

Project Update: July 2017



Exploratory field trips in both Ashanti and Brong-Ahafo regions have yielded 10 bat caves. A total of four bat species have been recorded so far. Interestingly, a near threatened species on the IUCN Red list, Jones' roundleaf bat, *Hipposideros jonesi*, has been documented at one cave site in Kwamang in the Ashanti region. Other bat species recorded include *Hipposideros caffer*, *Nycteris thebaica* and *Lissonycteris angolensis*.



One major immediate threat to cave bat populations is the use of caves for religious activities particularly as prayer sanctuaries by certain churches. Going forward the projects seeks to meet with leadership of some churches using caves as prayer sanctuaries to educate and persuade them and their congregation to use other identified rock that are not used by bats. Also, the project will continue with sampling of bats at the various caves.

