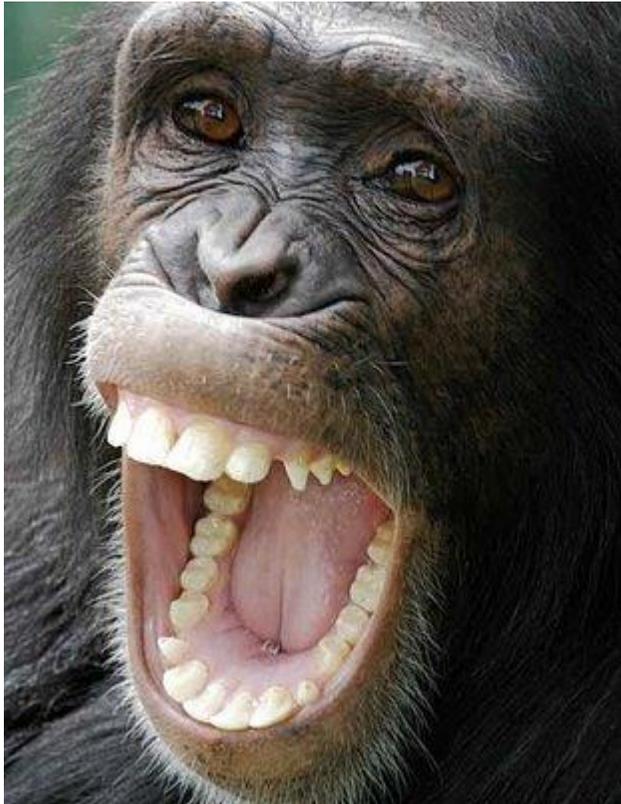


DON'T Hunt Us

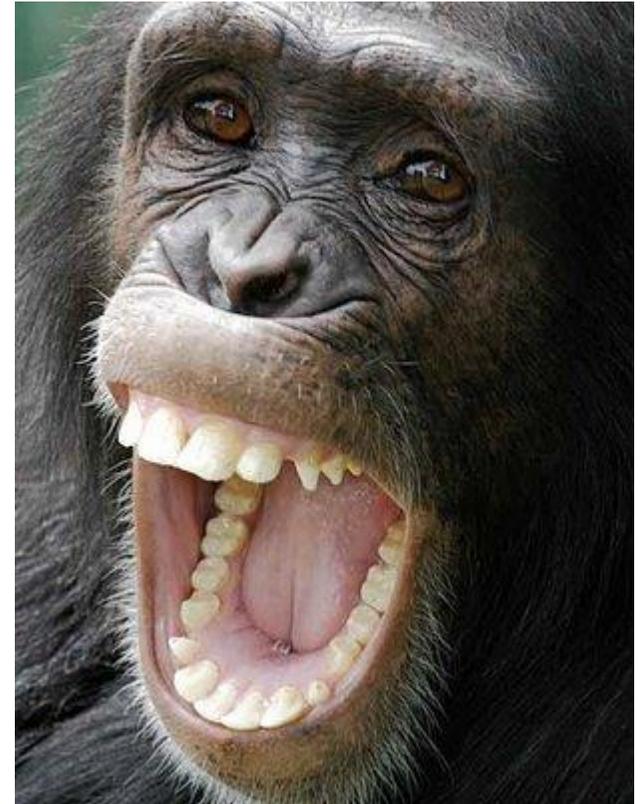


Benevolent Association for the Protection of the
Environment and the Socially Underprivileged

bapesu

The
Rufford
Small Grants Foundation 
www.ruffordsmallgrants.org

We are your
Close Relatives



NO BUSH FIRES in Tubah FOREST



Benevolent Association for the Protection of the
Environment and the Socially Underprivileged

bapesu

STOP



Hunting chimpanzees for BUSHMEAT

Flashback and Perspective of Tubah Upland Forest

Considering the efforts put in place by all the Fons of Tubah sub division in 1994 to protect the Tubah Upland Forest; considering the support of Helvetas Cameroon, the regional management board and the management committee from 1994 to 1998 that enabled the stakeholders to plant trees in order to regenerate the forest while protecting its habitats; Considering the sub prefectorial order No.22 of 2000 issued by the divisional officer for Tubah; considering the support by Mr. John Demarco and his sister who have been sponsoring some Tubah students for the interest of this exercise as well as the financing of the demarcation process; BAPESU (Benevolent Association for the Protection of the Environment and the Socially Underprivileged) and the Tubah Council play to continue in this effort so that the dream can be realized.

REFLECTION

Great Apes are part of us, destroying them or their forest habitat means our gradual destruction

For all Enquiries Contact :

Christian Tabifor, Project Coordinator
Benevolent Association for the Protection of the Environment and the Socially Underprivileged (BAPESU)

Physical Address:

Four Corners Bambui, Market Road
Postal: PO Box 4415, Douala-Cameroon
Tel: +237 77491345 Fax: +237 33471186
E-mail: bapesu.org@gmail.com
Web site: www.ruffordsmallgrants.org/rsg/projects/christian_tabifor

NOTE:

THIS PUBLICATION HAS BEEN PRODUCED BY BAPESU (BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE SOCIALLY UNDERPRIVILEGED) AND ACKNOWLEDGES FUNDING FROM THE RUFFORD SMALL GRANTS FOUNDATION (UK). THE VIEWS EXPRESSED ARE NOT THOSE OF RSG

AWARENESS CAMPAIGN FOR THE PROTECTION OF ENDANGERED GREAT APES IN THE TUBAH UPLAND FOREST



Chimpanze

Chimpanzee
(Pan Troglodyte)

*Join us and help participate in this
endeavour to guarantee that our closest
living relatives continue to share this planet
earth with us*



Benevolent Association for the Protection of the
Environment and the Socially Underprivileged

bapesu

The
Rufford
Small Grants Foundation 



Facts about Great Apes and People

The endangered great apes of Tubah Upland forest like other great apes of the world share their home which is the forest with many millions of people. Great apes are found in west, central and east Africa and in south-east Asia. The mass of these people live in

serious poverty. The average income in these countries is less than three dollars a day. Abject poverty and lack of knowledge push a person to use wildlife and other natural resources unsustainably, that is, in wasteful ways. The demand for bush-meat is increasing. Chimpanzees, gorillas, and, bonobos whose populations cannot sustain any harvest, are among the species most hunted, particularly as a cooking delicacy for growing populations in central and west Africa. Today, only 23 countries do have naturally occurring populations of great apes. Orangutans are found in 2 countries, gorillas in 10, bonobos in one and chimpanzees in 21 including Cameroon and about a few in Tubah Upland Forest. It is difficult to be precise, because chimpanzees are thought to have become extinct recently in a number of West African countries – a fact that shows the urgency of the situation. The decrease of great ape populations has been accounted for by direct and indirect human involvement or intervention. The world’s great apes will become extinct within 20 years if urgent measure is not taken to cut down the impact of the booming trade in “bush-meat” for human consumptions. Deforestation is the main threat but on top of that we have hunting pressure.”

Like us, the great apes live for a long time* and have a slow reproduction rate. Females generally give birth to one infant at a time and wait for a long period before becoming pregnant again (on average five to six years for chimpanzees). This characteristic makes them particularly vulnerable to external threats and hinders repopulation attempts. * 35 to 45 years in a natural environment, 50 to 60 years in captivity

Deforestation, poaching, local conflicts... the great apes endangered by humankind

The No.1 threat: destruction of forests: According to a report from the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) published in 2002, less than 10% of the forest habitat of Africa’s great apes will still be intact by 2030. .Deforestation results from several phenomena. Population growth leads communities to cut down trees for fuel, clear land for farming and construct roads.

The ravages of hunting For the great apes (chimpanzees), humans are the most dangerous enemy. Poaching is a thriving business in many African countries, although chimpanzees, gorillas and bonobos are protected species. According to the World Wildlife Fund (WWF), an estimated 3,000 to 6,000 great apes are killed by humans each year. Those that live nearest to areas inhabited by humans like the Tubah Upland Forest are most in danger. Rural populations and armed bands kill them primarily for food. Certain apes, particularly the youngest, are captured to be sold as pets.



With Our Partner (s) the Project aims:

- To help in the conservation of great apes (chimpanzee) population in Tubah Upland forest through community awareness campaign
- To discourage burning of the Tubah Upland forest
- To discourage hunting of great apes (chimpanzee) for bush meat.
- To educate and enlighten the local population on the importance of conserving the great apes (chimpanzee) in their natural habitat in order to prevent extinction
- Encourage strategic approaches to (chimpanzee) great ape conservation
- To encourage sustainable community activities
- To encourage alternative income opportunities to poaching, logging, e.g., sustainable agriculture, ecotourism etc.



To attain this, however, we need your help, so that we can work together, coordinate and build expertise and public awareness to save the Great Apes of the Tubah Upland Forest



Threats to Chimpanzees of Tubah Upland Forest

The decline of great ape populations has been caused by direct and indirect human intervention. The following factors pose the main threats to the long-term survival of great apes in their natural habitat:

1. *Hunting for bush meat*
2. *Illegal burning of the forest*
3. *Excessive and illegal logging*
4. *Habitat loss and fragmentation*
5. *Local road construction*
6. *Local tribal conflicts*
7. *Capture and sale of live specimens*
8. *Expansion of agriculture*
9. *Installation of shrine in the Forest.*



Humans and chimpanzees: how can we share forest resources?

Ecotourism: “Come and see the great apes!”

A sustainable development project can be set up to allow villagers to benefit from forest resources while protecting the habitat of chimpanzees. With the development of ecotourism, for example great apes can be a real money-spinner for those communities that protect them. In Rwanda for example, great apes living in the Volcanoes National Park have sparked a boom in tourism, the country’s third source of foreign currency today, bringing in nearly a million dollars (800,000 euros) a year according to the UN.

