AGROFORESTRY TECHNOLOGIES FOR SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION IMPLEMENTED IN THE MIDDLE NORTHERN UGANDA

NatureUganda and Tree Talk led by Tropical Biology Association with support from the British American Tobacco Biodiversity Partnership are implementing initiatives intended to address biodiversity impacts of tobacco growing and other agricultural activities in mid northern Uganda in the districts of Oyam, Gulu, Apac and Kole. The overall aim of the project is to develop a sustainable agricultural system in tobacco leaf growing areas by promoting, demonstrating and implementing measures for the conservation of Biodiversity and Ecosystem services.

In August 2014, NatureUganda and her partners implemented three integrated Agroforestry technologies for soil and water conservation in Bala Sub County - Kole District, and in Inomo and Chegere Sub County – Apac district. The technologies included: alley cropping, scattered trees on farm integrated with trenches and hedgerows and boundary planting integrated with short crops/hedge rows and trenches.

An alley cropping system has the potential to provide the following major benefits: Allows a longer cropping period, more intensive cropping, and higher crop yields, Regenerates soil fertility rapidly and effectively, Reduces requirements for external inputs of fertilizer, Improved plant/animal diversity, Reduce wind and water erosion, Improve utilisation of nutrients; Nutrient recycling; Provide green manure and mulch for companion crops, Provide biologically fixed nitrogen for companion crops, Improve soil conservation, and Create favourable conditions for beneficial soil organisms.

Scattered trees on farm integrated with trenches and hedgerows offer the following benefits: the shrub - Calliandra calothyrsus fixes nitrogen in the soil, branches and leaves cut from Calliandra calothyrsus provide green manure, decomposing leaves from the trees provide manure thus adding soil fertility, Trenches and hedge rows reduce speed of running water thus controlling soil erosion, Calliandra calothyrsus leaves provide fodder for the animals. The shrubs help in nutrient recycling, shrubs help in reducing soil erosion and wind speed hence reducing the rate of evapotranspiration, and the system increases farm production and diversification of farmers' income.

THE FUTURE OF HUMANITY DEPENDS ON WETLANDS

Uganda joined the rest of the world to celebrate World Wetlands Day on 2nd February 2015 at Lutembe Ramsar site under the theme “Wetlands for our Future”. This day was commemorated to reflect on the vital functions of wetlands, the threats to their sustainable use and create awareness on the need to use them wisely. The celebration was graced by the Secretary General of the Ramsar Convention, Dr. Christopher Briggs. Each year on 2nd February, the World Wetlands Day is celebrated. The day marks the date on which the Convention on Wetlands was adopted on 2nd February 1971, in the Iranian city of Ramsar on the shores of the Caspian Sea. In 1997, the Ramsar Secretariat started providing materials to the government agencies, non-governmental organisations, conservation organisations, and groups in guise to help raise public awareness about wetlands.

Inside This Issue

- Agroforestry technologies for soil and water conservation implemented in the middle northern uganda
- Proximate and root causes of land degradation in Uganda
- Mimicry in Blue - shouldered Robin-Chat
- A unique date with nature – An expedition to Kibimba Rice Scheme

NatureUganda is the Partner in Uganda and a member of BirdLife International and IUCN.
Dear Member,

Welcome to our first issue of the The Naturalist Newsletter in 2015, the NatureUganda Newsletter. Thank you for the incredible support that we enjoyed during the year 2014 as we continued to relentlessly pursue our mission to promote the understanding, appreciation and conservation of nature. To all those who have contributed to this Magazine over the years by sharing your experiences on different issues pertaining to the environment and interventions in various areas, I thank you and encourage you to continue with the same spirit.

Our programs are aimed at making a difference in the conservation of the environment in this country. This has largely been achieved through our popular awareness events like public lectures, Nature walks and excursions, organised by the secretariat and our upcountry branches. Those who missed this year should endeavor to attend these informative monthly activities as indicated on the 2015 year planner. Through our diverse expertise, a focus on biodiversity conservation and management, and the extensive resources and information we provide to government bodies and the private sector, NatureUganda remains the leading adviser and the best guide to enabling significant strategic advances in biodiversity conservation and management in Uganda. In the same way, we empower local community leadership at the biodiversity rich sites to ably manage and sustainably utilize the resources on which they highly depend for their livelihoods. We continue to advance the conservation and awareness campaigns to our membership and the general public through our recognized events and forward-looking research reports available on the NatureUganda website.

In this time of Climate volatility and uncertainty, today’s conservation leaders are keenly aware of the heightened needs in their communities and around the world. We encourage you our members to think carefully about the Climate changes and societal issues that will affect our Natural resources in the next decade, and to proactively engage in addressing those issues, in collaboration with us and our partners.

Paul Mafabi
Chairman, NatureUganda

Boundary planting integrated with short crops and trenches offers the following benefits: Trenches and hedge rows reduce speed of running water thus controlling soil erosion, crops grown near the trench provides food security, trees planted on the boundary of the plot/ garden act as wind breaks thus checking the rate of evapotranspiration in the area. High humidity is good for plant growth; trees provide shelter for the crops; short vegetative crops act as cover crops thus controlling soil erosion; and trenches and hedgerows of lemon grass reduce speed of running water thus controlling soil erosion.

Agroforestry or agro-sylviculture as defined by Wikipedia is a land use management system in which trees or shrubs are grown around or among crops or pastureland. It combines agricultural and forestry technologies to create more diverse, productive, profitable, healthy, and sustainable land-use systems.

Land and water are two of the largest limiting factors in food production. Population growth, urbanisation, deforestation, soil erosion and demand for water are increasing the pressure on the agricultural ecosystem at an alarming rate. Agriculture accounts for some 70 percent of global fresh water withdrawal, but up to 40 percent of this water is wasted by inefficient practices such as field flooding. Converting more land into agricultural production threatens wilderness and precious habitats. It is better to use existing farmland more intensively, combining practices and products that will increase yield.

Healthy soil is the foundation of the food system. It produces healthy crops that in turn nourish people. Maintaining a healthy soil demands care and effort from farmers because farming is not benign. By definition, farming disturbs the natural soil processes including that of nutrient cycling - the release and uptake of nutrients.

Plants obtain nutrients from two natural sources: organic matter and minerals. Organic matter includes any plant or animal material that returns to the soil and goes through the decomposition process. In addition to providing nutrients and habitat to organisms living in the soil, organic matter also binds soil particles into aggregates and improves the water holding capacity of soil. Most soils contain 2-10 percent organic matter. However, even in small amounts, organic matter is very important.

Soil is a living, dynamic ecosystem. Healthy soil is teeming with microscopic and larger organisms that perform many vital functions including converting dead and decaying matter as well as minerals to plant nutrients. Different soil organisms feed on different organic substrates. Their biological activity depends on the organic matter supply.

Nutrient exchanges between organic matter, water and soil are essential to soil fertility and need to be maintained for sustainable production purposes. Where the soil is exploited for crop production without restoring the organic matter and nutrient contents and maintaining a good structure, the nutrient cycles are broken, soil fertility declines and the balance in the agro-ecosystem is destroyed.

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the importance and value of wetlands and benefits and promote the conservation and wise use of wetlands. These activities include seminars, nature walks, festivals, and launches of new policies, announcement of new Ramsar sites, newspaper articles, radio interviews and wetland rehabilitation.

There were a number of activities organised notably boat racing, nature walks, bird watching (both on land and water) led by NatureUganda, tag of war by Lutembe bay Wetland Users Association against Wakiso District officials, role plays and exhibitions.

In his speech, the secretary general said that there has been rapid decline in wetlands, thereby limiting access to fresh water to almost two billion people worldwide. In addition to loss of water and other wetlands services, the richness of wildlife to our biodiversity has also been affected as well. Populations of freshwater species have declined by 76% in the last forty years, according to WWF’s Living Planet Index, and this is a worse prospect than any other place on earth.

The State minister for Environment, Ms Flavia Munaaba said that part of the Lutembe wetland has been reclaimed by a flower firm, Rosebud, and several organisations have once sued the firm for breaching Articles 50 and 22 of the 1995 Constitution on citizens’ right to a clean and healthy environment. She added that although natural resources are diminishing at a fast rate, little can be achieved with judicial officers issuing court injunctions to stop eviction of wetland encroachers, thus rendering agencies like National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) ineffective.

Lutembe Bay is one of Uganda’s 33 Important Bird Areas and since 2006 a Ramsar-listed wetland of international importance. The bay is notable for its population of as many as 1.5m white-winged tern. Lutembe hosts both native and migratory bird species. This year we are inviting everyone to take action for wetlands, committing yourselves to making even small changes that can help to slow the destruction and reverse the downwards trend, for example, organise a clean-up of your local wetland, reusable shopping bags, everyone can make a difference.

FORT PORTAL BIRDERS CELEBRATING WORLD WETLANDS DAY AT SAKA LAKES

On Sunday 1st February members of Fort Portal birders and NatureUganda gathered at Saka Lake to celebrate World Wetlands Day. This annual event takes place to highlight the many pressures that our diminishing wetlands are facing worldwide. Here in Uganda we are blessed with many wetlands but we should not be complacent and be ever vigilant to their destruction.

So it was that a dozen bird enthusiasts ventured to the Crater Lake system north of Fort Portal to enjoy some of the water birds present.

Our first stop was the main Saka Lake, although heavily fished with lines of netting visible just below the surface, their obvious floating bottles showing how many fishing lines the diving cormorants and Grebes have to contend with. It still had a good number of ducks and egrets present while up to 15 Knob-billed Duck and five Great-crested Grebe were noteworthy.

We then ventured on to the two smaller crater lakes Kigere (footprint) and Nyambikere (lake of frogs). These deep, crystal clear waters are not fished to such an extent and the Ducks, Grebes and Cormorants have a much more peaceful existence. Also present here were dependant Great-crested Grebe young, important in an East African context as there breeding numbers are diminishing, while both these smaller crater lakes had good numbers of Red-knobbed Coot, with one pair having six recently fledged young.

As well as the targeted Water birds present we could not help but notice the other resident and migrant bird species present and we were rewarded with good views of a pair of Dark Chanting Goshawks which appeared to be protecting a breeding territory as they saw off both Steppe and Wahlberg’s Eagles who happened to fly over their patch. Other avian battles were being fought between a Black Sparrowhawk and two Hadada Ibis while an African Marsh Harrier was evading the attention of Swallows and Wagtails. European migrants were still evident with Whinchat, Willow Warblers, European Swift and Barn Swallow all present. A total of 86 species of bird were recorded between us and while not having the lure of the amazing wetlands of Lake Victoria with their thousands of gulls, terns and wading birds we were pleased to be taking part in the Wetlands celebration, indeed all present this morning were pleased to be here and sample the rich avifauna on our doorstep.

Roger Q Skeen, NatureUganda
The socio-economic reasons for land degradation and low productivity on small-scale farms nationally have been summarized as: Poverty and land fragmentation leading to over-exploitation of the land with inadequate soil and water conservation practices; Increasing rural population densities with few non-farm income opportunities; Low levels of commodity trade and the production of lower-value commodities, reducing incentives to invest in the soil; Little farmer knowledge of improved agricultural technologies, insufficient agricultural research that takes into account the needs and resource constraints of farmers, and a lack of effective agricultural extension; and Inappropriate farming practices and systems including deforestation, bush burning and overgrazing.

**THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF LAND DEGRADATION**

The only available estimate of the economic impact of land degradation is a 1991 thesis and this continues to be cited in government reports. It was estimated that 4 to 12 percent of the GDP was lost because of environmental degradation. Soil erosion contributed 85 percent and water contamination 9 percent of the loss, with biodiversity loss, water hyacinth and deforestation accounting for the remainder. The value of the total in 1991 was in the range of US$ 170–460 million per year. Current values are in the range of $ 230–600 million. The lack of economic estimates of degradation is attributed to the deficiencies in the collection or dissemination of natural resources information by the relevant research institutions.

Fertile soil is the foundation of a sustainable agricultural system. But poor farming practices expose soil to erosion by wind and rain, rendering millions of hectares infertile each year. Already, some 40 percent of the world’s farmland is seriously degraded. Much of this soil is lost as a result of traditional tillage or ploughing for weed control. By breaking up and turning the soil, tillage leaves it more vulnerable to erosion; and soil is more easily washed off the fields by heavy rain. We need to help farmers increase soil fertility and improve the productivity on their land in sustainable ways. That means crop rotations, restoring degraded land, planting vegetation around fields to prevent erosion, and techniques to avoid unnecessary tilling.

**BENEFITS OF AGRO-FORESTRY PRACTICES**

 Provision of non-wood products: Many useful products come from trees. Among these are medicines, fibers for making ropes, gums and resins, seeds for ornaments, bush meat, fruits and honey from tree flowers.

 Timber provision: Trees in agroforestry practices produce wood and poles for houses, furniture, fences, telephone and electricity lines, paper, tools and works of art. Certain special trees are used to make products for religious or social ceremonies. Some indigenous trees produce very beautiful wood.

 Energy needs: Water trapped, stored and released by trees flows to hydro-electric power plants, producing electricity. Trees produce wood, which may be used as fuel wood or charcoal.

 Water/hydrological cycle: Trees in agroforestry practices catch, store and release water. Trees break the force of falling rain. In an area with trees, rainwater flows slowly into the ground where it is stored as groundwater. Later, the water flows out as springs and streams. By trapping and absorbing water, the trees reduce flooding. By storing and releasing water, the trees reduce the effects of drought.

 Soil conservation and fertility amelioration: Trees in agroforestry practices break the force of rain and wind and protect the soil from erosion. Less erosion means richer soil for farming. It also means less silt in rivers, dams and the sea. Leaves from trees and micro-organisms from soils under trees enrich the soils around them by providing organic matter.

 Air quality and environmental services: Trees in agroforestry practices help to moderate the climate. Near forests, hot days are less hot and cold nights less cold than in open areas.

 Trees absorb carbon dioxide, a gas that is produced by animals and burning fuels. By storing carbon dioxide, trees help to regulate the gases in the atmosphere around the earth.

 Are you worried about the damage being done to a local wildlife spot, but don’t know what to do about it? Maybe you have a favourite place to enjoy nature and want to make sure it’s protected?

**CAMPAIGNING FOR YOUR LOCAL SITE**

Your local knowledge means you are often in the perfect position to make a difference. The first thing to do is let your NatureUganda the BirdLife Partner in Uganda know about the threat to a site. You may find that there is a local group already campaigning to save the site. If not, you could start your own NatureUganda may be able to help you, or put you in touch with other local people or organisations who can.

Tell your local newspaper or radio station about what is happening. Put a post on your Facebook wall and ask your friends to forward this message. Many other people may care about the site as much as you do, and will be glad to get involved once they have heard the news.

Your local authority will be involved in deciding whether the change to your site can go ahead, so let them know why you think the place should be protected.

If the threat comes from rubbish dumping or hunting and trapping, it may be illegal, so tell the local authority or the police about it, and they may be able to stop it.
PEOPLE POWER CAN SAVE NATURE’S SPECIAL PLACES

In recent years, ordinary people have been able to save many places that are important for birds and other wildlife from harmful developments.

In early 2007, the Ugandan Government proposed that about one-third of Mabira Forest Reserve should be converted to sugarcane for biofuels production. A campaign by NatureUganda and others galvanised public support to lobby against the plans. This led to the government and the private company withdrawing their proposed plans in October 2007, thereby retaining the natural forests that support rich biodiversity and deliver valuable ecosystem services.

The Rospuda Valley in north-eastern Poland is one of Europe’s last remaining wildernesses. An area of ancient peat bogs, wetlands and primeval forest, it is an important refuge for species such as lynx, wolf and beaver, White-tailed Eagle, Common Crane and Corn-crake. In 1996, developers announced plans to build a bypass around the town of Augustów in north-eastern Poland that would pass directly through the Rospuda Valley.

The proposal caused a public outcry, and galvanized a coalition of local environmental campaigners and organisations, key amongst them the Polish Society for the Protection of the Birds (OTOP/BirdLife in Poland). They launched a vigorous campaign to protect Rospuda, and before long, thousands of people across Poland were wearing green ribbons to show their support.

OTOP and the coalition kept up the pressure on the government. Long years of campaigning and legal argument followed, until in 2009, the government announced that the road would not be built through Rospuda Valley —or nearby Biebrza Marshes, Augustów Primeval Forest and Kryszyń Primeval Forest.

In Malta, volunteers are a crucial part of efforts to halt the illegal hunting of migratory birds. Each year, BirdLife Malta runs two conservation camps—Spring Watch Camp in April, and Raptor Camp in September. Volunteers come from numerous countries including the UK, Germany, Italy, France, Spain, Denmark and Finland to help monitor bird migration and act as a deterrent to illegal hunting by reporting illegal activities to the police.

The wetlands around Wakkerstroom in South Africa are important for hundreds of species of birds, including rare cranes and migratory birds of prey. The area is also the source of major river systems in southern Africa.

In 2008, the area was threatened by a plan for open cast coal mining. The BirdLife Partner in South Africa, with its network of local bird clubs, formed a group of NGOs which worked tirelessly to raise public awareness, and to lobby the judicial system and the government. In 2010, the coal company not only withdrew their proposal, but paid the NGO group for their expenses and time. Later in the year, the area under threat became the first Protected Environment in South Africa, the Kwamand-langampisi Protected Environment.

MABAMBA COMMUNITY IN UGANDA TAKES ACTION ON SHOEBILL POACHERS

On Friday 6th March 2015, members of Mabamba Wetland Eco-Tourism Association (MWETA) joined efforts with NatureUganda, Uganda Wildlife Authority and Uganda police to arrest a poacher trading in the Shoebill (Balaeniceps rex).

The story began when a member of MWETA (Mr. Hannington Kasasa) was approached by two men who were selling a Shoebill at Mabamba bay landing site. Mr Kasasa decided to go along with the story and promised to connect them with a potential buyer the following day.

At this point Mr Kasasa contacted NatureUganda and Uganda Wildlife Authority. NatureUganda executive director, Mr Achilles Byaruhanga decided to pose as an interested buyer and a deal was made that he will pay 2 million Uganda shillings in exchange for the Shoebill. As the deal was being negotiated contacts had been made to Mabamba police station as well as to officials from Uganda Wildlife Education Centre.

On the day of the transaction the poachers were lured into a meeting place where two policemen and officers from Uganda Wildlife Authority were waiting. As the poachers attempted to finalize the deal they were arrested and the shoebill was rescued and taken to Uganda Wildlife Education Centre. NatureUganda through the Local empowerment programme works with a conservation group, Mabamba Wetland Eco-Tourism Association (MWETA) and a Site Support Group at Mabamba landing site to promote conservation through community involvement. Conservation of bird species is not only critical for biodiversity but also for enhancing the livelihoods of these communities through eco-tourism. NatureUganda would like to encourage those with information pertaining to animal persecution, hunt and illegal trading activities to relay this information for further action.

Story by Dianah Nalwanga
MIMICRY IN BLUE - SHOULDERED ROBIN-CHAT

It is well known that Robin-Chats are fabulous songsters with much variation and mimicry with the Blue-shouldered Robin-Chat Cosypha cyanocamptera acknowledged as a most accomplished mimic incorporating human whistles and the sounds of many other forest inhabitants into its song. As Robin-Chats in general are secretive forest dwellers that are infrequently observed, it can be seen that observers hearing all these unusual bird sounds attribute them to the supposed owners and consequently record them as such and some entered species may be incorrectly identified.

I myself have been guilty of this and it was fortunate that my guide was able to correctly identify the culprit and I was then able to correctly formulate a species list. This incident happened at Kluge’s Guest House which is situated in a small protected area of natural forest close to Fort Portal. I had been asked by the owners to update their bird species list and with the help of resident birder Robert we started to catalogue. Robert knew the basic song of the Blue-shouldered Robin-Chat and said it “sometimes does other birds”. On hearing an African Emerald Cuckoo I started to write in my notebook, but Robert said no it’s the Robin-Chat. I at first did not believe him but when I discovered the Cuckoo was singing from a low tangle of undergrowth and not the tree tops, believed him. In the few hours I was present and on other visits I have recorded this species giving perfect renditions of; Helmeted Guineafowl, Red-chested Cuckoo, African Emerald Cuckoo, Black-shouldered Nightjar, African Green Pigeon, Black Cuckoo, Tropical Boubou and even Lizard Buzzard. As well as other various trills, chirps and short song phrases which are unidentifiable as to species but all originate from the Robin-Chat. This short note is just to highlight that not all you hear in the forest may be true, although it must be said that the Robin-Chat has learnt the song from its owner and as Robin-Chat’s tend not to move far then the correct songster will be present also.

Roger Q Skeen, NatureUganda

FROM THE WILD

PUBLICATIONS

A UNIQUE DATE WITH NATURE – An expedition to Kibimba Rice Scheme

To many, the call to participate in an expedition to Kibimba Rice Scheme on Valentine’s Day; 14th of February appeared unreal, knowing that this day is believed to be for lovers, but it was real. At NatureUganda, we had our valentines date with nature in Kibimba Rice Scheme, an Important Bird Area outside the protected area network in the country. The team enjoyed its day interacting with the many flocks of birds at the site especially the Grey-crowned Cranes and their romantic dance. The date was spiced up with a visit to the community just outside the scheme whose leaders accentuated their contribution to conservation of birds in this site. Enjoy more from our date in the pictorial.

1-Participants at the Beach-Kibimba Dam.
2- A visit to the Community at Kasobera village
3- Entertainment by a flock of dancing cranes at the scheme
Welcome to the unusual bird sightings in Uganda. This section brings you the interesting bird records for the period and keeps track of the new birds for the Ugandan bird list. In this bulletin, we bring you the Frasers Eagle Owl recorded in Semliki National Park on 3rd January 2015. This record is the forth for Uganda and the first for the Semliki area (Roger Skeen-RS).

In other records, the Secretary Bird seen in Murchison Falls National Park is a rare sighting for this unique bird in this area. It was sighted by the security coordinator, Patrick Otema and driver Onen all of Total E&P Uganda.

The three Simple greenbuls recorded at Semliki NP on 10th Dec 2014 and the 6 Swamp Palm Bulbul recorded on 3rd Jan 2015 in the same sight are both rarely recorded in Uganda with just a few records for the country (RS).

Six individuals of the Cut-throat Finch recorded at Irri, Karamoja region on 17th January 2015 are really good records of this rare species in the country (RS).

The single Boran Cisticola recorded at Irri in Moroto on 18th January is an interesting sighting as this rarely recorded species appears to be regular in this area (RS).

On 9th February 2015, two individuals of the Verreaux’s Eagle-Owl were recorded at Tooro Botanical Gardens. This bird is rarely seen outside the protected woodlands making this a notable record (RS).

A single Shoebill recorded at Lutembe bay 24th January is an interesting record confirming the recovery of this species at this site (RS, Michael Opige-MO, Achilles Byaruhanga-AB).

A record of 282 Black-headed Heron in Kibimba Rice Scheme on 21, January, makes the highest number of this species ever recorded in this site in a single count (Dianah Nalwanga- DN, Phionah Mwesige-PM, Keneth Sseguya-KS). The same count yielded a clean 70 White Stork and 1,513 Ringed Plover giving the highest numbers of these species ever recorded in a single site in Uganda. This is very uncommon. Additionally 27 Eurasian Marsh Harrier were recorded in the same count. Such records are unusual with the last recorded of the same number of this species being in 2001.

Three individuals of the Ruddy Turnstone recorded on Kazinga Channel on 15th January are interesting sightings of this species which is rarely recorded in this site. This rare species for the country has also been recorded in Nakiwogo bay, another site on Lake Victoria (DN, PM, KS, Robert Adaruku-RA).

The 592 Lesser-black-backed Gulls and 450 Gull-billed Tern recorded in Katwe Crater on 15th January are very unusual for this degraded site used for salt mining (DN, PM, KS, RA).

During a count on Shoebill Swamp QENP in Queen Elizabeth National Park on 16th January, 39 bird species were recorded which is quite amazing. This site has been dry for many years and the last significant count was in 2008 and recorded 26 species. Interesting records from this count include 328 White-faced Duck, 159 Egyptian Goose, 94 Little Stint, 112 African Jacana, 2 Common Snipe and 74 Kittlitz’s Plover (DN, PM, KS, RA).

Compiled by Dr. Dianah Nalwanga Wabwire
NatureUganda

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\[UNUSUAL SIGHTINGS\]

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\[WEIRD SCIENCE FACTS\]

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**DID YOU KNOW?**

Scientists can use modern technology to turn peanut butter into diamonds. As you can see in the photo, peanut butter diamonds are both smooth, and chunky.

Source: [www.justfacts.in](http://www.justfacts.in)

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**Image source:** [youtube](https://www.youtube.com)
MEMBERSHIP

LOCATION MAP

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HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER
Pay or renew your membership subscription by; writing a cheque to NatureUganda;
paying at the secretariat in Naguru or at any of our upcountry branches; sending your fee
to MTN mobile number 0777 147 367.

Join us in Promoting the Understanding, Appreciation & Conservation of Nature

MEMBERSHIP RATES

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* Students’ category caters for primary, Secondary and Undergraduates in Tertiary institutions
  * Sponsor category caters for an individual or organization that doesn’t belong to any of the other categories

ABC MEMBERSHIP

The African Birding Club has a local membership scheme at NatureUganda.

Members based in Uganda and new members can register or renew based on the local registration fee of UGX 20,000

EDITORIAL TEAM

• Dianah Nalwanga Wabwire
• Sandra Sayuni
• Phionah Mwesige

UPCOMING EVENTS

• Excursion to Semliki NP: 30th April - 3rd May
• Public talk - Uganda Museum: 7th May
• Naturewalk to Portbell Luzira: 16th May
• Visit to Bagalayaze cultural site: 20th June

UPCOUNTRY BRANCS

• Eastern Uganda based at the Islamic University in Uganda, and Busitema University
• Western Uganda based at Mbarara University of Science & Technology
• Northern Uganda based at Gulu University

WORKING GROUPS

• Birdlife Uganda
• Plants Working Group
• Herps Working Group
• Mammal Conservation Group
• Friends of Dudus
• Microbial Resources Group

NATURE UGANDA AREAS OF OPERATION IN UGANDA

INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERS

• Conserve Uganda
• Center for Participatory Research and Development (CEPARD)
• Kitante Primary School
• Kalinabiri Secondary School
• Rubaga Girls Secondary school
• Mabamba Wetland Users Association (MWETA)
• Makerere University Conservation Biology Association (MUCOBA)
• Green Hill Academy
• Balibaseka Secondary School
• Bwindi Bird Club
• Neul Tours
• Kasherengeyi Friends Group
• Kampala International Hospital

CORPORATE MEMBERS

• Accolade Explorers
• Adroit Consult International
• African Crane Safaris
• Avian Safaris
• Bic Tours LTD
• Bunyonyi Safaris Ltd
• Bwindi Mgahinga Conservation Trust (BMCT)
• Drywood Safaris
• Global Woods AG
• Gorilla Trek Africa
• Insight Birding Holidays
• Jane Goodall Institute Uganda
• Jubilee Tours LTD
• Kombi Nation Tours
• Pearl Africa Safaris
• Range Land Safaris
• Rwenzori Trekking services
• Ssezibwa Falls Resort
• Uganda Wildlife Authority
• Venture Uganda Limited

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