

## Project Update: February 2013

During the months of December 2012-February 2013 we carried out the following activities:

1. Reconnaissance, survey and monitoring: A field visit and sampling was done especially of avifauna and training of local youths on monitoring of biodiversity.
2. Awareness creation and capacity building: This was done to help the local youths acquire necessary skills on basic monitoring and recording of biodiversity.

We were able to assess the whole project area of Sawaiti during the dry season and determined the priority areas especially where there is a lot of human interference. Bird monitoring was done by the project team. We were able to identify roosting and nesting sites for waterfowl within the swamp. We were able to observe nesting site for grey crowned crane which has recently been categorised as endangered.

Additionally we were able to record a decrease in other farming activities except for livestock rearing. This was however because it was a dry season and therefore most people were not cultivating. Most cattle were grazing in the wetland as it is the only source of both pasture and water. The community recognizes the importance of a co-existence between their activities and the swamp and therefore it is properly managed to ensure sustainability.



Left: Grey Crowned Crane in the marsh. Middle: Moses facilitating binocular use to children. Right: Wilson and Martha during monitoring.