Project Update May 2024

During this period, we did a follow up on sustainable activities supported through the two rounds of support from The Rufford Foundation and KAFRED in the past 3 years, as basis for getting information for supporting the revolving fund project, and started the primate monitoring program in Magombe and neighbouring wetlands

a) Follow up on the sustainable projects supported by the project and KAFRED in the past three years

We implemented our first Rufford funded project in 2021, and the second project in 2022. These two projects had a component of sustainable projects, whereby a total of 85 wetland neighbours were supported in beekeeping and livestock rearing (poultry, goat rearing and piggery) and sustainable agriculture.

In addition, KAFRED has been running a revolving fund that supports the wetland neighbours, and therefore it was key to understand how and which wetland neighbours have benefited as we plan to boost the fund during this phase.

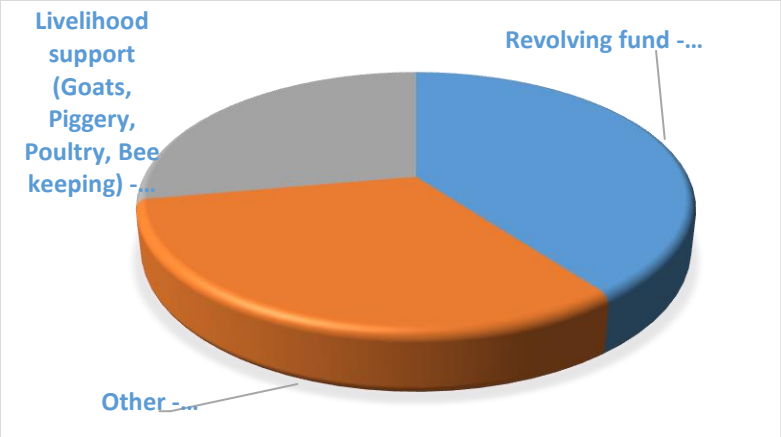
Results from the survey

Have you benefited from KAFRED

KAFRED benefit status	Frequency	% of respondents
No	149	57
Yes	110	43
Grand Total	**259**	**100**

How?

Benefits received from the KAFRED	Frequency	Percentage of households
Revolving fund	44	40
Livelihood support (Goats, Piggery, Poultry, Bee keeping)	30	27
Other	36	33
Grand Total	**110**	**100.0**



If other, mention?

Other benefits received from KAFRED	Freq.	%tage
Sustainable agriculture	3	8
Compensation for crop raiding	1	3
Employment	3	8
Infrastructure development	2	5
KAFRED T-shirts	3	8
Resource access	2	5
Scholarships for school going children	3	8
Seating allowance	18	56
Grand Total	**36**	**100.0**

The main purpose of this information was to get understand how many wetland neighbours have benefited from the livelihood component of the previous project Rufford projects and other interventions by KAFRED. This information will help in informing the revolving fund program, which is a key component of this phase of the project.

B) Primate monitoring

The project team monitored primates on seven patches that form the Magombe wetland ecosytem.

These are:

Kanyancu (Ka)

Kanwambogo (Kan)

Kitojo (Kit)

Kyakagunga-Kacwamakaito (Kya)

Magombe- KAFRED (Ma-KA)

Magombe Kiyoima (Ma-Ki)

Mujuruga (Mu)

The monitoring was done in two shifts in the morning, (7:00 am to 10:00 am) and evening (5:00pm to 7:00 pm).

During the exercise the team mainly looked at the following.

- Primate species presence in the different wetland patches.
- Habitat preference.
- Activity pattern/behaviour.
- Group composition.
- Interaction with the neighbouring communities and potential human-wildlife occurrences.

Map showing the surveyed area with wetlands and forest patches

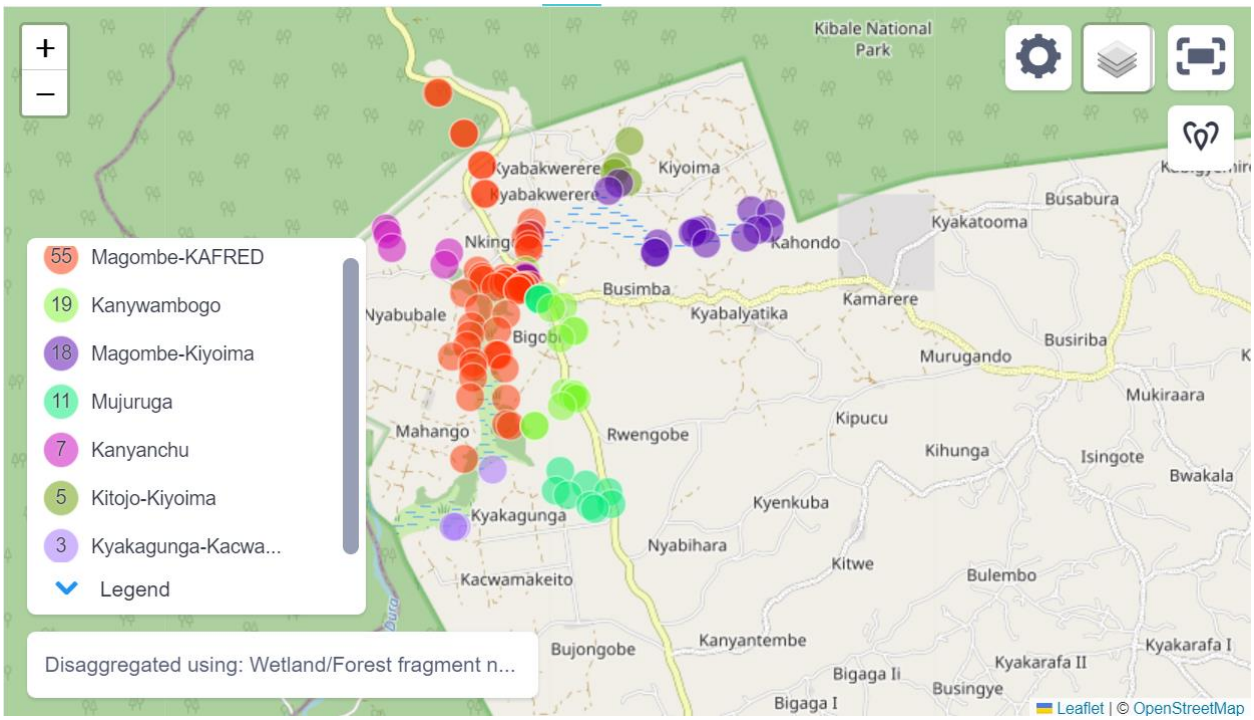
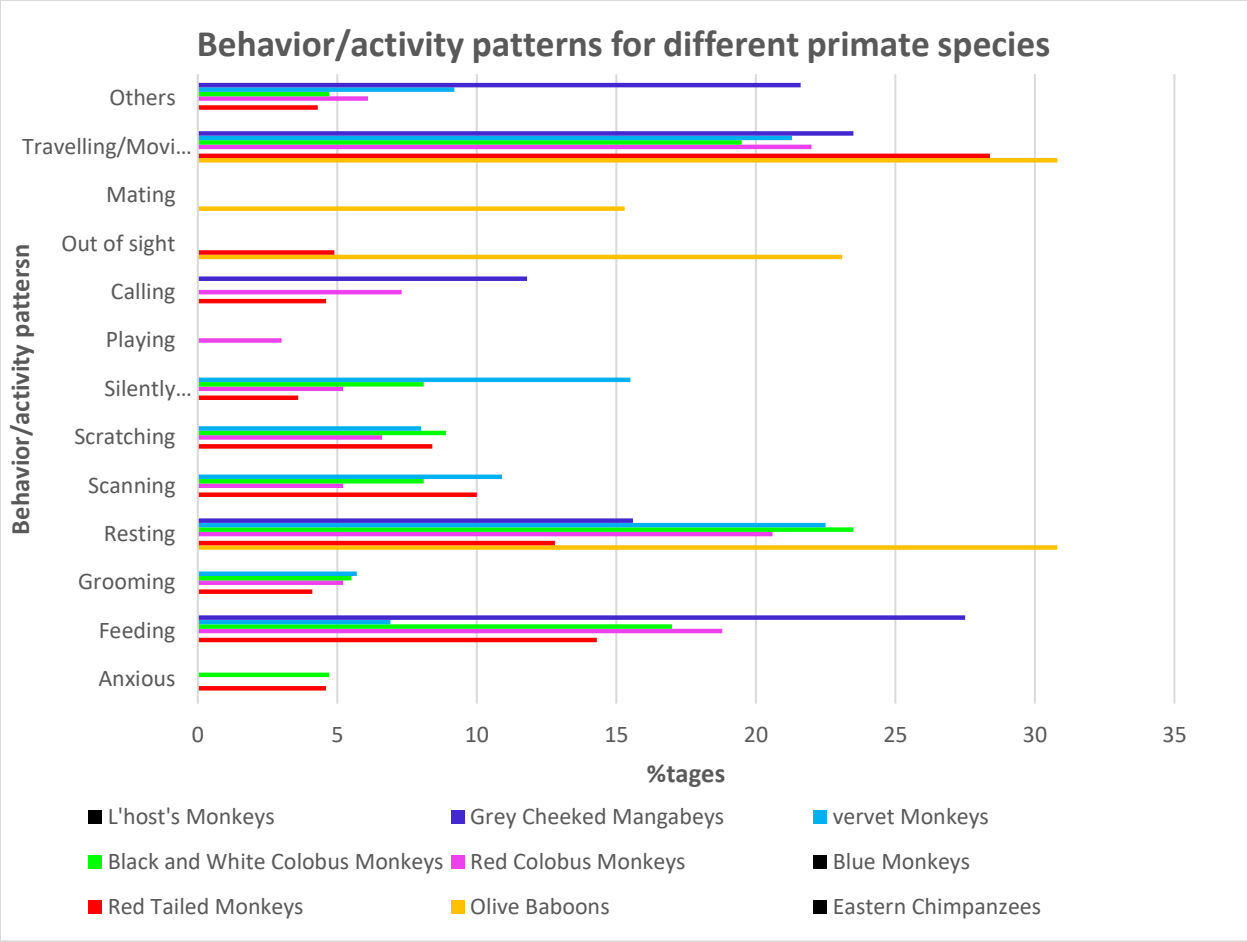


Table showing primate species and numbers found in each wetland fragment/patch during the monitoring programme.

Primate Species	Wetland fragments/patches							
	Ka	**Kan**	**Kit**	**Kya**	**Ma-KA**	**Ma-Ki**	**Muj**	**Total**
Eastern Chimpanzees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**
Olive Baboons	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	**6**
Red Tailed Monkeys	2	56	13	0	49	7	9	**136**
Blue Monkeys	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**
Red Colobus Monkeys	5	35	0	0	136	3	15	**194**
Black and White Colobus Monkeys	17	80	14	0	28	6	6	**151**
Vervet Monkeys	0	0	0	9	31	21	2	**63**
Grey Cheeked Mangabeys	0	0	0	6	5	4	2	**17**
L'hoest's Monkeys	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**
Grand Total								**567**

The most common primate species in the area have always been the olive baboons but in the monitoring programme, very few baboons were sighted, and only in one patch (Magombe-Kiyoima), therefore there is need to do more monitoring to understand why they were not sighted. Could it be the season, threats or something else?

136 red colobus monkeys were found in Magombe –KAFRED patch. For such a population of an endangered species in a wetland that is around 4 km^2, it communicates why we should conserve this wetland and its tributaries.



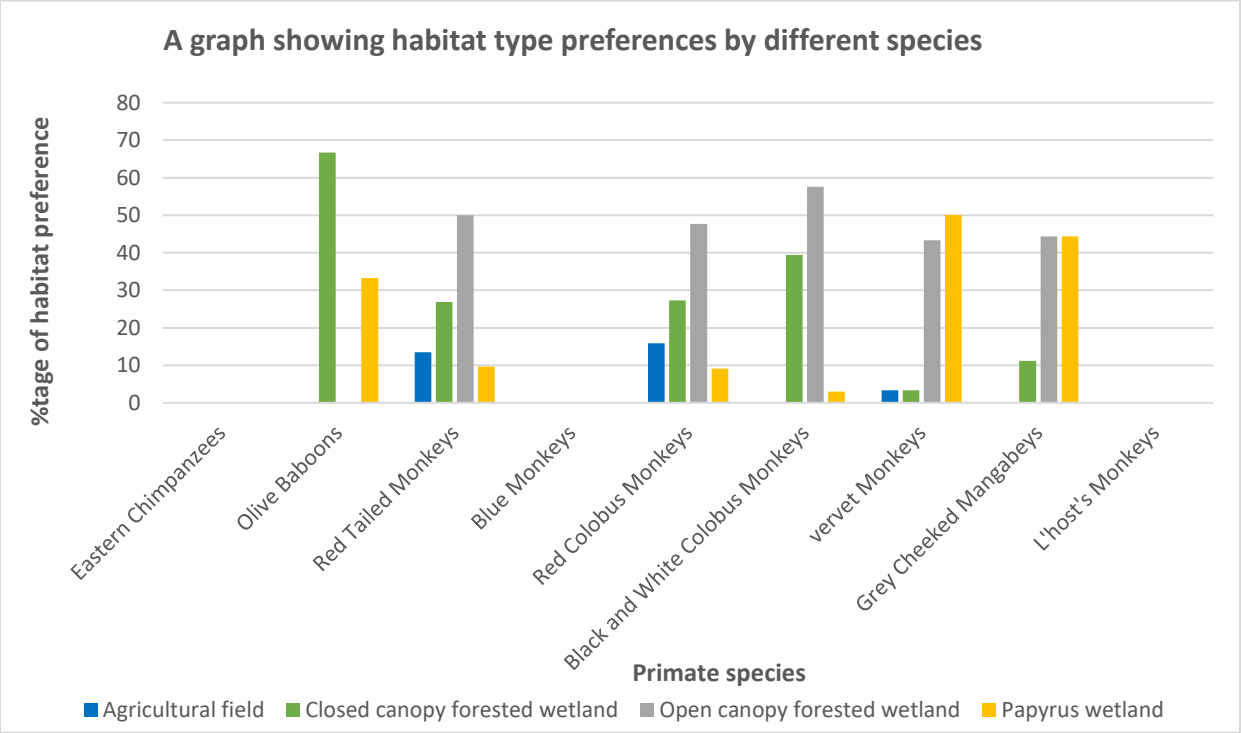
Note: Behaviour/activity patterns recorded as others include those that could not individually raise at least 1% of the total behaviour/activity patterns displayed by the species for all the time they were monitored. However, they are all highlighted under individual species behaviour tables.

Red Colobus Monkeys behavior/activity patterns during the 10-15 minutes observation time periods

Behaviour/activity patterns	**Percentage**
Travelling	22
Resting	20.7
Feeding	18.9
Calling	7.3
Scratching	6.7
Grooming	5.2
Scanning	5.2
Silently observing	5.2
Playing	3
Others	6.1
Grand Total	**100**

Red colobus monkeys were seen feeding on *Brideria micorantha* leaves, *Ficus polita* young leaves, *Ficus* thorning leaves, *Makaranga* leaves, *Brideria micorantha* leaves, *Croton* leaves, lichens and palm dates,

Other behaviour/activity patterns include; breast feeding, associating with grey cheeked mangabeys, black and white colobus and red tailed monkeys, mating, urinating, getting out of sight and being anxious.



The following primates had no sightings made on them during the monitoring period.

1. The eastern chimpanzees.
2. Blue monkeys.
3. L'hoest's monkeys.

However, this does not mean they do not live or range within the wetland fragments that were monitored but were not present or the monitoring team did not sight any of them during the monitoring period. For the case of eastern chimpanzees, recently nests were seen in the Magombe-KAFRED, Kanyanchu wetland fragments and in eucalyptus trees on private land, which indicated their presence in the areas in the past few days before monitoring. The presence of nests on private land is also a signal for human-wildlife conflict. For the L'hoest's monkeys, about eight individuals were sighted crossing from the Magombe-KAFRED fragment to the Kanyanchu fragment by the monitoring team a few days after the monitoring period, a key indication of their presence and ranging within the wetland fragments. And as for the blue monkeys, they are generally rare to sight even in the main Kibale National Park but information given by the local tour guides is that they are normally seen on very rare occasions in the Magombe-KAFRED and the

Kanyanchu fragments. This is very evident given that Kanyanchu fragments is a connecting corridor between the main Kibale National park and Magombe wetland.

The above numbers do not reflect the actual numbers of the respective primate species but rather their relative numbers/abundancies in the different wetland fragments. This is mainly because the numbers recorded were dependent on the chances of sighting the individuals during the random monitoring period. Therefore, the second monitoring period schedules in the second last quarter of the project could give deeper insights of the numbers.

Project team member during a morning primate monitoring activity in Kanyanchu wetland patch

Different primate monitoring teams convening after an evening primate monitoring activity in Magombe-KAFRED and Kanwambogo wetland patches

A Red tailed monkey sighted in Mujuruga wetland patch

L'hoest monkey crossing from Kanyancu wetland patch to Magombe-KAFRED wetland patch