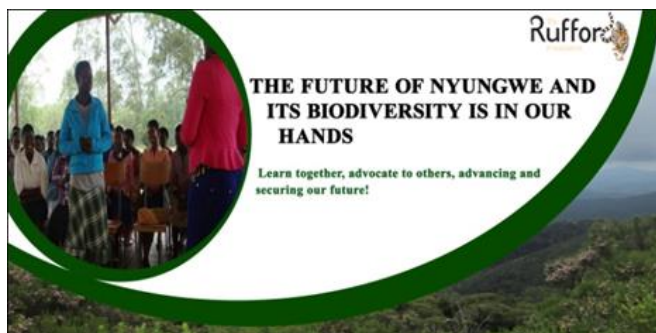


## Project Update: March 2019

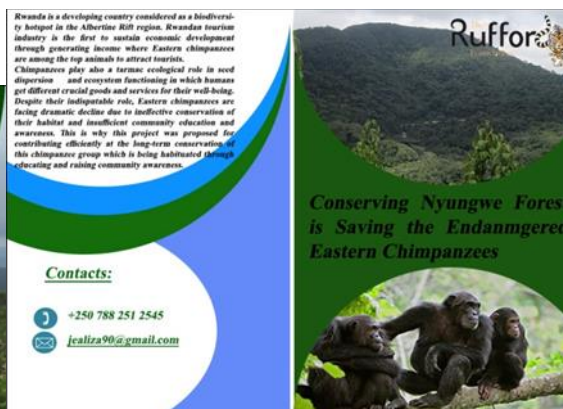
Firstly, thank you very much for offering me the second round grant to implement this very important project which has a crucial positive impact on sustainable conservation of the Eastern chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes schweinfurthii*) of Nyungwe National Park (NNP) through education and raising communities awareness.

It took very long to get the permit from the local authorities (at the district level) because the project will involve local communities in addition to the insecurity in and around NNP. Late January and February 2019, we undertook two field trips at Gisovu site and had informal discussion with some local communities; hearing from them what are their knowledge and perceptions about chimpanzee conservation, their threats, their ecological and economical importance towards their wellbeing. We also met with local authorities and explained in detailed the purpose and contribution of our project towards the communities wellbeing. The authorities appreciated our project and they told us that it sounds very important especially to the communities living proximity to the park and they promised us to a strong support anywhere needed. We also visited the primary and secondary schools in which our project will be carried out and we set the tentative time that the project will be implemented in these schools. We also meet with the sectors agronomists and we asked them what may be the suitable tree species to be planted alongside the communities' farms as they are the first who can know the soil type and the tree species that can be suitable. After knowing the tree species that will be planted, we directly made contact with the nursery tree owner and he told us that the seedlings will be ready from mid-April 2019 and we are optimistic that these seedlings will grow well as in April 2019 we will be in the rainy period.

Educational materials (brochures, chimpanzees conservation toolkit and posters), awareness raising materials (banners, pull-ups and stickers) are ready while t-shirts for competitions winners are in the press.



Left: Banner



Handbook cover



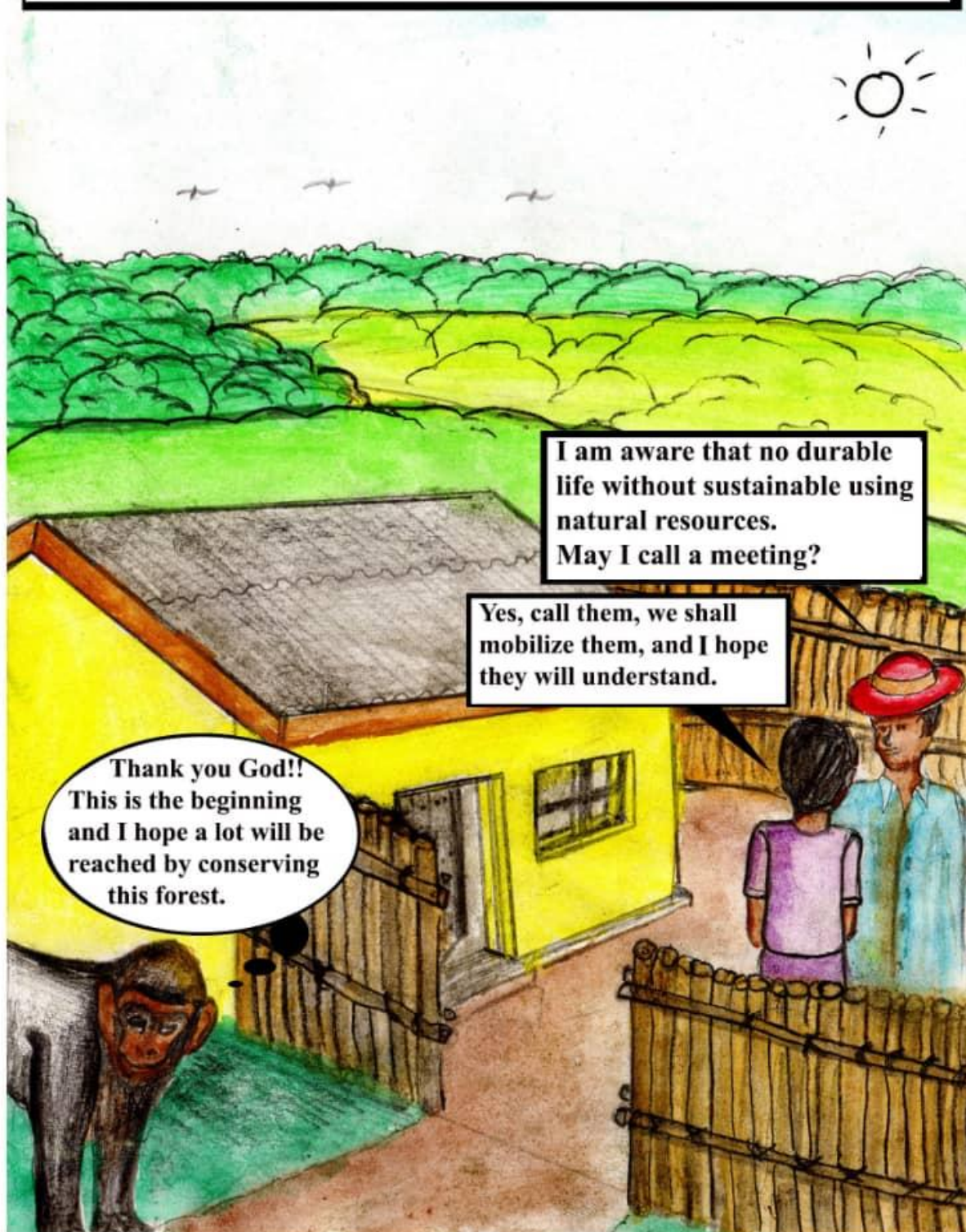
## **CONSERVING EASTERN CHIMPANZEES AND THEIR HABITAT IS SAVING OUR LIVES**



Chimpanzee conservation toolkit cover



The son has agreed to chimpanzee for going to tell other people, reminding them the role of Nyungwe forest to the survival of wildlife that include chimpanzees. Also the role of this forest to the wellbeing of local communities.



I am aware that no durable life without sustainable using natural resources.  
May I call a meeting?

Yes, call them, we shall mobilize them, and I hope they will understand.

Thank you God!!  
This is the beginning  
and I hope a lot will be  
reached by conserving  
this forest.



People of my village! Tomorrow we have a meeting under shine tree!!  
Please keep time and attend without fail!!



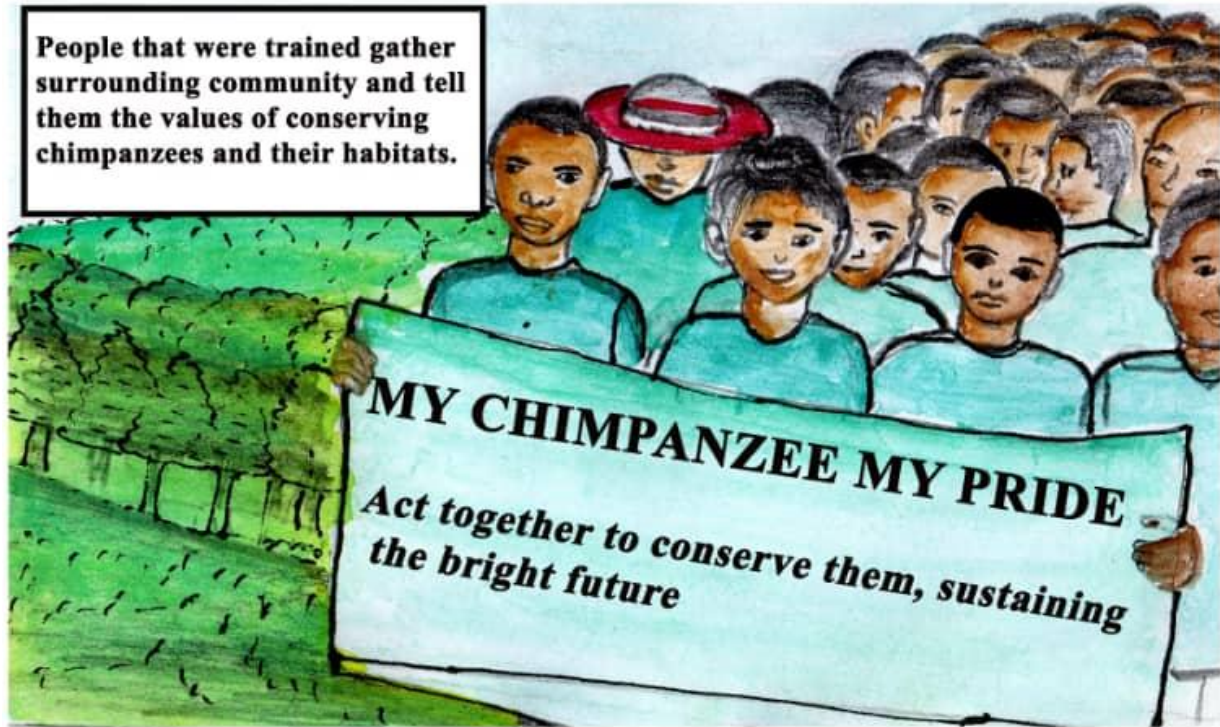
People gathered together dealing with impacts of anthropogenic activities on chimpanzees, and entire forest, and set measures of sustainable conservation of the forest and its wildlife.

We have understood how important this forest is can conserve it.

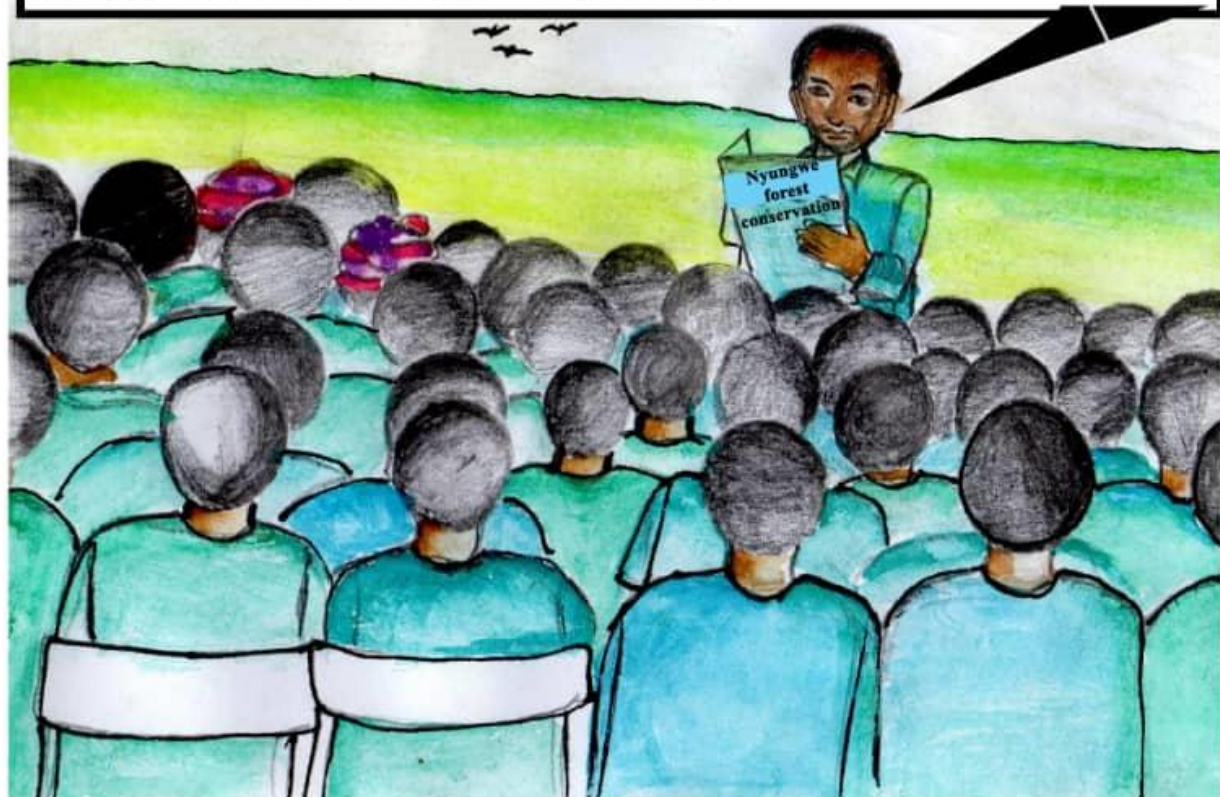




People that were trained gather surrounding community and tell them the values of conserving chimpanzees and their habitats.



Conserving rainforests like Nyungwe benefit all living organisms. For sustainable conserving this forest, revenue sharing to develop infrastructures, supporting community projects, jobs to local community, tourism revenue will be shared to community through infrastructures development, and supporting community projects; that will contribute to the local socio-economic development.





This boy cared a lot on chimpanzees. He was finally invited by Rwanda Development Board (RDB) and other conservation partners to share information with them. And local development projects were developed.

We need the participation of local communities in these projects.

We are the future of our world. None else will be responsible for saving our forest! Chimpanzees and other biodiversity are being extirpated. Let's stay firmly for them and their habitat!!!!

You are right!

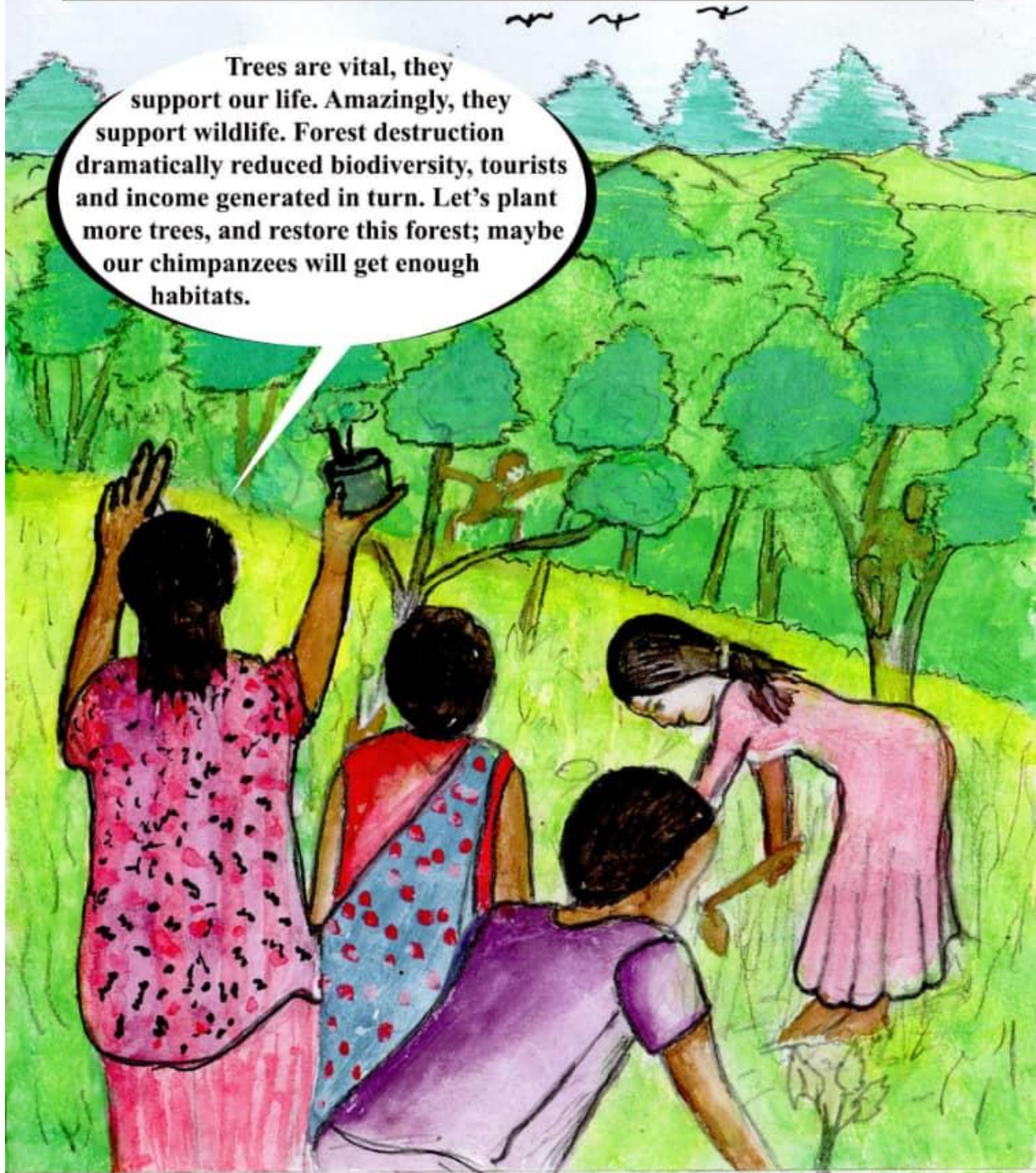
Let's work together to protect chimpanzees and their habitats.





After having meeting, local community acknowledged how they unknowingly destroying the forest. They didn't think how it supports their daily life more than all resources illegally harvested in it, for example carbon sequestration, air purification, among other that are priceless. Now they are aware that forest supports wildlife that attracts tourists. They start planting trees in order to restore the damaged part of Nyungwe.

Trees are vital, they support our life. Amazingly, they support wildlife. Forest destruction dramatically reduced biodiversity, tourists and income generated in turn. Let's plant more trees, and restore this forest; maybe our chimpanzees will get enough habitats.





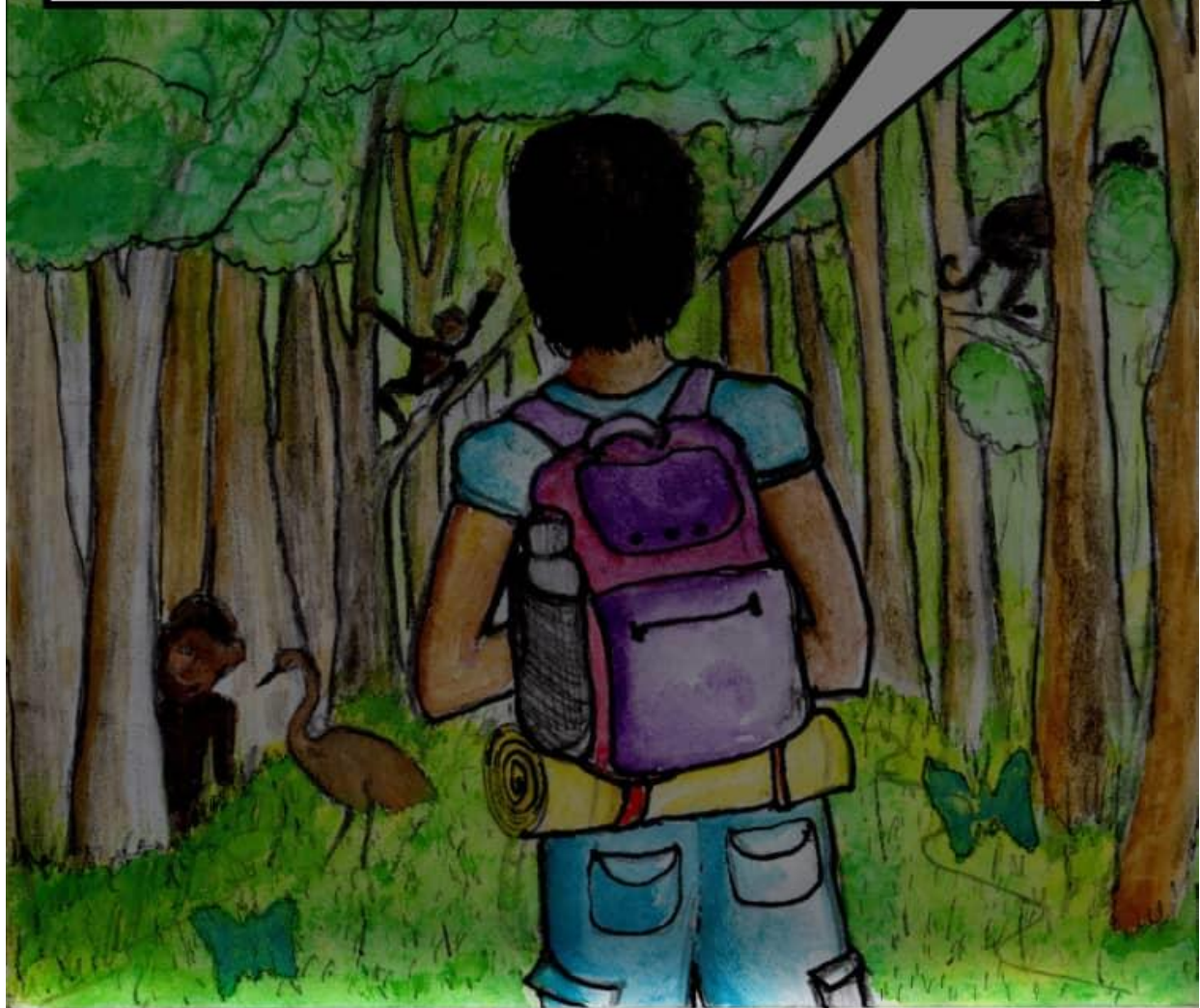
**Ooooooh My God!**

**This is amazing to visit Nyungwe forest. It has a pleasant climate that is perfect for life for every organism.**

**I am deeply excited to be here. I have experienced observing attractive mountains, various species both flora and fauna.**

**I wonder why all people do not come to visit these beautiful God's creatures like chimpanzees.**

**Woowoooo! This is a place I am calling everyone to come and see!!!!**





Nature is life, but tourism in a well managed park like Nyungwe forest is beyond life itself. We are glad to openly tell the world that the greatness of conserving flora and fauna sustains every corner of life. We have more and lovely animals living in this forest such as Chimpanzee that expresses the behaviors close to humans. In conserving them we benefit in turn, and beyond previous expectations. Please tour in Nyungwe National Park; I hope you will experience a great joy observing diversity of plants and animals like birds, primates like such as mountain monkeys, golden monkeys, chimpanzees,... The future of Nyungwe and its underlying biodiversity is on our hands. Let's work together to conserve our forest for the future of its biodiversity, and for us humans!

