

2020

ANNUAL REPORT



OUR VISION

“By 2023, maintain a stable chimpanzee population in the Northern Albertine Rift and achieve self-sustainability in captive management.”

OUR MISSION

To sustainably conserve chimpanzees in their natural habitats and provide optimum captive care to those who cannot survive in the wild.

OVERALL GOAL

To enhance the conservation status of chimpanzees

PROGRAM PURPOSE

Welfare and safety of chimpanzees in the sanctuary and in the wild as well as improve the quality of their habitat.

OUR CORE VALUES

1. Dedication to the Welfare of Chimpanzees:
2. Professionalism:
3. Integrity that earns Trust:
4. Teamwork and Partnership:
3. Effectiveness and Efficiency:

OUR STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

1. Enhanced Ex Situ Chimpanzee Welfare and Health Management
 2. Enhanced Ex Situ Chimpanzee Conservation Education and Awareness
 3. Improved Chimpanzee Conservation Education and Awareness
 4. Enhanced Research, Communication Partnerships
 5. Enhanced Chimpanzee Trust Financial and Institutional Sustainability
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



The year 2020 has been an extraordinary year for the entire world. In the conservation and tourism business projections, 2020 held a lot of optimism for everyone for a good business year.

However, a few months into the year, a number of challenges started coming up. First was the steady increase in water levels, which started early in the year and by end of February, had exceeded levels in the recent 10-20 years, before exceedingly even these to reach unprecedented high levels by April 2020. The increased water levels damaged some of the structures, particularly, the tourist facilities. Some of the animal welfare structures, like parts of the electric fencing, were also been affected.

Another big challenge has been the COVID-19 pandemic. This has not only impaired the ability to conduct tourism business but has also affected the normal operations of the Trust and the sanctuary in particular. Operating costs increased, travel restrictions as well as the closures have affected the community programs.

With the challenges, new opportunities have opened up too. The trust has been able to leverage the ongoing pandemic and restrictions to improve and grow its online presence, attract new donors and find new and more innovative ways of raising funds for the operations of the Trust. As such we have exceeded all the targets for fundraising set for the year. We have also been able to recruit new donors and qualify for a new platform for long-term fundraising.



TOP ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2020, INCLUDE

1. The Trust has been able to raise funds and in-kind donations needed for feeding and care of the chimpanzees. The Trust has been able to raise over USD 300,000 from donors, guardians, and partners, both locally and internationally to support the Trust's operations.
2. The chimpanzees have been maintained in a healthy status. Even with the risk of COVID-19, no chimpanzee has shown symptoms. Protocols have been maintained.
3. Sanctuary structures have been renovated, including those damaged by flooding.
4. We have retained core staff except for the Conservation officer who was head hunted by a partner organization. Staff welfare, including COVID-19 support, screening and health examinations have been done. A task force routinely reviews the protocols with recommendations to management.
5. The field project has won additional funding to support ongoing activities within the same timeframe.
6. Our online marketing and promotions has greatly improved.
7. We have been able to embark on major project for the protection of the island from flooding.
8. We have secured the Trusts' property on plot 1 bank Close and 17 A Kampala road.

DR. JOSHUA RUKUNDO
Executive Director

ACHIEVEMENTS 2020



ENHANCED EX-SITU CHIMPANZEE WEL- FARE AND HEALTH MANAGEMENT





CHIMPANZEE WELFARE

The main objective of this year was to ensure safety of the chimpanzees from Covid 19 global pandemic. Under the work plan of the year, we achieved about 60% of the planned activities as well as additional activities that were held but unplanned for.

Food supply for the 50 chimpanzees has been observed throughout the year with help of donations from different institutions and individuals. This has enabled us ensure that all chimpanzees feed as scheduled and no signs of malnutrition.

Integration of chimpanzees in the group is a continuous process that's ongoing now for Tamtam who has settled in the forest with the others to date. However, integration of Asega is still a challenge because of his acrobatic nature that will require modifications on the fence.



CHIMPANZEE HEALTH

Early this year we were faced by the covid 19 pandemic that necessitated the closure of the sanctuary from 24th March- 30th September 2020 to the public. This was done as a way to protect the chimpanzees from contacting the virus. All staff were trained on how in the guidelines for covid 19 presentation. The covid 19 standard operating procedures (SOP's) for the chimpanzees and guests at Ngamba island sanctuary were developed and all staff are adhering to all the measures put in place to prevent the transmission of Covid 19.

All staff were screened for covid 19 the moment we got 1 positive case and out of the 32 staff all together we had 3 positive cases. However, all the 3 recovered and no more cases to date.

Chimp health checks were conducted in November and during the checks, blood, urine and stool samples were collected and analyzed. The results of the physical examination and laboratory tests indicated that all the chimpanzee were in good health. We also recorded 3 pregnancies and 1 miscarriage so far and we continue to manage all their health issues.

Table 1: Health cases encountered and managed

Diseases/ condition	Quality	Management
Pregnancies	3	Isolation and use of multivitamins
Miscarriage	1	Treated
Minor injuries	23	Cleaned and spraying antiseptics
Major injuries	3	Surgical interventions were used
Major infection	1	Isolation and Anti-biotics used



Sanctuary Infrastructure and Maintenance

During the year, there was an increase in the water levels in Lake Victoria which caused flooding at the sanctuary. This affected areas like the submerging of the pier, front view of the sanctuary, fence, camp area, dawn (East side) and dusk (West side) enclosure.

We have been able to get grants that have funded the renovation of the camp area and construction of the pier at the sanctuary. These included All flood damage repaired, planned renovations done on food store, vet clinic, holding facility and staff housing.

A lasting solution to the flooding of Lake Victoria was found and we managed to get a grant to start the construction of the gabions at the sanctuary. Whereas there are recommendations for the relocation of some of the structures due to the risk of flooding, this is currently not tenable nor affordable. Management shall consider the placement of gabions as and when funding is secured for this purpose.

Chimp Corner

Kisembo becomes Alpha male



In wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, Ngamba island chimps get new leader, Chimp Kisembo. This chimpanzee has been eyeing the Alpha Male position since 2010 during Chimp Mika's reign. Chimpanzee leadership varies from one individual to another and to become a leader is not about being stronger or weaker neither young nor old but the trust and the support you have in the community. In 2013, a power Vacuum was left with the death of Chimp Mika that demoralized the chimpanzee Community.

This led to a rise of different males in competition for the position such as Umutama, Kalema, Oketch and Kisembo. Furthermore, this led to a rise of Umutama as Alpha Male in 2015 although Kisembo wasn't in support. Umutama was a leader that would give a chance to other males to solve problems in the community, less competition while feeding and copulating.

Ngamba Island chimp leader, Kisembo kept on observing and building allies with the most influential enemies of Umutama like Bwambale, Robbie, Indi and Megan.

On top of that Kisembo has also been advised by a former Alpha male Robbie as well as convincing other chimps to support him.

In late 2019, Ngamba chimps new leader Kisembo started his coup to overthrow Umutama for the Alpha male seat.

This began when half of the males and females started welcoming him back to the holding facility which increased his confidence.

The opposing chimpanzees for the Alpha male position such as Oketch, Umutama and Kalema made the atmosphere harder for him.

Kisembo took his time to study all of their weaknesses and handled them one by one.

They continued trying to push him out but later they accepted a defeat and gave up and started to bow for him.

From that time, Kisembo has greatly proved that he is the leader and the entire community respects him.

He is a quiet, peaceful but very determined in his decisions. During feeding times whenever he is delayed to get food, he has his special hoot he sounds and every one runs away before he displays.

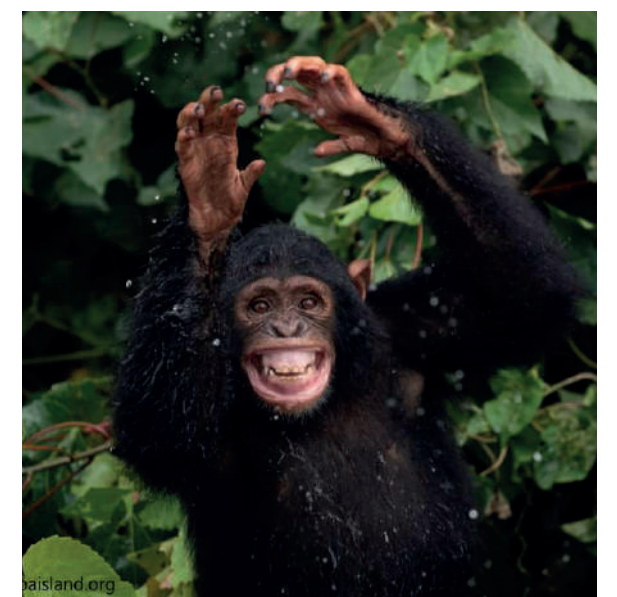
All top males, no one stands to continue getting food when he charges. Whoever does not give way will be punished for insubordination.

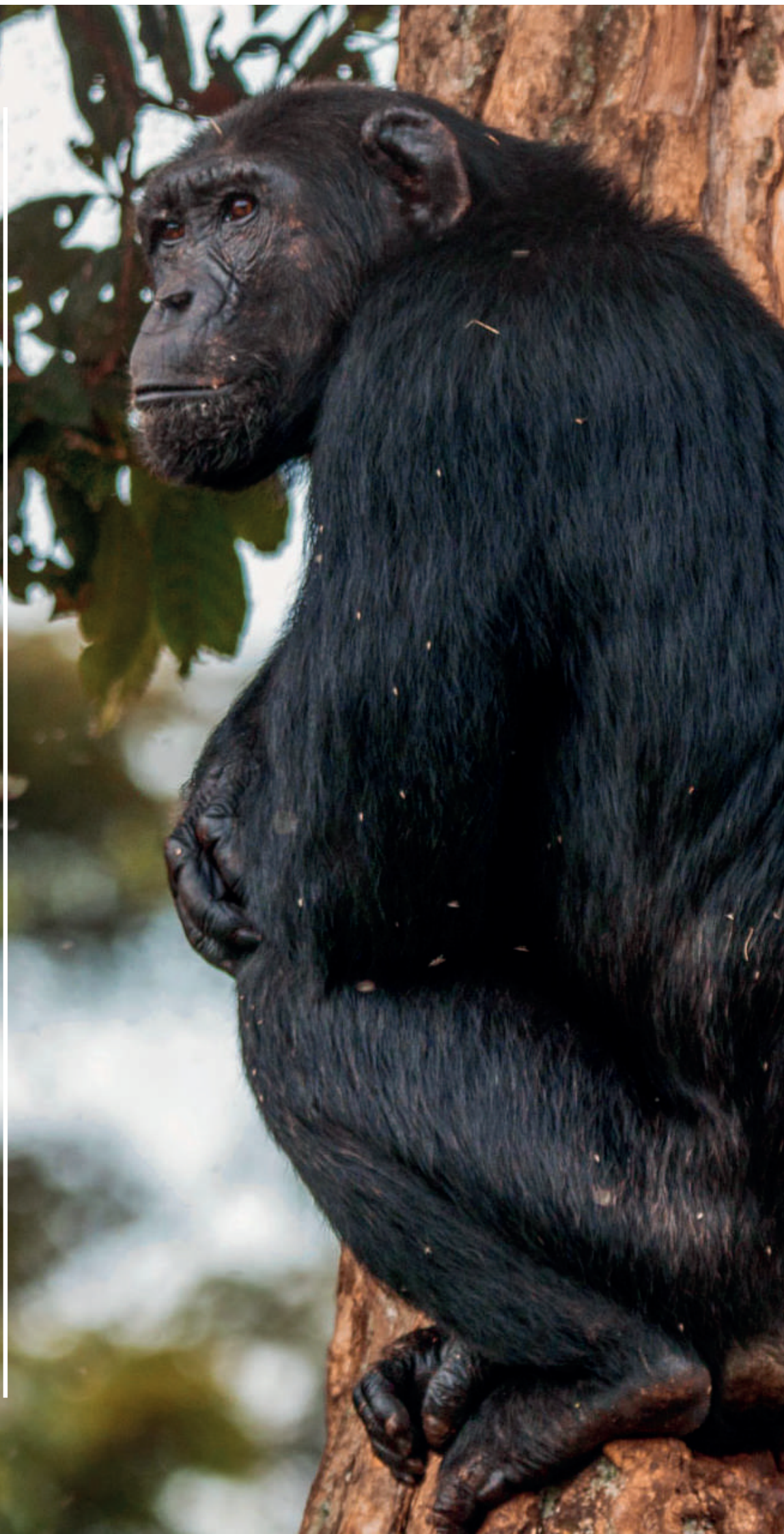


BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS



Rupaerilla





Community adaptability to loss occasioned by wildlife

The field program has been implementing a project “Community adaptability to loss occasioned by wildlife in Uganda”. This project is funded by the Darwin Initiative under the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) of the UK government. This project is a three-year project, ending in March 2021.

In 2020, we managed to supply all farmers in 32 villages with seedlings of the non-palatable crops and trained in planting and harvesting. All farmers managed to plant the crops ranging from Irish potatoes, Onions and Ginger. We further got them markets for all their produce as well as ensuring continue in the future.

We developed new conservation education materials about human wildlife and printed 10,000 copies of each of the 4 posters. These have been delivered to all the 32 villages and to 18 schools (cohort classes that we have been working with). Carried out refresher training for 43 Village Champions and 32 LC 1 Chairpersons who we equipped with bags and gum boots.

Furthermore, we managed to register 32 Village groups at Kikuube District and also set up 4 Parish associations in Munteme, Bulimya, Bubogo and Kaseeta. We signed memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Community-based organizations (CBO) and in 2021 a resilience fund will be set up for them.



Human Wildlife conflicts program

Chimpanzee Trust has managed to prevent and address the human wildlife conflicts (HWC) in our jurisdictional area. This year in partnership with Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA) we trained Guarding and reporting groups in 32 villages found in parishes of Munteme, Bulimya, Bubogo and Kaseeta that are found around Bugoma Forest.

We had some incidences of crop raiding and human injuries but the continuous awareness programs in the area have kept them to a minimum.

Farmers corner

"I have been growing soybean for many years but this particular supplied variety is of, very good quality and grows fast." Sunday Patrick from Kyaisamba Village."







Sustainable Living on Lake Victoria

Chimpanzee Trust with support from “Children of Conservation” (CofC) donated over 400 re-usable facemasks, 40 boxes of bar soap and 38-foot operated handwash stations to the communities of Zingoola, Myende, Kiimi, Nsazi, Koome police station, Koome C/U primary school, Koome prisons and Buyana primary school. These donated items have been used by the residents as part of the preventive measures against COVID – 19 pandemic.

The handwash stations are stationed at points which are accessible to all residents of the landing sites. These items have helped in slowing transmission of the virus given that residents of fishing communities are normally congested places.



School outreaches

The education program has been severely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and since the end of March 2020, all activities have been suspended until such a time when schools can open or when we can have gatherings as the program requires

Early in the year, we managed to Engage schools in Debates and Quiz competitions during the World Wildlife day celebrations (WWD) in Arua. This was done in 13 primary schools and 12 secondary schools where we reached out to Over 500 pupils and students participated directly and 16,000 pupils were reached out to and educated by the activity



Children's reading books

The chimpanzee Trust printed 2,500 community story books that were distributed in Kikube district.



Radio dram

Chimpanzee Trust through its [Education program](#) has adopted conservation education through radio drama. This has been done through the production of a [radio drama](#) as an efficient and effective means of increasing the awareness of the public. This has been done specifically for communities living close to wildlife.

Over the last 3-4years, the Trust has worked with students from the local secondary schools to record 30 episodes of the popular radio drama "Ekijja Omanyire", which translates to "Forewarned, forearmed".

This shall guarantee the education program increasing its reach in 2021.

ENHANCED RESEARCH, COMMUNICATION AND PARTNERSHIPS

24



25



Research

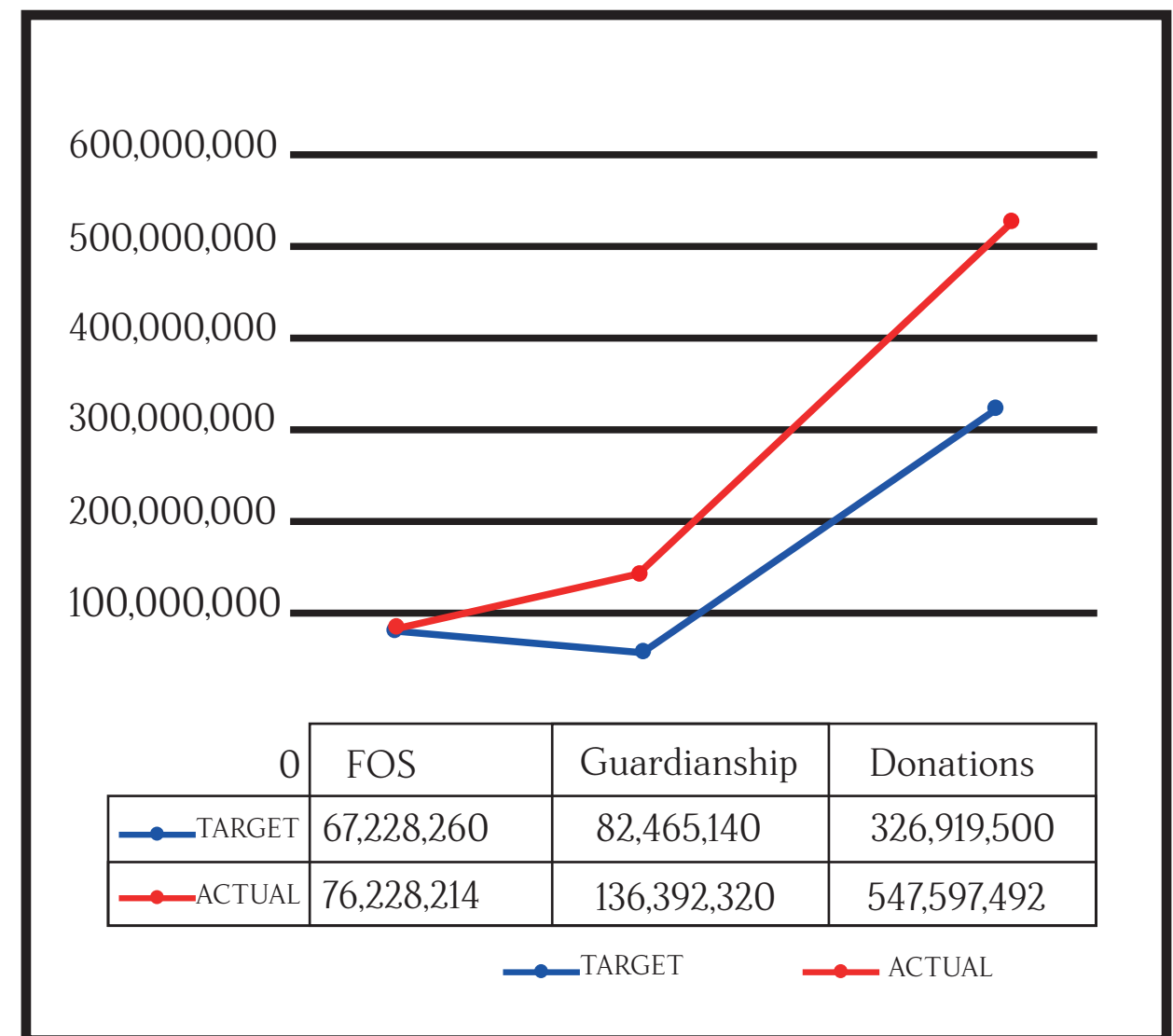
The Trust cancelled the research activities at the sanctuary due to the outbreak of the covid 19 pandemic late march 2020. However, one behavior research was already ongoing but carried out by the staff at the moment. We encourage researches to send in their proposals and when a vaccine is out then we plan according.

Donations and membership

We have continued to engage the guests, volunteers who have turned into donors, Guardians and Friends through sending periodic updates of what is happening in the organization. This year due to the covid pandemic, the trust joined global giving and mighty cause crowdfunding platforms where we have carried out a number of campaigns to raise funds to support orphaned and wild chimpanzees.

Through the continuous communications made, we have been able to raise funds from the renewals and new recruits as shown below

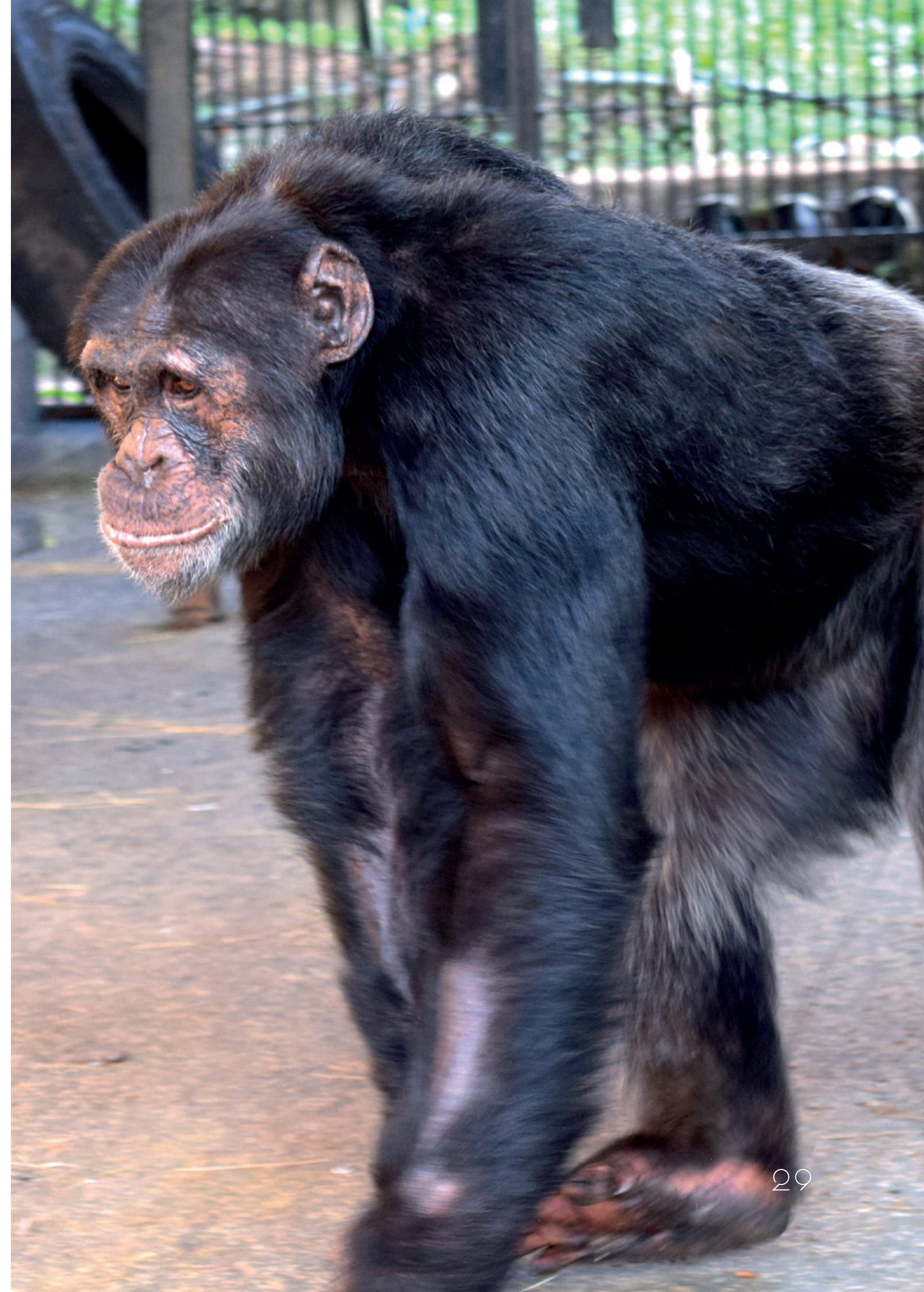
Chart 7: Ngamba donor support distribution 2019



Award- Global Giving Certificate



Award- Supreme Master Chi Foundation



CHIMPANZEE TRUST FINANCIAL AND INSTITUTIONAL SUSTAINABILITY

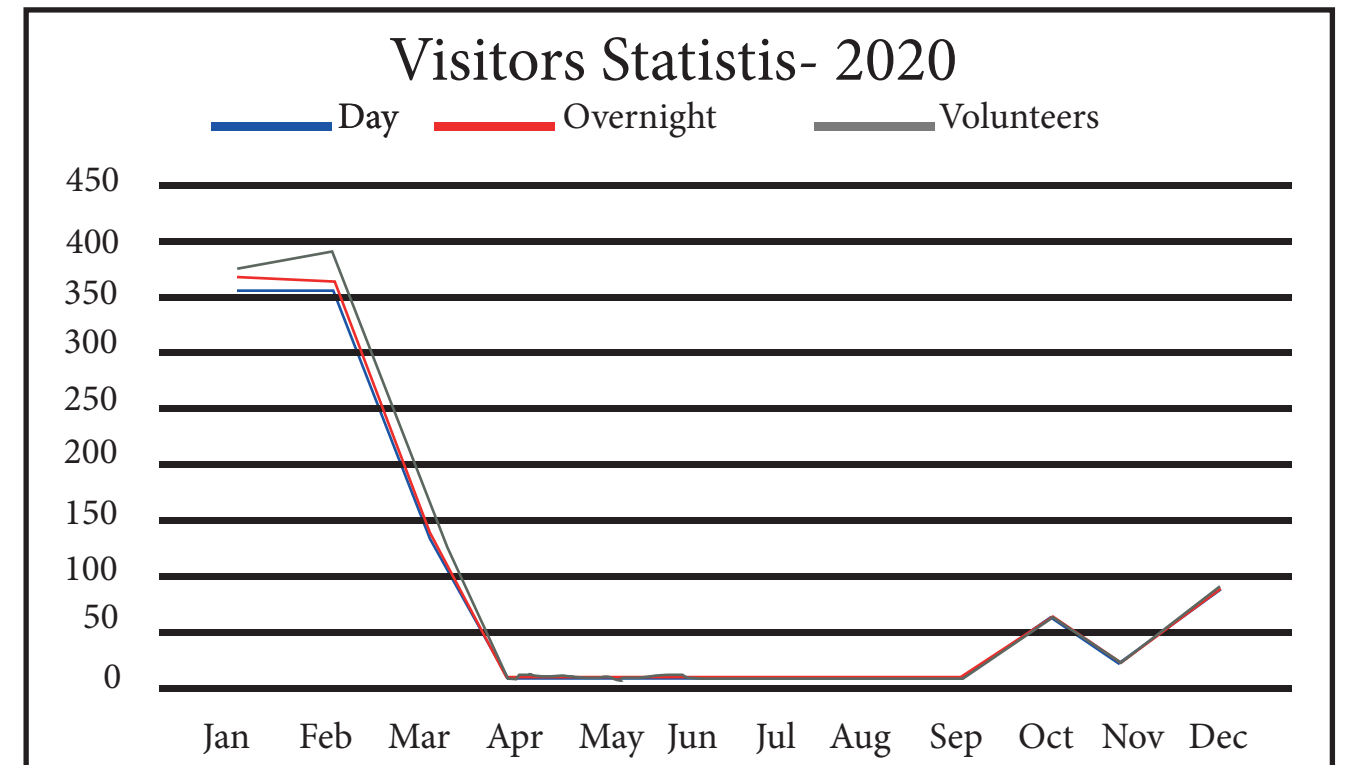


Eco- Tourism at Ngamba Island

Ngamba Island Chimpanzee Sanctuary is a unique tourist destination that has continued to provide services to national and international tourists by providing luxurious tented accommodation, boat transport, close range chimpanzee viewing experience, birding, fishing on Lake Victoria, Nature walks and excursions to experience a culture of the fishing communities on the neighboring islands, caregiver -for- a day and volunteer programs.

The outbreak of the covid 19 pandemic led to closure of Ngamba Island for 8 months from the public as a preventative measure. The sanctuary was finally opened in October 2020 to the public up to date and covid 19 precautions have been put in place. The COVID-19 pandemic and associated travel restrictions and lockdown has had a negative impact on the sustainability business

Visitor Numbers in Comparison 2020



We under took online marketing campaigns like Support a chimp advert on Google, Facebook adverts on monthly basis, Ape giving day, Global giving and Giving Tuesday to raise funds for feeding the chimpanzees, capitalize our endowment fund and re-starting tourism services at Ngamba Island.



Day Trips



Overnight



34

Volunteer



Honeymoon



35

Ngamba Island Post Covid 19



Covid SOPs at Ngamba

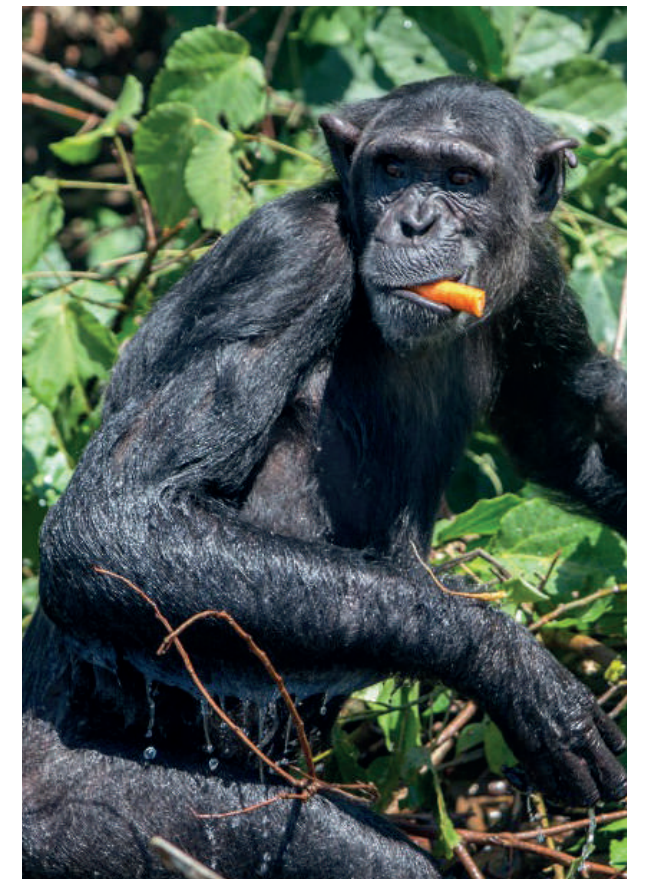
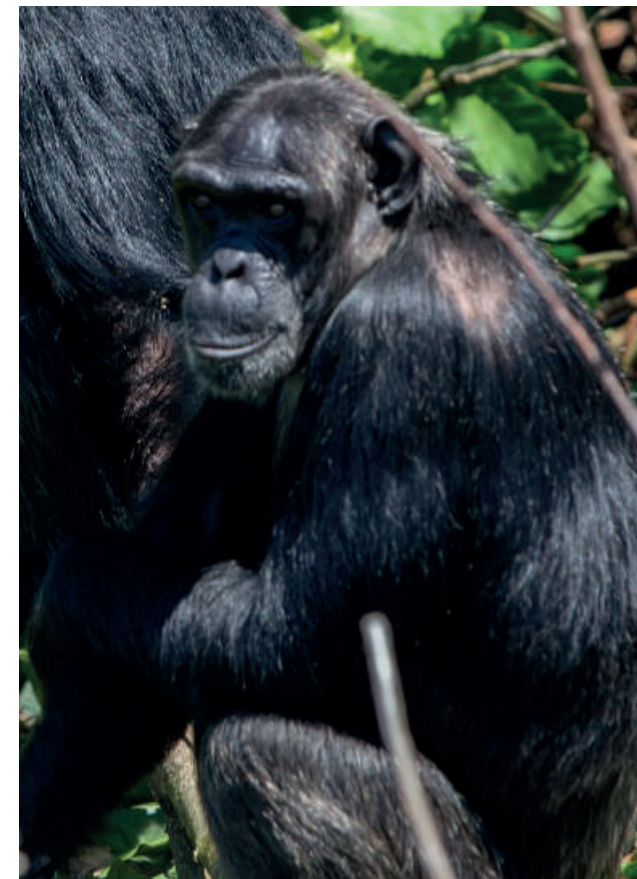


Review of Policies and Procedures

The Trust has a range of policies and procedures that guides its operations and management in all aspects. In 2019 we developed the Partnership strategy and Conflict of interest policy. The policies that we reviewed included; Financial Manual.

Human Capital

This year we awarded our long service award to staff who have been with the Trust for 10 years. These included; Dr Joshua Rukundo- Executive Director and Innocent Ampeire – Manager Animal welfare.





The Team



THANK YOU MR. EDGAR BUHANGA



Planned activities for 2020

Peace

In 2020, we will maintain the routine activities, carry on the activities that were started but not completed in 2019 and add on the following new activities;

- Development of plot 17A In Entebbe Town
- Capitalize the endowment fund
- Diversify tourism products and packages
- Staff Training and development

@ngambaisland

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