



BMCT

Bwindi Mgahinga Conservation Trust



Annual Report 2016/2017

Conserving for Development

Bwindi Mgahinga Conservation Trust

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Annual Report 2016/2017



SWAROVSKI
WATERSCHOOL



Published by BMCT

Bwindi Mgahinga Conservation Trust.
Plot 4 Coryndon Road, Makanga
P.O. Box 1064, Kabale, Uganda
Tel: Office: +256-414-534406 or +256-4864-24123
E-mail: bmct@bwinditrust.org
Website: www.bwinditrust.org

Citation:

BMCT (2017). Bwindi Mgahinga Conservation Trust. Annual Report 2016/2017.

Acknowledgement:

Prepared by Bamwerinde Wilson, Kamugisha Greens, Kakuru Phares Kosia. Design layout and review was done by Gaster Kiyingi

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List of Acronyms

BINP	:	Bwindi Impenetrable National Park
BMCA	:	Bwindi Mgahinga Conservation Area
BMCT	:	Bwindi Mgahinga Conservation Trust
CDO	:	Community Development Officer
GVTC	:	Greater Virunga Trans boundary Collaboration
IIED	:	International Institute for Environment and Development
IUCN	:	International Institute for Conservation of Nature
LC II and LC III	:	Local Council Two and Local Council Three
LCSC	:	Local Community Steering Committee
MGNP	:	Mgahinga Gorilla National Park
PCP	:	Private Community Participation
RECTC	:	Rwerere Enterprise Community Training Centre
TAU	:	Trust Administration Unit
TMB	:	Trust Management Board
UGX	:	Uganda Shillings

Foreword

It is a great pleasure to present the 2016/2017 Bwindi Mgahinga Conservation Trust (BMCT) Report. In this period, BMCT has reviewed and renewed its commitment with regard to integrating conservation and development in Bwindi Mgahinga Conservation Area (BMCA). The Trust has successfully integrated conservation and community development by providing community development grants especially the participatory process of awarding grants, contributing to local awareness and commitment to Park Protection. It is this awareness that will ensure long term survival of habitat of the most endangered mountain Gorillas. I am therefore grateful to all stakeholders, funders, partners, and Trust Administrative Unit (TAU) who have contributed to all this work

Over the years, BMCT has increased capacity in supporting income generation and continues to seek partnerships with development partners to scale up to most communities surrounding the two parks. In this respect, we collaborated with International Institute of Environment and Development (IIED) to skill communities around Bwindi Impenetrable National Park and Mgahinga Gorilla National park. SWAROVSKI helped us to improve local environmental education using appropriate imaginative educational approaches in water schools for sustainable behavior change among children as agents of change in the context of sustainable development. Greater Virunga Trans boundary Collaboration (GVTC) helped to promote Community Based Tourism initiatives around Mgahinga Gorilla National Park through the Rwerere



Enterprise Community Training Centre (RECTC). Similarly the Trust has remained at the forefront of community livelihood projects in Rubanda, Kanungu and Kisoro districts through advancing small grants to support small and medium enterprises for communities. BMCT will continue to look for practical partnerships with the like-minded institutions to enhance its conservation and development objectives in Bwindi Mgahinga Conservation Area (BMCA).

The total incomes in the period ending 30 June 2017 were equivalent to UGX. 3,187,289,246. The cumulative and recurring capital expenditure from all programmes amounted to UGX. 1,463,230,440 with a surplus of UGX. 1,724,058,806. Other Sources of funding in the 2016/17 Financial Year included; Greater Virunga Trans boundary Collaboration (GVTC) grant whose main aim is to facilitate the development of a model Private Community Partnership (PCP) based on Rwerere Enterprise and Community Centre upon which future scale up and replication will be based.


During the year, BMCT contributed to the following community development interventions;

- a. BMCT promoted the construction and use of improved energy saving technologies, improving tree coverage in the landscape. This contributed to Climate Change adaptation and mitigation thus improving resilience of communities and existing National Parks.
- b. Sustainable livelihood activities in Kisoro, Rubanda and Kanungu districts and empowerment to marginalized groups, and gender mainstreaming.

These were achieved through support from Development Partners and donors. We appreciate the support from D. SWAROVSKI K.G, IIED and GVTC. We were also supported by Rubanda, Kisoro and Kanungu Local Governments and local community beneficiaries who provided tremendous

support and collaboration. Thank the staff of BMCT for their successful implementation of the planned program activities and John Adams worked with us to manage the endowment fund. The professional advice he provides in wise investment opportunities made the fund grow fast during the year.

On behalf of the TMB, I pledge our commitment to strengthen the long term sustainability of the Trust through increased financial resources, improvement of community livelihoods and ecosystem health of the two National Parks. This contributes to the social and economic transformation of the people of Uganda.



.....

Achilles Byaruhanga
Chairman Trust Management Board

Executive Summary

BMCT has provided a long-term reliable support for projects promoting sustainable use of natural resources around MGNP and BINP, (research and conservation of biological diversity) in order to minimize the negative impact on the parks that are habitats of the most endangered species on planet earth.

During the period between 2016/17, BMCT implemented a number of projects with the purpose of increasing awareness creation among farmers, integration of conservation into community development programmes, mitigating the negative impacts of climate change and improve Batwa livelihoods through involvement in agricultural enterprises and education. The primary goal was to promote activities related to conservation of biodiversity both on farm and in the Bwindi Mgahinga forests. The selection of these projects was done through facilitation of communities in the two parishes adjacent to the park.

The projects were selected through use of sensitisation meetings, writing of proposals by communities, submitting them for vetting at LC II and LCIII respectively. They were further verified by staff and LCSC together with government representatives to ensure that they are in line with government development priorities. Finally, disbursement of funds to support implementation of the selected projects was done.

Results reveal that there is improvement in awareness creation through use of brochures, calendars and through participation in international meetings such as CAFÉ and IUCN meetings. Agricultural projects were supported in all communities. However, the Batwa communities suffered serious setbacks due to land being close to the national park.

They have been affected by wildlife and most Batwa farmers now prefer to sell off their land or are being persuaded to grow tea which was not the original plan. Furthermore, their land is marginal and requires inputs which are not easily accessible. As a result, richer non-Batwa households rent Batwa land for planting Irish potatoes because they can afford the expensive inputs. For example, some Batwa community members in all the project area were persuaded to hire out their land.

Communities were supported with projects and a total of 1,220 (501 males and 719 females) members benefited with about 60% women beneficiaries. Two hundred and forty five (245) (136 females and 109 males) community households were assisted to construct energy saving cook stoves. BMCT initiated a Batwa Scholarship Scheme, currently supporting 110 (54 males and 56 females) pupils in primary schools, 1 (male) in secondary, 4 (3 males, 1 female) in tertiary institutions. The beneficiaries are also provided with lunch, uniforms, exercise books, pens, pencils, nickers and sanitary pads (for girls).

Introduction

BMCT was established as an independent body under Ugandan law (Trustee Act cap 142). BMCT has a strong Board that oversees the operations of the organization. The Trust Management Board has overall responsibility for funds management and project implementation. Global Environmental Facility (GEF) and government of Uganda helped to establish the Trust and provided the initial support.

Vision

To conserve the biodiversity and ecosystem health of Mgahinga and Bwindi Protected Areas in harmony with the development needs of the surrounding communities.

Mission

To foster conservation of biodiversity in BINP and MGNP through investment in community development projects, grants for research and ecological monitoring, funding park management and protection, and programmes that create greater conservation awareness.

Core values

- **Integrity:** Striving to operate on the highest standards of professionalism, integrity and transparency
- **Team work:** Work together as a team to take advantage of BMCT strength, skills and knowledge
- **Collaboration:** Develop partnerships and strategic alliances in support of the BMCT mission
- **Excellence:** Pursue excellence in all endeavours
- **Communication:** Promote and encourage effective internal and external communication.
- **Effectiveness:** Committed to ensuring value for money in all BMCT programs
- **Innovation:** Striving to maintain an innovative approach to achieving the

mission, overcoming challenges and finding ways to improve

The Trust Management Board

The Trust held four ordinary meetings in the reporting period (2016/17). The key decision issues include the approval of audit reports for the FY 2015/16, the budgets for FY 2017/18. All Board sub committees were functional and met as and whenever they were called upon as provided for in their respective terms. The following were Board members during the reporting period:

1. Mr. Achilles Byaruhanga, Chairman Trustee / Nature Uganda,
2. Mr. Frank. S. Karake, Trustee / Private Sector,
3. Dr. Andrew Seguya, Trustee /Uganda Wildlife Authority,
4. Mr. Caleb K. Tumwesimire, Trustee / Local Community Representative,
5. Mr. Wilberforce Mucunguzi, Trustee / Local Community Representative,
6. Ms. Mary Tushemereirwe, Trustee / Local Community Representative,
7. Dr. Robert Bitariho, Trustee / Mbarara University
8. Dr. Akankwasah Barirega, Trustee / Ministry of Tourism,
9. Ms. Tukamushaba Harriet, Ex-officio Ministry of Justice and Constitutional affairs,
10. Ms. Rutazana Daphine Keitesi, Ex-officio Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development.
10. Dr. Ian Clarke, Trustee, Prominent Personality
11. Annet Kandole, Trustee, Care International in Uganda.

The Trust Administrative Unit

Trust Administrative Unit (TAU) implemented all Board decisions, reported to the Board as expected and participated in meetings organized by partners. The Trust administration staff remained the same from the past reporting period. External Audits were commissioned as planned and all statutory obligations met.

Local Community Steering Committee

The committee held 2 meetings which involved planning for the financial year and approval of the projects. Their term ended and elections for the new committee will be held in the 2017/18 financial year.

Area of Operation

BMCT has provided long-term reliable support for projects promoting sustainable use of natural resources in MGNP and BINP, research has been done as well, conservation of biological habitats of the most endangered species in order to minimize the negative.

During the period, BMCT focused activities on conservation and ecological research. We worked closely with Uganda Wildlife Authority under the following activities; Problem Animal Management around BINP comprised of

planting tea around the park to ensure that tea acts as a buffer. About 5 kilometers of tea were planted and about 500 meters of wall was re-enforced along the Rwanda boarder around MGNP. The re-enforcement was carried out in areas where buffaloes regularly break out to cause damage to community property especially crop gardens. Since buffaloes have been protected, there has been increased number of buffaloes and other related animals since they are no-longer killed outside the park. The relationship between the park management and community members has improved since there is reduced destruction of community property/ gardens; as well as working together as a team in park management issues

BMCT in 2016/17 supported communities around BINP and MGNP with income generating projects to supplement their household needs. BMCT undertook community projects in the districts of Kisoro, Kanungu and Rubanda and this was intended

to reduce poverty, increase biodiversity and reduce negative impact on the forest ecosystems such as hunting and honey collection at the same time promoting conservation of the two National Parks. Building the confidence of local communities and gaining their understanding and support for conservation, is the foundation for ensuring the lasting protection of these ecosystems.

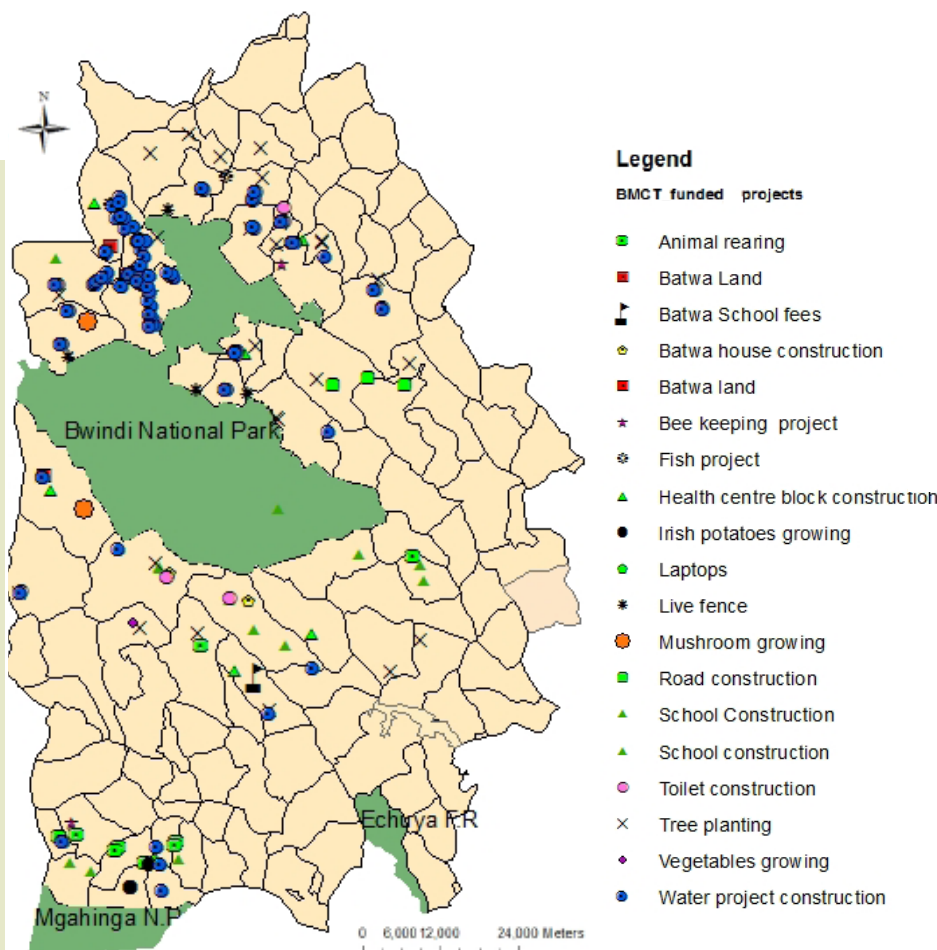


Figure 1: Geographic area of operation

2

BMCT Recognized

For the last 23 years, BMCT has strongly held its mandate to “foster conservation of biodiversity in Bwindi Impenetrable National Park (BINP) and Mgahinga Gorilla National Park (MGNP) through investment in community development projects, grants for research and ecological monitoring, funding park management and protection and programs that create greater conservation awareness”.

In celebration of the World Wildlife Day (WWD), 3rd March 2017, BMCT was awarded for its positive contribution towards conservation of BINP and MGNP through its activities among the communities neighboring the 2 Protected Areas (PA).



Figure 2: Award of Excellence

BMCT’s outstanding contribution among others are; Support to communities with grants in form of projects, Climate Change mitigation, Batwa housing projects, Batwa

Education, Batwa cultural dances and income generating activities for both the Batwa and non-Batwa like crafts making and projects that promote environmental conservation like Energy saving stoves construction. These projects have improved the livelihood of the people neighboring the parks without them necessarily depending directly on the parks.

Support to Communities.

BMCT provides Agricultural, livestock and Conservation Projects to both men and women in communities giving an upper hand to women and other vulnerable groups. This is through awarding 8 more points to women groups while vetting projects. For example BMCT facilitates Irish potato growing projects to encourage women come on board in areas where they are left out of projects assumed to be for men like bee keeping, tree planting and cattle keeping.

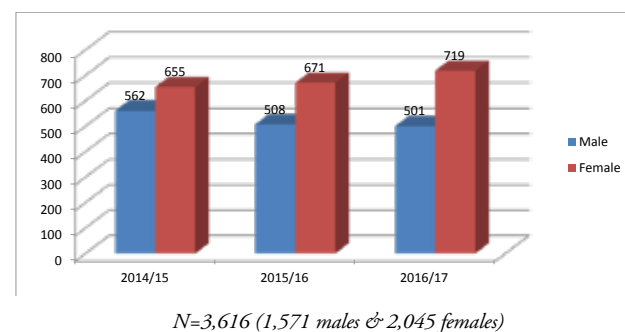


Figure 3: Number of individuals supported with community projects 2014/15, 2015/16 and 2016/17 financial years.

3 Highlights of 2016/2017

I: Outstanding Impacts of Community Projects

BMCT carried out a study to monitor the impact of its community projects (Agricultural, livestock and Conservation Projects) in the benefiting communities. This study was done through interviewing individual beneficiaries from the sub counties of Nyarusiza, Nyundo, Muramba, Nyabwishenya and Kirundo in Kisoro district. The purpose was to;

- To find out the contribution of community projects towards increased household incomes and improved nutrition
- To assess the contribution of community projects towards providing an alternative source of meat other than the park
- To examine the contribution of community projects towards soil conservation for reversing land degradation and improve food production
- To evaluate management practices for improved livestock production

Results revealed that community members hold a positive perception towards projects. They understand their value and use them to benefits resources for their day to

day life. They are a source of income on which households survive to meet family needs, provide manure for increased food production. This has increased food security and nutrition and enhanced beneficiaries social status within the community. However, it was observed that there is lack of pasture and water for the livestock mainly due to periodic weather changes, disease and pest infestation. The other challenges include; low incomes to sustain the projects, limited skilled labor and market for the produce. These limit the progress of livestock rearing especially zero grazing. This assessment will be carried out in other working areas to strategize ways of counteracting to the challenges being faced.



II: Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation

BMCT trained 245 (136 females and 109 males) community members from Nyarusiza, Muramba, Bukimbiri Sub-Counties, Kisoro district and Muko Sub-County, Rubanda district in agronomic farming practices like application of organic manure, mulching, tree planting, construction and use of energy saving cook-stoves. This was to enhance awareness of local communities within Bwindi Mgahinga Conservation Area to adapt and mitigate climate change. Trees are

essential in mitigating and modifying climate. Energy saving stoves use less firewood which reduces on the trees cut for the same purpose. *“Before I got these stoves, I used 20 pieces of firewood (approximately 20kgs) daily but now I use 5 pieces.”* Hope Nyiraguriro, Muramba Sub-county Kisoro district.

The 245 people that were trained are Training of Trainers in their various communities to ensure continuity of the project for increased



tangible benefits. Besides that, continuous awareness sessions have been done for a positive change towards good environmental habits.

The introduction of the stoves has come along with added advantages among school going children. There were cases where most girls had to stay home to help their mothers with the heavy domestic work like collecting firewood and taking care of their young siblings leading to poor performances and school dropouts especially for the girls. The stoves have helped mothers in proper utilization of time which gives ample time to also look after their children without necessarily seeking the help of the school going children.

One exceptionally thankful beneficiary from Muko Sub-County, Rubanda district, Ms.

Orishaba Dementi, who due to her epileptic condition sustained severe burns says, *“These stoves help me remain healthy. Since the kitchen is smoke free, I don’t get cases of cough and dizziness. Even in case of a seizure/attack I don’t get burns. My kitchen is secure and I now enjoy making meals for my family”*

With the improved Energy saving stoves the chances of burns are reduced to nearly 0%. There were numerous cases of burns among the group members during seizures (attacks) registering some deaths.

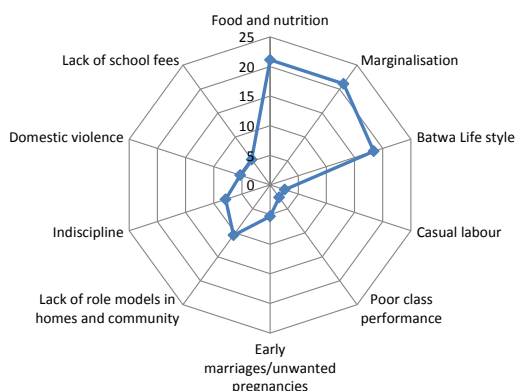
The former Community Development Officer (CDO) of Nyarusiza Sub-county Kisoro district Ms. Annette Tumwebaze also analyzed the importance of BMCT’s energy saving stoves in saving lives. *“The nature and shape of these stoves reduce burns among children.”*

III: Improved Batwa Education and Skills Development

BMCT conducted a study to evaluate the performance of Batwa Scholarship scheme by partners with in the BMCA and come up with a comprehensive BMCT strategy for Sponsorship.



BMCT had supported Batwa Children’s education with scholastic materials in form of exercise books, pens, pencils and school uniforms. However, we have had high dropout cases mostly due to lack of food and taking long hours of study on an empty stomachs. The figures below show a summary of the Batwa Scholarship Scheme selection criteria



The figure above shows that majority of the respondents said that BMCT should consider age of the student (69.2%), vulnerability (69.2%), class performance (53.8%) and the least said that sex of the pupil (23.1%). From the above assessment, BMCT launched a Batwa sponsorship scheme and currently 110 (54 males and 56 females) pupils in Primary Schools, 1 in Secondary, 3 in Technical Institute, and 1 at University. The beneficiaries are provided with; lunch, uniforms, exercise books, pens, pencils, nickers & sanitary pads (for girls).



During the course of the year, BMCT carried out an assessment of the Batwa sponsorship program through oral interviews with the sponsored pupils, teachers and the head teachers of the various schools. This aimed at evaluating the effectiveness of the program and how BMCT can achieve better results. The approach has achieved the following;

Reduced absenteeism

There is reduced absenteeism in all school by school children. *“Fridays we would not get any Batwa pupils here. Friday is a market day so they would be helping their parents. But now, they come early for remedial studies. It has assisted them and I am very sure that by the end of this term there will be a very big improvement.”*
-Teacher. Sylvester Turinomuhangi, Director of Studies Rubuguri Primary School

Increased participation in both class and co-curricular activities

Most pupils are very active in class and also co-curricular activities. Ainembabazi Naome has been one of the best athletes in school at the same time the sports prefect. She gladly appreciated BMCT for the support given to her; *“Thank you BMCT for supporting my education. I hope to finish school with good grades and go to secondary school. My brother finished P.7 and failed to get school fees. I don't want to be like that. I want to continue studying so that I become a nurse”*

Improved Performance

The class performance of the pupils has improved. They are able to attend classes and do tests. The punctuality has also improved thus making use of the time spent at school more profitable.



BMCT under this scheme gives scholastic materials like books, pens, pencils to the supported Batwa pupils in various primary schools. This provides a good learning environment and also address the recurring challenge of gender inequality. Many female students are able to make it beyond the lower primary levels but most of them drop out of school when puberty clocks in due to menstrual hygiene challenges, pregnancies and some early marriages. To ensure Gender equity in educating the Batwa, BMCT has taken a step to address menstrual hygiene of the Batwa female students by providing

sanitary pads and knickers to female pupils to encourage them stay in school. Female Batwa students had to battle the fear and discomfort that come with having to go through their menstruation period without the necessary sanitary materials. Most of the girls opted to stay home on such days of the month to avoid humiliation from their fellow students, missing out on class work while their male counterparts were in class studying leading to poor grades.

BMCT staff taught the pupils how to use the pads and maintain hygiene during the periods. They also encouraged the senior women in the different schools to offer sex education and any other needed help and advice to such girls to help them embrace the changes of adulthood and feel good about themselves.

Technical skills for Batwa



Three (3) Batwa youth have enrolled at Kihiihi Community Polytechnic in Kanungu district to train in Block laying and concrete practice. This is aimed at equipping them with technical knowledge and skills in the house construction. Katungi Frank, one of the beneficiaries excitedly said, *“I am working hard to become a civil engineer and help my family and village at large.”*

Brick House construction by Batwa Families

The Bwindi Mgahinga Conservation Trust (BMCT) launched a pilot study to assess the response and attitude of the Batwa towards living in brick houses and their ability to maintain them. In this initiative, selected Batwa families promised to provide labor for making bricks as a contribution towards construction of their houses. Each family is expected to raise approximately 4,000 bricks

before BMCT makes its own contribution in the construction process.

The proposal to have the Batwa own homes and not just looking at other people’s homes has been welcomed with a lot of enthusiasm. Kinyangamba Jane from Kihembe Batwa settlement is one of the beneficiaries of this initiative. The 75 year old widow lived in a



grass thatched mud hut that leaked each time it rained. When it threatened to rain, it was Jane's duty to look for grass to cover her house so that it does not leak. *"I had to look for old mats to cover myself in case it rained at night. I am moving into my house which I constructed with BMCT's help. We have planned to maintain it and keep it in good condition because.....it is our house"* she said and described the idea of owning a home as an overwhelming experience to her entire family.

However, the Batwa still face the challenge of providing for house hold utilities like utensils,

beddings among others, stigmatization and harassment from society. To help them be more self-reliant, Village Savings and Loans Associations have been introduced to enable them save and accumulate money to provide for their needs.

In addition, Batwa have been tipped on how to fully utilize the small piece of land they have by getting involved in home gardening. In that way, they can cultivate their land for home consumption and sell the surplus for income.

IV: Towards Improving Food Security Among the Batwa

BMCT set up a demonstration farm at Rwabataha valley, Kisoro district where 21 (8 men and 13 women) Batwa are being trained on good farming practices that conserve soil and the environment for example compost manure application, contour ploughing, crop rotation and tree planting.

As part of the intervention to improve food security among the Batwa, BMCT





encouraged and supported 21 households from Rwabataha village Mukungu Kisoro district in bean and irish potato seeds growing. Each beneficiary planted one and half basins of potatoes which is approximately 25kgs and about 10kgs of beans on the land that was allocated to them.

There are rats and moles feeding on and destroying their crops and limited pesticides. The Batwa are however not giving up on their produce. They buy traps to kill the rodents and spray regularly so that the irish keeps healthy and fruitful.

The Mukungu Batwa Group leader, Sunday Bernard revealed their plan for sustainability; “We want to take care of our crops so that we get good harvests. We shall get what to eat, and keep the rest for the next season’s seeds. We don’t want to go begging for food ever again.”



V: Sustainable Water Supply to Schools

Bwindi Mgahinga Conservation Trust (BMCT) in partnership with D. Swarovski KG is implemented a Sustainable Water Management for People and Nature around Bwindi Impenetrable National Park (BINP). The purpose was to improve local environmental education using appropriate imaginative educational approaches in water schools for sustainable behavior change among children as agents of change.

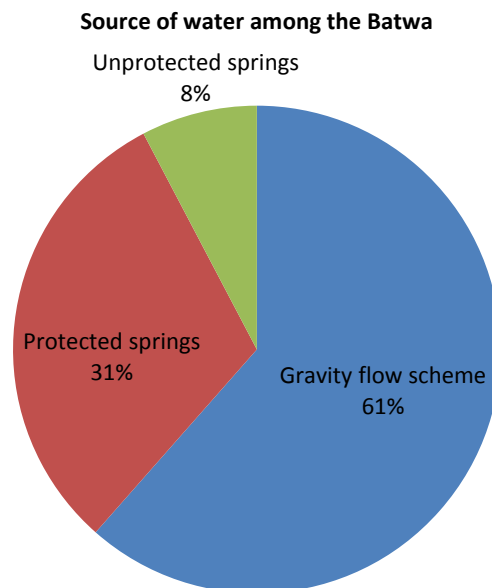
BMCT conducted a Baseline study to;

1. To identify the level of knowledge, attitude and practice regarding water, sanitation and hygiene in 20 water schools in Kanungu district.
2. To establish the status of water, sanitation and hygiene indicators in 20 water schools in Kanungu district.
3. To find out how to sustain positive water, sanitation and hygiene practices in Water Schools, Kanungu district

Results from the study indicated that 61.5% of water schools access safe water through the gravity flow scheme, 30.8% protected springs and 7.7% unprotected springs. Seventy seven percent of the boilers in water schools were functioning and 83% had cleaned in and around the boiler at the time of the visit. This implies that learners in those schools take boiled water. There is a need for partners in the water sector to ensure that all schools in the area access water from a protected source to reduce water borne diseases.

Sixty four percent of pupils from water schools walk a distance of less than 500m compared to 14.3% and 21.4% who walk 500m -1km and

above one kilometer respectively. This suggests that much time is wasted fetching water for water boilers to use at school instead of attending class sessions. This may affect class performance at local and national level. The study indicated that 60% water schools had installed hand washing facilities. The most common diseases caused by not washing hands are diarrhea (common among young and school going children), typhoid, dysentery and cholera. Indeed, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has stated: "It is well documented that one of the most important measures for preventing the spread of pathogens is effective hand washing." Water school learners normally wash their hands after visiting the toilet, before and after eating, after playing. Some of the learners we interacted with specified that the importance of washing hands range from disease prevention to keeping clean.



WASH Clubs were functional with the WASH club anthem, conducting hygiene related debates, Music Dance and Drama (MDD) competitions and cleaning latrines on a regular basis and they had a work plan. For sustainability, WASH in Water school programs requires the involvement of local governments (District Education Office, District Water Office), parents and other stakeholders.

Fifteen percent of the water schools use Teachers guides on Water, Sanitation and Environment that were distributed by BMCT and Swarovski but none of the schools have a complete water school curriculum. Most schools have some type of health or hygiene education as part of their regular curriculum and teachers have been trained in those programs.

VI: Art and Crafts to improve Household Income



BMCT with support from Greater Virunga Trans boundary Collaboration (GVTC) has incorporated a skills training component in its programs by training 20 (6 males and 14 females) as Trainer of Trainees (ToTs) in Handcraft. BMCT encourages both men and women to participate in making baskets, carvings and paper beads. The training aims at improving traditional products and introducing new skills. BMCT focus is to encourage the men because traditionally these activities are assumed to be for women yet they are for income generation and conserving the environment.

This program aims at promoting community based tourism (eco-tourism) through product development, branding, marketing and improving livelihoods through conservation of Mgahinga Gorilla National Park and Bwindi Impenetrable National Park.

BMCT works with marketing agencies and individuals to identify relevant products in tourism and destination areas to enhance experience and increase diversity and also link products to markets with high potential for improved household income.



4

Financial Report

Bwindi Mgahinga Conservation Trust (BMCT)
Annual Audit Report and Financial Statements (1 July 2016 – 30 June 2017)

2017

Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2017

	Note	2017 UGX	2016 UGX
Assets			
Non-current assets			
Property and equipment	3	506,347,535	558,025,439
Endowment fund	35	21,120,278,221	20,947,795,489
Investment property	33(b)	1,860,294,847	1,860,294,847
		23,486,920,603	23,366,115,776
Current assets			
Receivables and prepayments	34	29,816,818	29,064,191
Short term investments- FDR	5	-	512,084,597
Cash and bank	4	2,442,444,388	430,263,666
		2,472,261,206	971,412,454
Total assets		25,959,181,809	24,337,528,230
Reserves and liabilities			
Accumulated Fund			
Capital fund	6	506,347,535	558,025,439
Trust fund	7	21,120,278,221	20,947,795,490
Investment fund	8	1,860,294,847	1,860,294,847
General fund	9	2,319,647,688	890,785,149
		25,806,568,291	24,256,900,925
Liabilities			
Current liabilities			
Payables and accruals	12	152,613,518	80,627,305
		152,613,518	80,627,305
Total liabilities		152,613,518	80,627,305
Total reserves and liabilities		25,959,181,809	24,337,528,230

The financial statements were approved by the Trust Management Board in a meeting held on 11/12/2017 and signed on its behalf by:


 Chairman TMB-BMCT


 Secretary/ Trust Administrator, BMCT

5 Photo Gallery



Bukimbiri Youth Group display bee-hives



LCSC display cook-stoves



Left: Wood carvers from Rubuguri. Right: Their products on display



Promoting eco-tourism. Left: Wood carvers operate in the open before BMCT constructed a shelter (Right) for them.



Left: Kanungu District Health Inspector (extreme left) inspecting sanitation facility constructed by BMCT. Right: School girl uses tipy tap at Bujengwe Primary School



Left: SWAROVSKI team tries tipy tap. Right: Waste management approaches promoted at Bujengwe Primary School



Tumwebaze Scorah - A Mutwa Girl at Uganda Christian University, Kabale. Supported by BMCT



Mukungu Batwa Women supported to grow irish potatoes



Left: Semahoro Andrew feeds his cow. while (Right) Mugisha John shows off a heifer cow. All with support from BMCT



BMCT has supported different women groups in art and craft, aimed at improving their quality of life



Left: Jane Kyinyangamba (red scuff) in group photo in front of her former house. Right: Jane at her new house supported by BMCT



About Bwindi Mgahinga Conservation Trust

Bwindi Mgahinga Conservation Trust (BMCT) was established in 1994 under the Uganda Trustees Laws. Its mission is to foster conservation of biodiversity of Mgahinga Gorilla National Park (MGNP) and Bwindi Impenetrable National Park (BINP) through investments in community development projects, grants for research and ecological monitoring, funding park management, protection and programmes that create greater conservation awareness. It is mandated to work within a radius of two parishes surrounding Mgahinga Gorilla National Park (MGNP) and Bwindi Impenetrable National Park (BINP). This area is also known as Bwindi Mgahinga Conservation Area (BMCA). The area of operation is located in southwestern Uganda, bordering DRC and Rwanda with operational headquarters in Kabale at Bwindi Trust House and a sub office in Kampala.



Bwindi Mgahinga Conservation Trust.
Plot 4 Coryndon Road Makanga
P.O. Box 1064, Kabale, Uganda
Tel: Office: +256-414-534406 or +256-4864-24123
E-mail: bmct@bwinditrust.org, Website: www.bwinditrust.org