

# **Enhancing Rural Livelihoods Through Sustainable Community Tourism**

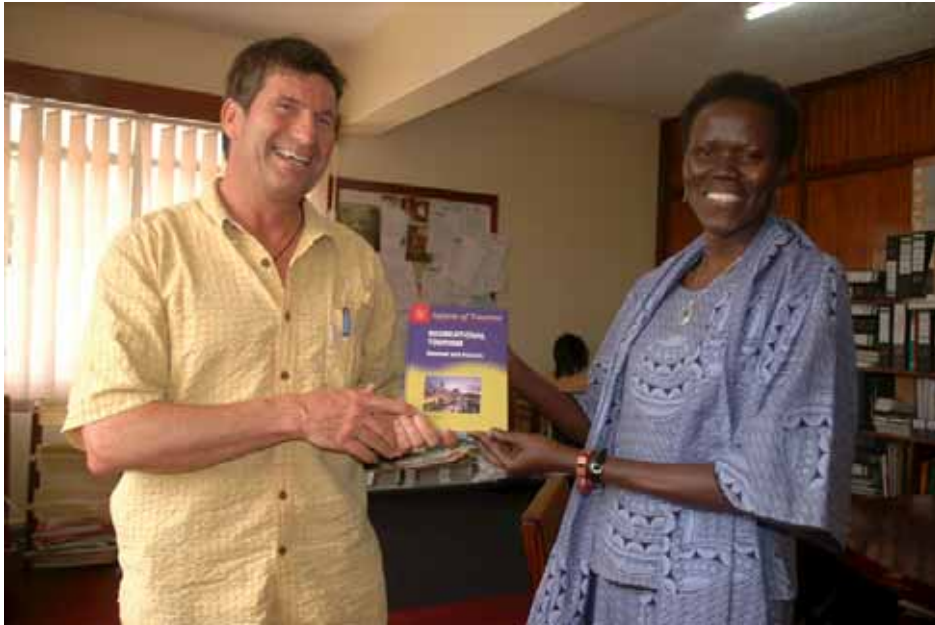
## **CIDA Project**

**Notes on Field Visits**

**Uganda June 17 to July 7, 2007**



**Uganda National Bird**



**CIDA Project library component, first transfer of library resources to Makerere**

Timeline of Activities

June 18, 2007 Team Meeting at Makerere

June 19, 2007 Team meeting at Kampala Club



**DACUM Workshop identifying challenges and gaps to address in Project**

June 20, 2007 DACUM Workshop (separate report) Seemed to indicate need for more human capacity and human dimensions education (Community Based Management course, Human Dimensions of Wildlife Courses)



**TOMM Workshop with Kelly MacKay leading discussions**

June 21, 2007 TOMM Workshop (separate report) as a test of the process was very successful and demonstrated utility of the approach in Uganda

June 22, 2007 Travel to Field, Kampala to Bwindi - Tented Camp - Buhoma



**Silverback in Bwindi Impenetrable NP**

June 23, 2007 Gorilla Trekking in Bwindi Impenetrable NP, interacted with habituated family of 15 Gorillas – very close encounters with infants and juveniles, mock charge by Silverback; Observations about guides and experience – opportunities for more interpretation of ecosystem and other species, improved risk management. Visit to Buhoma Orphans Development Corporation (King). Visits to Buhoma and Nyundo (Campbell, McKay, Walker). Buhoma:

traditional healer; banana brewery; Batwa community; Buhoma Community Camp; Observations on these communities – Buhoma is a well-developed community tourism initiative that accesses UWA revenue sharing and initiated a gravity water system for Buhoma and communities up to 5km away. Local tour companies/tourist camps contributed also – Nyundo: met with community leaders, guides in training – the main product is named eco-trails, also includes “heritage/cultural themed” trails, banda accommodations were built but never used – brochure is available, store with organic local products and sign about trails located in Buhoma.



**An orphan dances at Buhoma Orphans Development Corporation**





**Silverback on the go in Bwindi Impenetrable NP**

June 24, 2007 Visit to Ruhija Community, Meeting with Community leaders and members (IPC, LC1). New Gorilla Habituation Project – Spectacular drive, Mountains, high field and forests 2285m – CPI Community Protected Area Institution; Community resource assessment – swamps, waterfalls, old crafts, village tours; village heritage tours of: smithwork, dancing, forests and birds, lodges. Critical issues – 1) have land near the park but don't have financial resources to develop it; 2) urgency as tour companies buy land. Cody presented research on gorillas, habituation of gorilla family in 6 months (early 2008).



**Katanguru women's gift shop near Queen Elizabeth NP**

June 25, 2007 Community Visits in Region Surrounding Queen Elizabeth:

1. Katanguru Sub-County – met the community with UWA Wardens, Agnes (Tourism Warden) and Benon (Community Conservation Warden) at noon following Team reunion and meeting ( joined by CD and JBA). Attending: Team: CD, JBN, JBA, Prof, MC, KMc, DW, LK. Community Members: Chairman, Police Sargeant, Womens Group Chair, Vice, and Sec. Maria, Fishermen, Reps, Community Conservation Ranger (UWA employee) 4 Women and 9 men; Meeting opened by Benon – Community resource assessment – Fishing Community – 4 Fishing Landings – only community activity – catch not good – dry season. Fishermen – could take tourists out in boats to see birds, eg Shoebill (discussion while shown bird book), swamp walk – but not allowed in the park (possible need for MOU with UWA?). Queen Elizabeth Park Pavillion – Chair of Women’s group – Group is called Bachara – Women in Development – making handicrafts, Mats, baskets, beads and have a drumming group – they have saved US 350,000 ( have 40 members pay US500 each) but don’t have enough materials and equipment – also need a place to sell handicrafts – Need to develop a market for their wares, Need to build a small centre for selling



**Katanguru community meeting with project team and UWA Wardens**

2. Kikorongo – Equator. Met with small group led by Ahmed who is mobilizer in community development – village largely composed of dispossessed and refugees from Congo – Skeleton Fish Market of Nile Perch – Jane leader of Women’s Group. Few resources thus far.



**Kikorongo skeleton fish market**



**Kikorongo community development committee, Ahmed coordinator**



June 25, 2007 Mweya Boat Trip on Channel



**Dr. Christine Dranzoa observing wildlife on the Channel**



**Hippopotamus on the Channel**





**Saddlebill, Pelicans and Cormorants on the Channel**



**Lion in Queen Elizabeth NP**

June 26, 2007 Game drive in Queen Elizabeth

June 27, 2007 two meetings, UWA partner and KAFRED

1. Meeting with Charles Tumwesigye - Chief Park Warden Kibale Conservation Area- Visitors to the Park 6000 last year (2006) Figures available with 80-90% foreign (1. Foreign Non-Resident, 2. Foreign Residents from East Africa which are the majority, 3. Ugandans, students based on Kibale National Park Visitor Statistics, 2000) in Kibale birding is gaining prominence.

2. KAFRED meeting at 5:00 PM - Director Tinker, Program Manager, and Committee Member, Sarah. Success Story – KAFRED gets 2000 of the 6000 visitors – began in 1991 with help of a Peace Corps Volunteer- liaison between community and Forest – how can the community benefit from spillover tourism? 6 Founding Members – use of Tourism as a tool to promote conservation and community development—education, health. Created a constitution – house turned into a guest house – demand driven – one tourist went to the swamp and Identified 37 bird species – same number of species as in Forest – community provides a corridor for birds and primates – membership fees – cut trails, trained guides – didn't know whether other communities around Parks doing similar things – USAID support for network – reps from all over the country. Challenges – lack of documentation – marketing – brochure, WEB site, fund raising, advocacy – need a voice – lobbying – from 1995 – came together as communities in an umbrella organization –UCOTA – Equator Initiative Award and Grant from GEF in 2004 – brochure, video- book – started a secondary school with land granted by sub county – Rotary international funded Science Lab – partnered with North Carolina Zoo on a 5 years exchange linking conservation in schools – 8 visitors from NC – earned US\$37m. Women's Group with 51 members – trained re appropriate shapes and colors for crafts for sale to tourists with 90% profit for the artist, and 10% for KAFRED – started a nursery – high expectations relative to \$ flow – need to be aware of negative impacts and challenges.



**Meeting with KAFRED**

## June 28, 2007 Tour of Research Facility and meeting with Ibura community

1. Evaluation of research facilities in park. Makerere field research centre – rooming facilities with kitchen – small library – satellite access. Often used by researchers and has important interactions with surrounding communities.
2. Ibura 10:00 am. David UWA community Ranger (LC1) Margaret group leader and translator, Chris an enthusiastic, knowledgeable Birder. (Young men hanging around outside the circle— Canadian Girls Kick Ass Sweatshirts). Assigned local names to research group: Akiki – the King- LK, Araakli- MC, Abwoli- CD and Kelly, Amooti – DW. Hoping to attract visitors in the Park to the community. Challenges: private forests, pine plantations, tea estates (little land to work with) - medicine man died – to date no tourists have visited



### **Community meeting in Ibura**

June 29, 2007 Team Following return to Kampala, the Team met to evaluate the field experience and criteria for community appraisal. Development of a draft set of criteria.

#### Criteria for Selecting Participating Communities (in no particular order of priority)

1. Potential for success in lifetime of the project
2. Leadership Capacity
3. Logistics/Infrastructure
4. Accessibility/Transportation (proximity to major transportation/tourist routes)
5. Lack of Interference (NGOs, donors, gov, and other orgs tripping over each other)
6. Attractiveness to Tourists
7. Tourism Resources (potential resources for tourism development)
8. Experience (human resources, capacity)
9. Willingness of Community members to participate
10. Capacity of Community

11. Mentoring opportunities (opportunities for other communities to mentor –eg Buhoma and Ruhija)
12. Institutional development and capacity
13. Community cohesiveness (vs. conflict)
14. Costs and benefits
15. Capacity for success
16. Capacity for diversity
17. Pride in Community etc.

Use these to fill out a matrix with a ranks for each of the communities proposed to be part of the project - noting that communities will be added over time – first community then adding 2 more in following years

EG: 1 (very low)-5 (very high)

Community	Ruhija	Katanguru	Ishasha	Ibura	Kikorongo
Criteria					
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
...					
17. (etc.)					

#### Evaluation of the Process and Field Trip

1. Need for more time in the communities – need for community appraisal before selecting communities for demonstration projects and for student placements – not necessarily rapid appraisal but more in depth, participative community assessment. (less driving)
2. Ugandan and Canadian Teams stay together – work out discrepancies in funding
3. Way interact with communities – raise expectations?
4. Risk Management
5. Paying community members for meetings
6. Strained relationships between UWA and Communities

July 1 2007 Second reconnaissance of Bwindi with Gorilla tracking (MC, KMc, DW)

July 5 2007 CIDA implementation meeting at Sheraton (CD, JBN, Prof, MC, KMc, DW).

July 6 2007 Meeting with the DVCAA at Makerere (Campbell, Dranzoa)

July 7 2007 Curriculum meeting at the Sheraton. Course planning and outlines (CD, JBN, Prof, MC, KMc, DW).