitu pia hutusaidia kuleta mvua na kutunza mlo. Misitu isingekuwepo, eneo letu lingekuwa kama na pasingekuwepo na Samaki kwenye mlo. Wanyama wa msituni ni muhimu sana kwa kutunza misitu.




Wanyama kama kima na sokomutu wanakula mafunda na wanapojisaidia wanasaidia sana kusambaza mbege za miji ya mafunda. Wanyama hawa ni wafunza mabizi



Wanyama wa mwituni pia ni muhimu katika kuvulia wasungu. Wasungu hulipa dola za kimarokani 300 au zaidi ili kuwacana sokomutu, kwa sababu bonobo wanapatikana lomani pekee duniani kote.

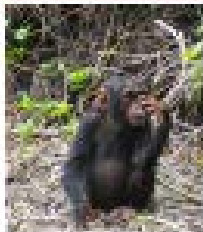
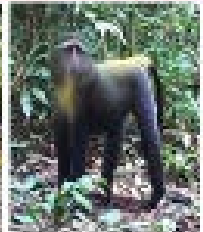

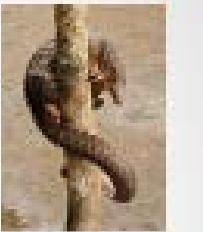


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**!!! kuhakikisha misitu inaendelea kuwepo kwa ajili ya baadaye, ni vema kuwalinda wanyama walio ndani. Kuwa makini na kile unachokiwinda na kula!**

**Tafadhali upile huye mnyama (Wamebak) wachache sana nahini Congo)**

			
Pan paniscus (Sokomutu)	Cercopithecus lomamiensis (Letula)	Ptilocolobus tholloni (Kolongo)	Smutsia gigantea (Ikaka)

**Lakini unaweza kumla huye mnyama (Hawa bado ni wengi sana Congo)**

			
Cephalopus dorsalis (Koto)	Cephalopus nigrifans (Pambi)	Colobus angolensis (Magistat)	Potamochoerus porcus (Ngunuwa)



Fia vilumie mimea yenye sumu kwenye shughuli za uvuvi maana inawa na viumbe wengine waliopo kwenye mlo. Mimea yenye sumu inakaa muda mrefu sana kwenye maji, hivyo mtu akinywa maji yanayo sumu anaweza kufa!

Leaflet given to primary school children.

**LOMAMI MSITU** (R. Batumike)

Misitu ina faida kubwa kwa binadamu kama vile N \_\_\_\_\_, A \_\_\_\_\_, K \_\_\_\_\_, F \_\_\_\_\_

Misitu pia inatupatia dawa za A \_\_\_\_\_ na mbinzo, pose...

Misitu pia hutusaidia kuleta mvua na kutunza mito  
Misitu isingekuwapo, eneo letu lingekuwa kame  
na pasingekuwapo na S \_\_\_\_\_ kwenye mito

Wanyama wa mwituni ni muhimu sana kwa kutunza misitu.  
Wanyama kama kima na mbofoko wanakula matunda na  
vanapojisaidia wanasaidia sana kusambaza mbegu za miti  
a matunda. Wanyama hawa ni watumza misitu

Wanyama wa mwituni pia ni muhimu katika kuvutia wazungu.  
Wazungu hulipa dola za kimarekani 300 au zaidi  
ili kuwaona sokomutu, kwa sababu bonobo wanapatikana  
Lomani pekee duniani kote.

*Pan paniscus*  
(sokomutu)

*Cercopithecus dryas*  
(makaku, ngayi)

*Cephalophus dorsalis*  
(koto, kuduha)

*Ptilocolobus tholloni*  
(kolongo, kulungu)

Tafadhali usile huyu mnyama  
(Wamebaki wachache sana nchini Congo)

ili kuhakikisha misitu inaendelea kuwepo kwa ajili ya  
baadae, ni vema kuwalinda wanyama walio ndani.  
Kuwa makini na kile unachokiwinda na kula!

Lakini unaweza kumlia huyu mnyama  
(Hawa bado ni wengi sana Congo)

*Cephalophus nigrifrons*  
(pambi)

*Calobus angolensis*  
(rakazoto, uka)

Pia usitumie mimea yenye sumu kwenye shughuli  
za uvuvi maana inaua na viumbe wengine  
waliopo kwenye mito. Mimea yenye sumu inakaa  
muda mrefu sana kwenye maji, hivyo mtu akinywa  
maji yanayo sumu anaweza kufa!