

Luzilo's Woodlot Tanzania

In the Tanzanian village of Kalinzi, local farmer Bonaventura Luzilo shares the rewards of using the forest sustainably.

As part of the Jane Goodall Institute's (JGI) holistic approach to conservation in Tanzania, the Institute works with local villagers to find sustainable alternatives to cutting down the trees so critical to chimpanzee survival.

In some instances, this involves establishing village tree nurseries and training local nursery attendants how to care for seedlings. Seedlings raised at village nurseries include tree species that produce timber, fruit and medicine. They also supply agroforestry needs and support the restoration of water catchments. Tree seedlings are then planted on homesteads, farms, woodlots, and mini-plantations to improve soil fertility and produce fuel wood, poles and timber. The availability of these forest crops and services provides villagers with alternatives, so they no longer need to harvest wood from the surrounding forest.

In the village of Kalinzi, a local man named Bonaventura Luzilo is a wonderful example of these successful initiatives. Once a village nursery attendant, Bonaventura now owns his own woodlot and coffee farm where he cultivates banana and multipurpose tree species.

Each year, he grows 100 trees. Each tree produces approximately five pieces of wood that can be sold at market for 3,500 TZS (Tanzanian schillings) a piece, garnering him roughly 1,750,000 TZS.



The Jane Goodall Institute's Mary Mavanza (left) listens as Bonaventura Luzilo describes his successful woodlot and work as a forest monitor.



Local children stand near fuel wood collected on Mr. Luzilo's lot.





Mr. Luzilo (right) poses with fellow nursery attendant Athuman Swalehe (left) at Mr. Luzilo's tree nursery.

With the money Bonaventura makes from his woodlot, he is able to send his children to school. He also grows other crops on the lot that benefit his family, and he has easy access to fuel from the fallen twigs and branches he collects from his trees. In addition, he was able to build a new house and one for his mother as well.

When not managing his woodlot, Bonaventura serves as a village forest monitor. The village forest was created through a land-use planning process facilitated by JGI in cooperation with local authorities. With Institute training and monitoring technology provided by JGI partner Google, Bonaventura patrols and monitors the forest surrounding his village to ensure it is being used in a responsible, sustainable manner.

Bonaventura has taken a personal interest in the environment and very much enjoys his new leadership role in the community. In fact, when asked, he readily admits that he prefers monitoring the forest to running his woodlot! Now a veteran nursery attendant and forest monitor, Bonaventura continues to impact his fellow villagers' approach to conservation in the critical habitat surrounding Gombe National Park.

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A Goat Called Hope Uganda

Joram Basiima's life and family changed for the better thanks to a goat he aptly named Hope.

In 2010, thanks to funding from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), the Jane Goodall Institute (JGI) began a three-year "Sustainable Livelihoods Project" in western Uganda. The project focused on households located between two major forest blocks where wild chimpanzees live — Bugoma Forest Reserve and Wambabya Forest Reserve. Rapid human population growth and accompanying poverty had led to deforestation and environmental degradation — threatening the nearby chimpanzees.

The goal of the project was to reduce the threats to chimpanzees and their habitat by improving the livelihoods and security of the households in three sub-counties (Kiziranfumbi, Buseruka and Kabwoya) in Hoima District. By encouraging people in these households to use natural resources more sustainably and enabling them to develop new sustainable sources of income, the project ultimately benefited 3,500 people in 700 households.

As part of the project, JGI partner Heifer Project International (HPI) provided a number of households with a breed of goat (Boer) that is more robust than those found locally. To ensure a smooth transition to ownership of the new breed, HPI staff worked with farmers to plan the farmers' homesteads and to improve sanitation by building latrines while encouraging them to send their children to school. HPI also asked the farmers to distribute some of the female offspring from their Boer nanny goats to other villagers — an approach HPI calls "passing on the gift."

The story of Joram Basiima, a villager from Kigaaga, demonstrates the value of a goat. In 2010, local HPI



"Hope," Joram Basiima's nanny goat, was provided by Heifer Project International.



Joram Basiima discusses his successful goat business.





Mr. Basiima is also cultivating honey on his family's homestead.

representatives gave Joram two goats — a nanny (female) and a buck — and taught Joram and his wife how to care for them. By crossing the HPI goats with his nine local goats, Joram now has more than 24 goats, and his entire family is involved in the goat business. Because the HPI goats are of a sturdier stock, the offspring from Joram's new goats are able to fetch 150,000 Ugandan shillings (Ush) at market. Local goats run between 50,000 and 70,000 Ush, so Joram is earning nearly two times as much per goat thanks to the project. Joram fittingly named his HPI nanny goat "Hope."

But this success story does not end there. Prior to his involvement in the project, Joram had never grown trees. He has since learned how to cultivate fruit trees in a way

that increases their yield, providing his family with an additional food source. Working with JGI and its partners, Joram has also begun investing in honey production. He now has 18 beehives that have a potential output of 20 kilograms per hive. Harvested two times a year, the honey could garner Joram an additional 6M Ush annually.

According to Joram, before he became involved in the project, his family's situation was quite desperate. He tended the few goats he had in a haphazard and unhealthy manner and didn't involve his wife. Now, due to their training and team approach, the family's income has increased significantly. When speaking about his life today, Joram says simply: "I now have hope."

And there's more. Joram's relationship with his wife has improved and things are better at home. He says they work well together, and he is more respectful of his wife's role in the family — and in the community. Joram has also assumed a leadership role in the community as a result of his participation in the project. He admits that previously he knew very little about leadership and what it required. Joram's wife acknowledges that sanitation at the family homestead has improved tremendously due to their new latrine. As a result, they spend less money on medications and apply their savings to their children's education.

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Fuel-Efficient Stoves

Tanzania

New stove technology is saving time and forests while improving women's lives.

As part of its strategy to preserve chimpanzee habitat in western Tanzania, the Jane Goodall Institute (JGI) encourages local communities to use fuel-efficient stoves and trains local people how to construct them. Those trained to build fuel-efficient stoves then pass on their knowledge by teaching other community members how to construct them.

Fuel-efficient stoves require half the wood of traditional three-stone stoves, an important benefit for conserving forest habitat. And reducing wood use also improves the communities' well-being. Less wood means less smoke, which decreases the incidence of respiratory illness. Acute Respiratory Infection is among the leading causes of disease and death in Tanzania and, in particular, in the Kigoma region where JGI works. Less wood also reduces the time community members spend collecting wood and saves others money because they don't need to buy as much fuel.

A woman named Niamole who lives in Ilagala says her new stove cooks much faster than her old one. Because she and the other women in her village don't have to spend as much time gathering wood, they are free to care for their children or do other tasks to support their families. In her village alone, 1,110 homes are now using fuel-efficient stoves.

Equally important, because it uses much less wood, the stove pays for itself in the first month. In fact, each household is saving the equivalent of US\$10 per month on fuel wood. If the nearly 13,000 households in the Kigoma and Mpanda area converted to the new stove, the savings could equate to a total economic value of US\$13,000 per month!



Niamole stands in the doorway of her shop. With some of the money she saved using a fuel-efficient stove, she was able to buy more merchandise.



One of the fuel-efficient stoves at work in Ilagala.





THAYER SCHOOL OF
ENGINEERING
AT DARTMOUTH

JGI is grateful to students from Dartmouth College's Thayer School of Engineering who were integrally involved in the design of the stove. In 2010, members of a group called Dartmouth Humanitarian Engineering (DHE) traveled to the Kigoma region to test several different types of fuel-efficient stoves to determine which model worked best for local villagers.

By connecting people, JGI is saving chimpanzee habitat.



One of the fuel-efficient stoves at work in Ilagala.

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It Takes A Village Tanzania

To truly understand the Jane Goodall Institute's approach to conservation, you need only visit the Tanzanian village of Nyamoli.

In 1996, the Jane Goodall Institute (JGI) staff in Tanzania met with people from the village of Nyamoli to discuss the rapid deforestation affecting their environment and the home of nearby chimpanzees. Working together, they began creating a village nursery, planting trees, and protecting the local forest. The spirit of cooperation that began there opened the door to 15 years of improvements to local education and livelihoods — to the benefit of chimpanzee habitat and human well-being. It is a wonderful example of the success of JGI's holistic approach, combining conservation and community welfare.

Education

When the villagers wanted to turn their attention to improving their school, JGI listened. We know that educating children, especially girls, leads to lower population growth and provides a foundation for livelihoods that don't rely on forest resources.

The village school was facing a high drop-out rate among girls reaching puberty, and it lacked clean drinking water. With JGI's support, community members improved the local school by building private latrines for boys and girls and, with support from the UN International Children's Fund (UNICEF), creating rainwater harvesting tanks.



Villagers in Nyamoli worked with the Jane Goodall Institute to make desperately needed renovations to their local school.



The school's classrooms and grounds, which hosted 720 pupils from age seven to 14, posed a health risk to students and teachers. Lead-based paint was peeling off the walls, the top layers of the walls were falling apart, and it was extremely dusty. In addition, the roof leaked during the rainy seasons, and the classroom windows and doors were overrun with termites.

With funding from the Weidemann Foundation, the buildings were renovated by the villagers. Today, student morale is significantly better and daily attendance has increased from 87 percent to 94 percent. And in October 2012, 78 out of 90 students who enrolled in Standard 1 completed their Standard 7 requirements, and most of them moved on to secondary school.

Microcredit

Many rural villages are challenged by lack of education and limited financial resources, forcing local people to harvest wood and make charcoal for sale, which negatively impacts the chimpanzees' forest habitat. JGI helped solve this problem by finding partners to work with villagers to set up small loan systems. This has resulted in dramatic changes for the villagers and the chimpanzees.

In 2009, with JGI's training, the villagers at Nyamoli established a microcredit group consisting of 43 members of which only 16 were men. With 6,000,000 TZS in capital thanks to the Weidemann Foundation, the group is now able to provide bigger loans to a larger number of participants at one time. (Note: One U.S. dollar equals approximately 1,600 TZS.)

As of September 2012, the microcredit group had given loans to 31 members, totaling roughly 5.8M TZS. The six loans due to date (1.7M TZS) have been paid back in full. The majority of the investments support environmentally friendly businesses in irrigation, agriculture (cash crops like tomatoes and onions), and poultry. The average loan is approximately 250 TZS for a four-month period with a five percent interest rate.

Group members benefiting from the loans include:

Petra: Before receiving a loan, Petra owned a small pharmacy that supplied simple medications to the community. With the grant money, he was able to expand the variety of merchandise he offered and increase his profits. Thanks to the loan, Petra is helping the community by providing access to varieties of medications that cannot be found at the local dispensary. And with the additional income, he can send his children to school.

Latitia: Latitia took out a 100,000 TZS loan to buy cassava to sell in town. Having already paid back the loan, her business is prospering and expanding. Latitia is proud that she is able to feed her family and provide for their basic needs.



Hadija: While a member of the microcredit group, Hadija was nervous about borrowing money. Eventually, she found the courage to take out a 90,000 TZS loan. She used the money to buy five chickens and two roosters and to build a coop. She kept them for six months allowing them to lay eggs and hatch chicks. After six months, she had 96 chickens, many of them full grown. She sold some of the mature chickens to pay back the loan, and she continues to make money by selling chickens and eggs while providing food for her family.

The microcredit program is an amazing success story. Today, thanks to JGI's support, 30 villages across the Gombe-Masito-Ugala Ecosystem have active microcredit groups representing 2,700 families. As each family has an average of six members, approximately 16,200 people in the community are benefiting.

Prior to starting a group, the members must take part in a two-week JGI training to learn the Tanzania cooperative law and guidelines, business skills, and bookkeeping. During that time, they must also come up with an official constitution that will help them register under the cooperative act of Tanzania to formalize their savings and credit activities.

Thanks to funding from the Weidemann Foundation, JGI helped the SACCOs (Savings and Credit Cooperatives) build a formal office in Nyamoli. Today, the office serves multiple purposes — from a space for land-use education workshops to a rehydration station during a cholera outbreak. It also provides a central meeting place and offices for the village government, forest monitors, and community-based agents who conduct reproductive health and HIV/AIDS education.



Microcredit group member Hadija sits next to her chicken coop.



Hadija's Flock



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Coffee and Chimpanzees Tanzania

A crop that can grow in harmony with the chimpanzees not only improves local farmers' incomes but also their larger community.

In 2006, the Jane Goodall Institute (JGI) began partnering with the Kanyovu Coffee Cooperative, a collection of coffee farmers living in the districts surrounding Gombe National Park. Because coffee beans thrive under the shade of the forest canopy and the chimps living there don't like the beans, the crop can grow in harmony with the chimpanzees and provide a sustainable farming alternative.

JGI facilitated direct marketing by linking the cooperative to overseas buyers and managed to generate premium prices — the highest ever in Tanzania — for the top-quality coffee from the area. Additionally, JGI worked and continues to work with coffee farmers on implementing improved coffee cultivation practices to increase productivity and quality.

In 2007 and 2008, about 15 percent of Kigoma coffee was marketed with JGI assistance. The prices ranged between US\$3.50 and US\$4.20 per kilogram compared to previous prices of US\$1 per kilogram, increasing income for Kigoma coffee farmers by about US\$200,000 per year. In 2012, the coffee fetched almost US\$6 per kilogram!

The demand for top-quality coffee from Kigoma that can be linked to JGI's conservation and development story continues to be high and exceed the current supply. Today, the cooperative consists of 13,000 coffee farmer households organized into 11 primary societies based on location.



Members of the Kanyovu Coffee Cooperative inspect the local crop.



Coffee Bags



JGI Spotlight on Success



Coffee beans dry in the sun.



The Kanyovu Coffee Cooperative built a dry milling facility.

Because of the resounding success of the coffee program, the cooperative members are able to build better houses and purchase clothes for their families.

JGI also established a coffee lab and trained one member of the cooperative to “cup” or taste test coffee at JGI’s office in Kigoma. The one-year training included a six-month course off site and then six months of practical training. The presence of a local “cupper” allows the cooperative to determine the best coffees to send to market while educating local coffee farmers about what makes a good product.

In an effort to improve coffee quality and strengthen on-site coffee production services, JGI also facilitated construction of 10 Central Pulping Units (CPUs) to enable efficient wet processing of raw coffee beans. In addition, the cooperative members used income from coffee sales to build a location for dry milling to support the various societies’ pulping centers.

More recently, the coffee cooperative provided women transportation to a local hospital for cervical cancer screenings, as many women in coffee communities do not have access to early detection services and preventive care.

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