

Project Update: March 2020

Preliminary surveys:

The project has managed to obtain 12 camera traps before the lockdown started. We have also managed to set transects where the monitoring will take place and have started collecting the data on *Rungwecebus kipunji* and other diurnal primates.



Camera traps for the *Rungwecebus kipunji* Monitoring program

Due to the number of primates being low, we have decided to collect information on all diurnal primates that include black and white colobus monkeys, Sykes monkeys and *Rungwecebus kipunji*.

We have also started analysing data on the habitat and threats to primates in the ecosystem, where poaching and fragmentation makes a lead towards the species survival.



Fragmentations around the protected area (people are cultivating very close to the protected areas; they also cultivate on the areas that were set as partial protected area - buffer zone)

From the study, the *Rungwecebus kipunji*, have a big fight distance. We have not yet managed to get a good close photo but according to the local guides during dry season they are close to people.



Diurnal primate species found within the study area. 1. Sykes Monkey, 2. Black and White Colobus Monkey and 3. *Rungwecebus kipunji* (Focal study spp)

We have not started setting the camera traps due to the heavy rain, but we expect to start the camera trapping in June 2020. We have started training the management in the data collection and management. They are our focal data collection especially during this time when there is a threat and burn from travelling. Monitoring continues but the awareness campaign has not been put in place. The government has stopped any assemblages. We will start community awareness when we have good news on COVID – 19. So far on monitoring we are good.