

## Project Update: August 2017

We have been making great progress on our project, Conservation to Coexist, and are learning many helpful lessons to improve the project in the future. We will be preparing a full report for you later this year, but wanted to send an update with pictures for now.



In the first photo, you will see me with some of our participants showing the garlic yield from our first planting of garlic. The second picture is of my colleague, Richard Busobozi, and our field assistant, Edith, with the garlic as it grows. Some of our participants had great success with their garlic crops, while others did not get a good return. We have been working with them to determine strategies for improving garlic planting. Changes in the weather patterns have added some complications, but we are confident we will be able to find a good solution, and the participants are encouraged by the success of some of their neighbours on the project.

The third picture shows one of our participants with tea seedlings.



We have had some delays with planting the seedlings because of advice we learned about first caring for the seedlings in a nursery before planting in the fields and waiting for the appropriate climate to plant. Again, the changes in our weather has caused some issues, but we are working with tea experts to make sure our project is successful.



In the fourth picture, you will see us with a group of participants standing near our bee hive fence. We were able to work with a beekeeping group on the other side of the park that makes beehives to purchase the hives and learn how to design the fences, work with the hives, and make sure they are colonized. The fifth picture is a community meeting with the Uganda Wildlife Authority and our participants to discuss the placement of the bee fences. We created MOUs between our participants and the Wildlife Authority to allow the fences to be on park property.



The last picture is another meeting with the Uganda Wildlife Authority and participants learning the best way to maintain the trench. We have had very positive interactions with both our participants and the Wildlife Authority and we have seen how our project is improving the relationship between the local community members and the Wildlife Authority. We are gathering data to show how these measures are reducing crop raiding and changing the local perception of the wildlife, including elephants, chimpanzees, and various monkey species. Through these monthly surveys, we will be able to show how our project is promoting conservation of this area high in biodiversity.