## Project Update: October 2021

## **Activities:**

In October 2021, attention shifted to other insects of ecotourism importance in the project site. These were butterflies and the survey technique was not different from the one used to study dragonflies. Butterflies were sampled along existing paths within the forest without many disturbances to the species. Pictures of the species sampled were taken and the butterflies released carefully back into their habitat. Pictures of butterflies previously taken by the researcher were also assembled. Identification of the species was done with the help of Larsen, 2005. The species were later classified into abundant, common, scarce and rare according to the frequency of occurrence. A brief note was written for each species observed according to Larsen, 2005. Some of the species are listed from Figure 2-8.

## Milestone

IDF-report reached 574 reads (Figure 1)

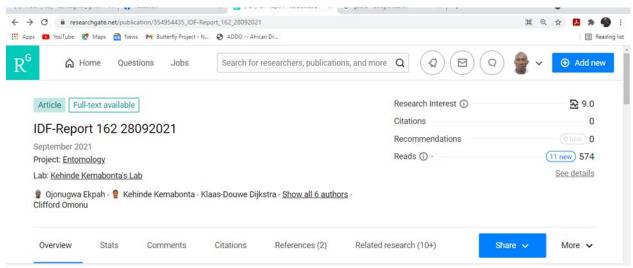


Figure 1. IDF-report on ResearchGate



Figure 2. *Bicyclus madetes* (The Brown-spot Bush Brown) flies in forest and survives severe forest degradation relatively well and is often commonly found, although somewhat patchily distributed. Host plant is Poaceae (Larsen, 2005).



Figure 3. Charaxes etesipe (The Blue-spotted Charaxes) has a wide range of habitat preference from the wettest rainforest to Guinea savannah and as far north as Kaduna. This species is rarely seen except at bait (Larsen, 2005).



Figure 4. Lachnoptera anticlia (The Blotched Leopard) is a forest butterfly with some tolerance of habitat degradation. They are fond of flowers. Males come to water and urine (Larsen, 2005).



Figure 5. Acraea admantha (Hewitson's Glassy Acraea is locally fairly common in southern Nigeria. The species flies mainly at forest edges, in secondary forest and agricultural land with a full canopy (Larsen, 2005).



Figure 6. Euphaedra hebes (The Hebes Pink forester) occur in the wetter forests in good condition but always much scarcer. The species occur from Liberia to Nigeria (Larsen, 2005).



Figure 7. Neptis melicerta (The Original Club-Dot Sailer) flies in all types of forest but does not penetrate poor secondary forests. The range stretches from Guinea to Sierra Leone to Nigeria (Larsen, 2005).



Figure 8. Junonia cymodoce (Wings leaf shaped blue leaf butterfly) is somewhat a rare forest butterfly usually preferring semi-shade in contrast to the sun loving Junonia. Host plant is Ruella (Larsen, 2005).

## References

Larsen, T.B. (2005). Butterflies of Western Africa. Apollo books.