

Project Update: October 2018

Part of the Bale Monkey and Bamboo Conservation and Research project results related to RSG grant support have been published in reputable and high impact factor (IF) journals, including in BMC Evolutionary Biology (2017 IF=3.027), Scientific Reports (2017 IF=4.122) and Microbiome (2017 IF=9.133) as described below. Please find the details of each article from the link or the PDFs attached from this report. You can also read the media coverage from the web links pasted below.

I greatly appreciate the contribution of Rufford Foundation for the financial support of the Bale monkey and Bamboo Conservation and Research Project to ensure the long-term survival of Bale monkeys, bamboo and local community. Thank you very much for your continued support of our project.

Published articles

1. **Mekonnen, Addisu**; Rueness, Eli Knispel; Stenseth, Nils Christian; Fashing, Peter J.; Bekele, Afework; Hernandez-Aguilar, R. Adriana; Missbach, Rose; Haus, Tanja; Zinner, Dietmar & Roos, Christian (2018). Population genetic structure and evolutionary history of Bale monkeys (*Chlorocebus djamdjamensis*) in the southern Ethiopian Highlands. *BMC Evolutionary Biology* 18: 106. DOI: [10.1186/s12862-018-1217-y](https://doi.org/10.1186/s12862-018-1217-y) (*) (One of the most accessed article).
2. Trosvik, Pål; Rueness, Eli Knispel; de Muinck, Eric J.; Moges, Amara & **Mekonnen, Addisu** (2018). Ecological plasticity in the gastrointestinal microbiomes of Ethiopian *Chlorocebus* monkeys. *Scientific Reports* 8: 20. DOI: [10.1038/s41598-017-18435-2](https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-017-18435-2)
3. Trosvik, Pål; de Muinck, Eric J.; Rueness, Eli Knispel; Fashing, Peter J.; Beierschmitt, Evan C.; Callingham, Kadie R.; Kraus, Jacob B.; Trew, Thomas H.; Moges, Amara; **Mekonnen, Addisu**; Venkataraman, Vivek V. & Nguyen, Nga (2018). Multilevel social structure and diet shape the gut microbiota of the gelada monkey, the only grazing primate. *Microbiome* 6: 84. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1186/s40168-018-0468-6>

Media coverage (*)

1. BioMed Central. Bale monkeys living in different areas have very different DNA. *ScienceDaily*. July 9, 2018. www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2018/07/180709202915.htm
2. BioMed Central. Bale monkeys living in different areas have very different DNA. *Phys.org*, July 9, 2018. <https://phys.org/news/2018-07-bale-monkeys-areas-dna.html>
3. Mekonnen, A. Deep genetic divergence among Bale monkeys in continuous forest and forest fragments. *BMC Series blog*. July 10, 2018. <http://blogs.biomedcentral.com/bmcseriesblog/2018/07/10/deep-genetic-divergence-among-bale-monkeys-in-continuous-forest-and-forest-fragments/>

IUCN status review

(**A. Mekonnen** became one of the assessors of Bale monkey IUCN Red List status) Gippoliti, S. Butynski, T.M., **Mekonnen, A.**, Kingdon, J. and De Jong, Y. (in press). *Chlorocebus djamdjamensis*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species