

## Project Update: December 2018

It is my pleasure to share the update of my project.

- We have established the experimentation plots for investigating fire effects on the cycads.
- Set up nursery bed for indigenous tree seedlings. The group is yet to collect cycad seeds for raising cycad seedlings
- I presented our project work at the recently concluded Rufford Small Grants conference held in Nairobi, Kenya (Below).



Female Cycad which has been burnt.



# Involving the local community to conserve an Endangered cycad (*Encephalartos macrostrobilus*) in Uganda



Rufford Small Grants Conference on 1<sup>st</sup> - 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2018  
at National Museum of Nairobi, Kenya

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# Presentation Outline

- What are Cycads?
- What has RSGs accomplished?
- On-going/Planned activities
- Challenges faced
- Concluding messages

# Cycads: Dioecious plants



Female cone



Male cones

# Cycads: Diversity and threats

- Most threatened plants (Hoffmann et al. 2010)
- 66 species (Encephalartos), one species (Stangeria): *E. macrostrobilus*: Endangered (IUCN Red list)
- “Living fossils”
- Threatening factors
  - Habitat loss
  - Illegal collections
  - Reproductive failures



# Two (2) Rufford Small Grants

## Samuel Ojelel

*Empowering the Local Community to Conserve an Endangered and Endemic Encephalartos macrostrobilus, Scott J. & Wynants J. cycad in Madi Opei, Uganda*

This project shall be launched through a stakeholders meeting. The district natural resource department shall assist in identifying and inviting the stakeholders. The project

Town/Region	Madi Opei
Country	Uganda
Continent	Africa
Categories	Communities, Plants
Date	14 Jun 2016

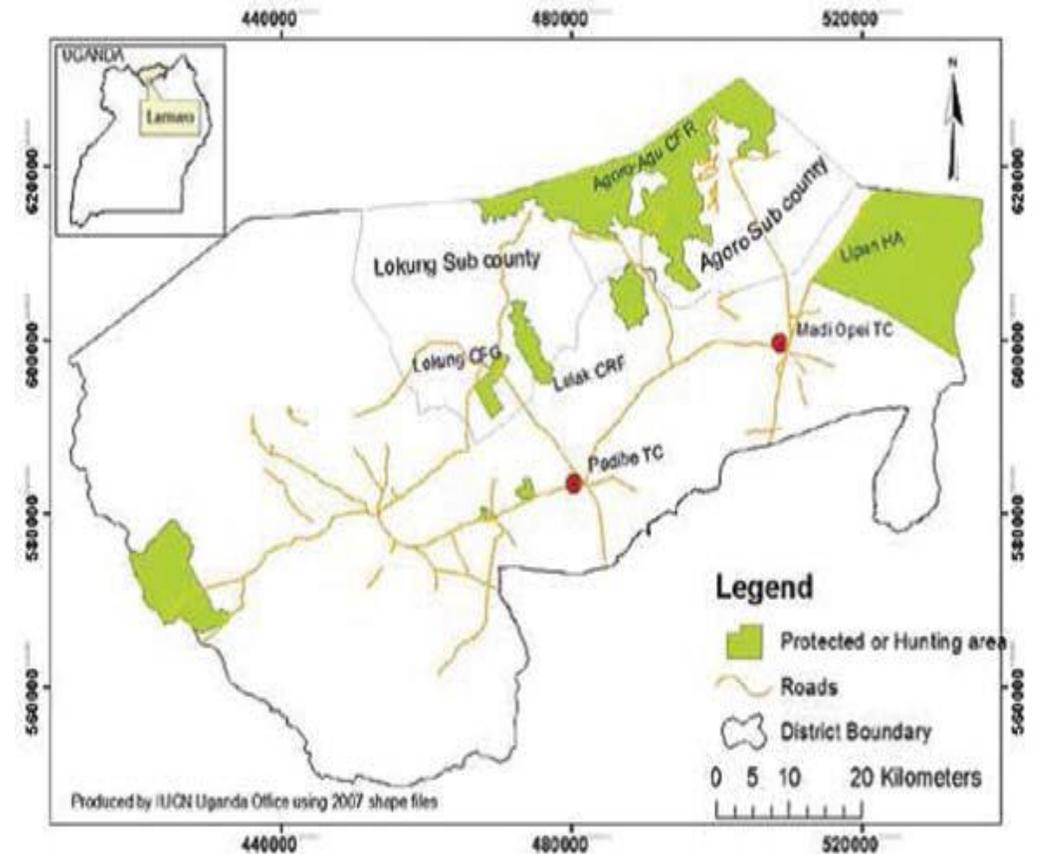
## Samuel Ojelel

*Consolidating Community Efforts to Protect an Endangered cycad (Encephalartos macrostrobilus) in Lamwo District, Uganda*

Consolidating community efforts to protect an Endangered cycad (Encephalartos macrostrobilus) in Lamwo district, Uganda is supported by a Second Rufford Small Grant. It targets an Endangered cycad species namely Encephalartos macrostrobilus located in

Town/Region	Agoro Agu
Country	Uganda
Continent	Africa
Categories	Plants
Date	26 Apr 2018

1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> RSG



Project location

# Accomplishments with RSGs

Hands-on propagation



Leading projects



Cycad population survey



Awareness creation



Community Service



Networking and collaboration



Publication



# Upcoming/on-going activities: (2<sup>nd</sup> RSG)

- Register a Community group
- Raising cycad seedlings
- Fire on cycads (research)
- Exchange visit
- Indigenous tree planting

## Challenges

- Non-conservation expectations (Poverty stricken communities)
- Scepticism & security (Post conflict community?)
- Difficult terrain (remoteness of areas)

# Concluding messages



Appreciation:

Nature Conservation Venture  
Capital?

- Grantee experience sharing  
fora
- Newsletter/magazine

RSG recipients:

- Take home (CLAP?)
- Nature Conservation  
Network of East Africa?
- Conference proceedings?
- Livelihood issues in  
conservation

# Appreciation

