



Mother chimpanzee Leila of the Bulindi community with her two daughters, 5-year old Georgia and 2-year old Wendy.



THE BULINDI CHIMPANZEE & COMMUNITY PROJECT



2020 Water & Conservation Project Proposal Hoima District, Uganda

Background - The Bulindi Chimpanzee and Community Project

The *Bulindi Chimpanzee & Community Project* (BCCP) is a grassroots-level conservation organisation established in 2014 to address urgent threats to an important population of wild chimpanzees living alongside rural farmers in western Uganda's Hoima District. While



chimpanzees are legally protected in Uganda, their habitats often aren't. Most forest inhabited by chimpanzees in Hoima is unprotected and owned by local village households. Since the 1990s, most of the natural forest has been logged for timber and cleared for agriculture by local households seeking to improve their livelihoods. As a result, more than 300 chimpanzees in Hoima have lost their natural habitat. They survive in tiny remnant patches of degraded forest surrounded by expanding agricultural land, villages, schools and roads.

A four month old infant chimpanzee – the newest member of the Bulindi Chimpanzee Group



Typical landscape view of remaining chimpanzee habitat in Hoima. At the centre is a narrow strip of remnant forest used by chimpanzees. On either side the landscape is a patchwork of agricultural fields, village roads and scattered homesteads. Local households collect water from streams inside the forest. (Photo courtesy of Jane Goodall Institute–Switzerland).



People and chimpanzees encounter one another every day. Here, adult male chimpanzees are crossing a road in close proximity to watching villagers and school children.

BCCP's mission is to identify appropriate mechanisms to (i) effectively conserve Hoima's 'village chimpanzees', (ii) preserve and enrich the remaining natural forest, and (iii) promote more harmonious coexistence between chimpanzees and local people.

Because conservation of Hoima's chimpanzees is ultimately in the hands of the local people living alongside them, our approach is to identify and address constraints faced by villagers and offer support in key areas. Thus, we conserve chimpanzees and forests primarily by helping people. We provide them with alternatives to deforestation, invest in their children's education, support alternative livelihoods, and help to improve their quality of life.

BCCP is a registered non-profit organization. Details of our project activities to date can be found at our website: www.bulindichimpanzees.co.uk/

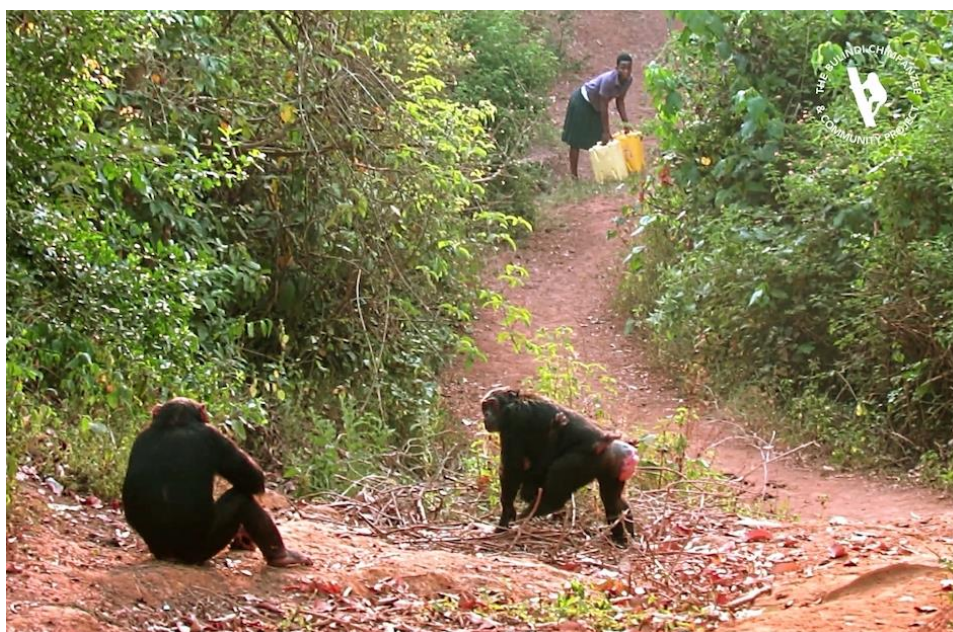


Farmers in Bulindi tending their crops. Residents such as this couple experience crop losses to chimpanzees on a daily basis.

Water Challenges in Hoima

In rural Uganda, it is mainly women and children who are tasked with collecting water. Unless they are fortunate enough to live near one of the small numbers of protected springs or shallow wells in the region, residents of Hoima must walk long distances to collect water each day. Because of this, they often elect to fetch water from nearby open water sources such as forest streams, risking exposure to waterborne diseases. These local open water sources (streams and papyrus swamps) suffer contamination from domestic animal waste (cattle) as well as wild animal waste, especially from primates including chimpanzees, black and white colobus monkeys, vervet monkeys and baboons, which can carry pathogens transmissible to people. In addition, water sources are often contaminated by local and commercial distilling (i.e. crude molasses poured directly into the stream).

Further to these risks, villagers face potentially dangerous encounters with chimpanzees when collecting water from the forest. Some local people, especially children, shout and throw stones when they encounter chimpanzees, or they run away – behaviours which can provoke aggressive responses from the chimpanzees. Understandably, many villagers are afraid of them. Adult chimpanzees can be very dangerous. In Hoima, serious attacks by chimpanzees on children have occurred when children were fetching water at forest stream.



Chimpanzees on a village path are 'blocking' a young woman from passing with her jerry cans (vessels used to collect water), which she has filled from a forest stream.

Request for Support to Expand the Water Project in 2019

The *Bulindi Chimpanzee Conservation and Community Project's* successful water projects in 2017 and 2018 were completed in partnership between the implementing organization (BCCP) and BridgIT Water's Ugandan partner Suubi Community Projects. This successful collaboration has produced very positive project outcomes in multiple villages in Hoima.

In 2017 with the help of BridgIT and Suubi we were able to construct the first three boreholes in different villages in Bulindi – BCCP's original site, where we have studied the resident chimpanzees for over a decade. These wells have transformed the lives of villagers, especially women and

children. Not only do they now have a readily-accessible source of clean water, which frees up their time for other activities, but they no longer fear encountering chimpanzees at the forest streams.

A child has abandoned her jerry cans because of the presence of chimpanzees. She was fetching water from an open stream by a small patch of forest in Bulindi. Chimpanzees and children encountered one another daily at this water source. But since the construction of a borehole in the nearby village in July 2017, children no longer fetch water from this open source!



In 2017–2018, BCCP expanded our conservation programme throughout Hoima District to conserve additional groups of chimpanzees and begin restoring their degraded habitats, and provide support to local villagers. In particular, we cemented our presence in the critical Kitoba subcounty – a central region in Hoima – where extensive deforestation has caused the loss of habitat for at least four resident chimpanzee groups.

During 2018, BCCP partnered again with BridgIT and Suubi Community Projects, resulting in construction of a further four boreholes in villages where residents experience similar challenges with access to clean water and with chimpanzees as do villagers in Bulindi. The new boreholes were constructed in three villages in Kitoba subcounty and in an additional village in the Bulindi area.



Children collecting water at the newly-opened Wagaisa village well (constructed July 2018)

Local children at the newly-opened borehole in Bulemwa village, Kitoba sub-county (July 2018)



As of 2019 BCCP's programmes reach more than 50 villages in the home ranges of six chimpanzee groups, comprising over half of the total population of 300 wild chimpanzees clinging to survival around villages in Hoima. Villagers throughout this region need help accessing clean and safe water – away from chimpanzees.

We request support to expand our hugely successful water programme in Hoima in 2019 to construct wells in a further 12 forest-adjacent villages. Like in Bulindi, villagers in each of these areas experience significant water access problems. They typically need to travel up to 3 km daily to collect water from the nearest well; consequently, most villagers resort to collecting dirty water from nearby open water sources in proximity to remaining forest patches. Consequently, they experience similar 'conflicts' with resident chimpanzees when fetching water.

Each of the 12 villages has presented BCCP with a formal stamped letter requesting support for a borehole, signed by a representative portion of the community (see **Appendix**). In each case, we visited the village to discuss the issue with residents, inspect current water collection points and determine proximity to remaining chimpanzee habitat; in most cases, villagers currently collect dirty water from open water sources or else from 'protected springs' inside forest patches where they fear running into chimpanzees. An additional source of contention is that chimpanzees sometimes pick up villagers' precious jerry cans and carry them away into the forest!



A young chimp is playing with a villager's jerry can high in a tree; he picked it up after children abandoned their jerry cans at the stream when they heard the chimps nearby!

The 12 villages fall within three sub-counties (local administrative divisions): Kitoba, Kyabigambire and Bujumbura Division. A map of the region is shown below.

Sites and scope of works has been identified as viable water sources by qualified groundwater contractors.

Scope of Work & Budget

Item	Description	Cost US\$	Cost AUD\$
1	Digging Team Labour	\$800.00	\$1,200.00
1	Materials for digging and lining the Well	\$600.00	\$880.00
2	MKII Hand Pump, Installation & signage	\$1,100.00	\$1,600.00
5	Materials for platform construction and run-off channel	\$600.00	\$880.00
6	Project management, transport, WUC and maintenance training and partner sustainability M&E follow up	\$500.00	\$730.00
7	BCCP conservation supervision and monitoring	\$300.00	\$450.00
8	BridgIT Project Management and M&E Cost per Well	\$300.00	\$450.00
	Total Cost per Well	\$4,200.00	\$6,190.00

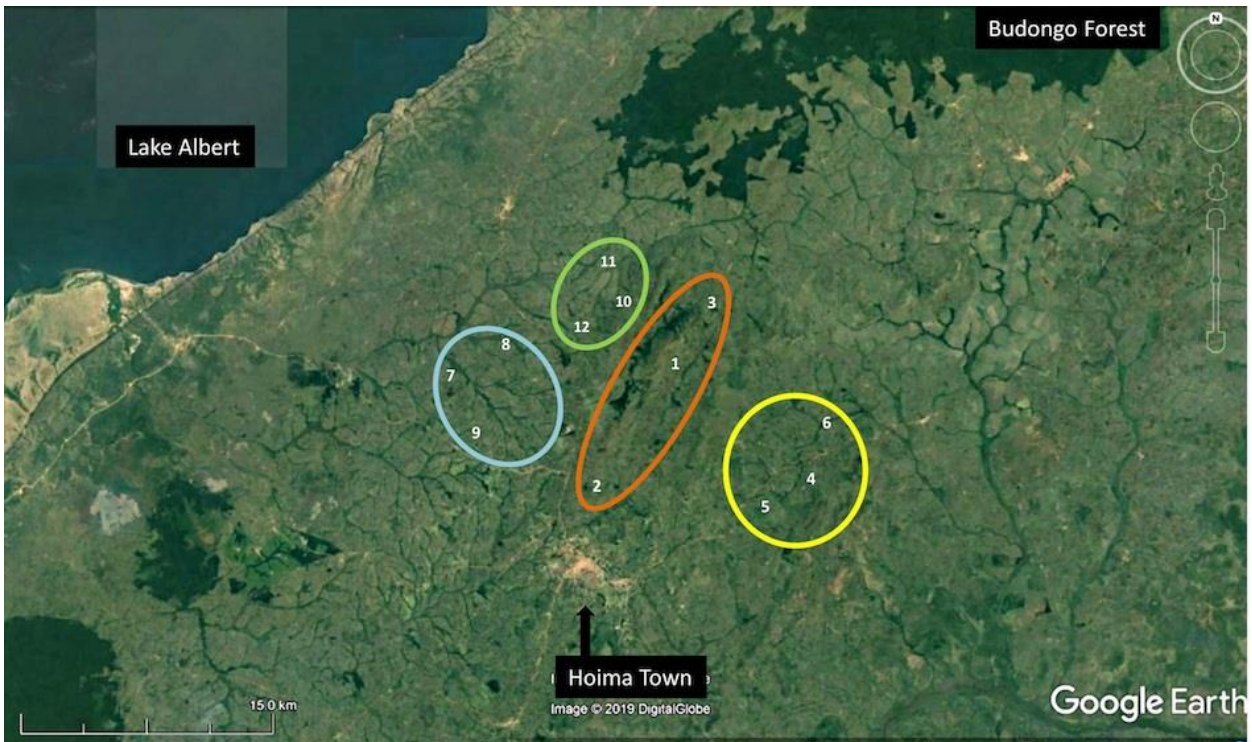
Summary of Villages & Budget

No	Community & Area	Sub-County	Population	Hand dug well US\$	Drilled well	Refurb	Cost per person
RWAMPANGA CHIMP AREA							
1	Kiraira Village	Kitoba	450	FUNDED			\$9.33
2	Kyesiga-East	Bujumbura	960	\$4,200.00			\$4.38
3	Nyakabaale Village	Kitoba	600	\$4,200.00			\$7.00
BULINDI CHIMP AREA							
4	Nyaituma-Lower ¹	Kyabigambire	600		FUNDED		\$12.00
5	Nyakakonge	Kyabigambire	600	\$4,200.00			\$7.00
6	Katikara ²	Kyabigambire	300	\$4,200.00			\$14.00
WAGAISA CHIMP AREA							
7	Kanyanyama	Kitoba	900	\$4,200.00			\$4.67
8	Mbiwe	Kitoba	960	\$4,200.00			\$4.38
9	Bujuura	Bujumbura	900	\$4,200.00			\$4.67
KIRYANGOBE CHIMP AREA							
10	Kyabasengya West ¹	Kitoba	900		\$7,200.00		\$8.00
11	Kyabasengya East	Kitoba	300			\$2,200	\$7.34
12	Kihamyia (Kiburwa West)	Kitoba	600	\$4,200.00			\$7.00
	TOTALS		7,470	\$37,800	\$14,400	\$2,200	
	Total Project Complete Price	\$60,000					\$7.43

Populations are based on minimum estimates of 6 people per household provided by village chairpersons.

¹ Nyaituma-Lower & Kyabasengya West can possibly be hand dug

² Katikara. While a hydrogeological survey remains to be done in Katikara, we anticipate a well could be hand-dug since the land is relatively low-lying.

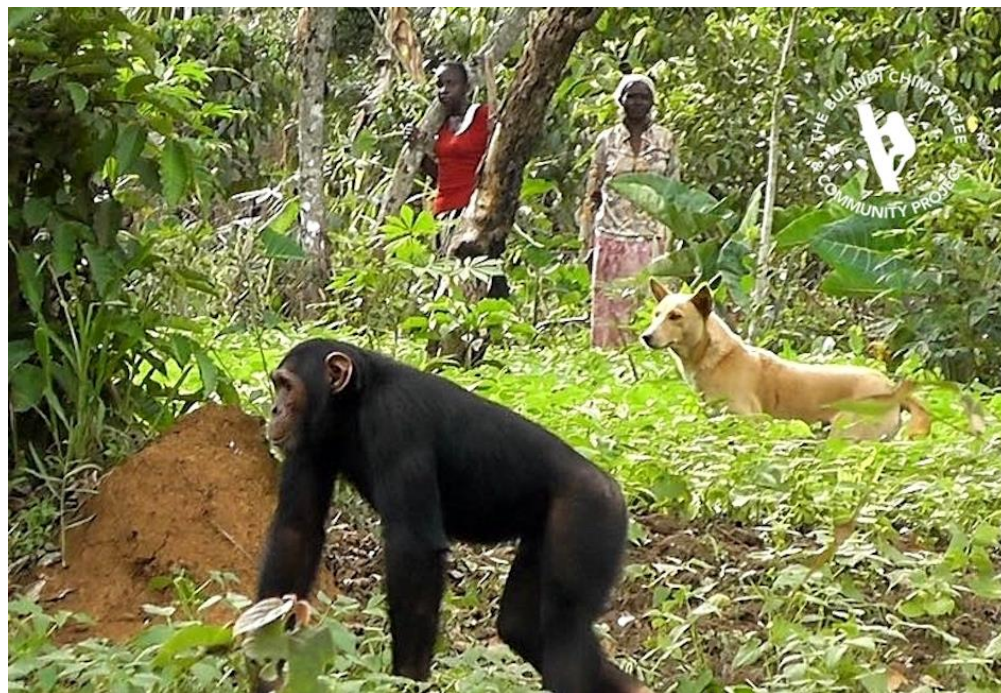


Map (adapted from Google Earth) showing Hoima District, which lies to the south of the main Budongo Forest block, and the locations of the proposed new boreholes (numbered 1–12; numbers refer to the villages listed in the Table above). The sites are divided into 4 main areas: Rwampanga (orange circle), Bulindi (yellow circle), Wagaisa (blue circle) and Kiryangobe (green circle).

Anticipated Impacts

- Villagers suffer a lower incidence of waterborne diseases.
- Boreholes will reduce time spent collecting water daily, allowing more time for other activities. This will especially benefit woman and children who are mostly responsible for collecting water. For example, women may have more time to tend their crops; children will have more time for schoolwork.
- The boreholes will provide a more accessible water source in each village, and thus will assist with farmers’ agricultural irrigation – this is especially important during the dry season.
- The boreholes will reduce potentially dangerous encounters between chimpanzees and people, especially children, throughout the target villagers in Hoima, since residents will no longer need to collect water from streams in the forest.
- Because of the links between provision of boreholes and the presence of chimpanzees in the village, the boreholes will improve residents’ attitudes towards the chimpanzees. Increasing local tolerance contributes to one of BCCP’s wider project goals: to facilitate sustainable coexistence between people and these endangered great apes.

A chimpanzee in close proximity to watching villagers and a domestic dog. BCCP's broad objective is to enable peaceful coexistence between people and chimps in Hoima



Rwampanga Area

1. Kiraira village, Kitoba Subcounty

Kiraira village is located alongside a hilly forest reserve known as 'Rwampanga' which is owned by the Bunyoro Kingdom. In the past 5 years, the kingdom cleared virtually all natural forest in the reserve, logging the trees and renting out the land to farmers and investors. This has displaced the resident chimpanzee group, which previously ranged in the thick valley forests but now range mainly on the hill slopes outside the reserve by villages. The village of Kiraira is on the slopes of the reserve. Presently, women and children spend up to 90 minutes walking each way to the nearest shallow well every day, up and down a steep slope. Local women told BCCP that the two main problems they face are water and chimpanzees. During our visits in 2019, we found chimpanzees were nesting in mango and jackfruit trees right next to homes because the entire hill slopes where they previously nested had been burned and cleared by investors for commercial agroforestry. Residents have been asking for support for a borehole since 2017.

“We have two problems: water and chimps” – woman resident of Kiraira Village.



Residents of Kiraira village, Kitoba subcounty. Villagers in this area have lived near chimpanzees all their lives; the problems with the chimps started when local forests were cleared for farming and sold to investors for commercial agroforestry.

2. Kyesiga-East village (known locally as 'Kipidiri'), Bujumbura

Kyesiga-East is another village located on the slopes outside 'Rwampanga' forest reserve, but further south towards Hoima town. Because of the forest clearance within the reserve, residents are experiencing increasing problems with chimpanzees ranging in their village. Additionally, residents have an arduous journey to fetch daily water, crossing a tarmacked highway and travelling 2 km to collect water from a well in a neighbouring village. The village first made a formal request to BCCP for a borehole in 2017. A borehole in the village would serve over 160 households.

3. Nyakabaale village, Kitoba Subcounty

Residents of Nyakabaale have to walk 2 km to the nearest protected spring. Otherwise, they collect water from an open water source alongside a small swampy forest patch where residents risk encounters with chimpanzees. This area is one of the poorest areas in Hoima. At least 100 households stand to benefit from a village borehole.

"In our village we don't have a protected water point, so people are suffering from waterborne diseases. We will be happy if our request is answered positively ... and you will have saved people's lives. Thank you." – Letter from Nyakabaale Village



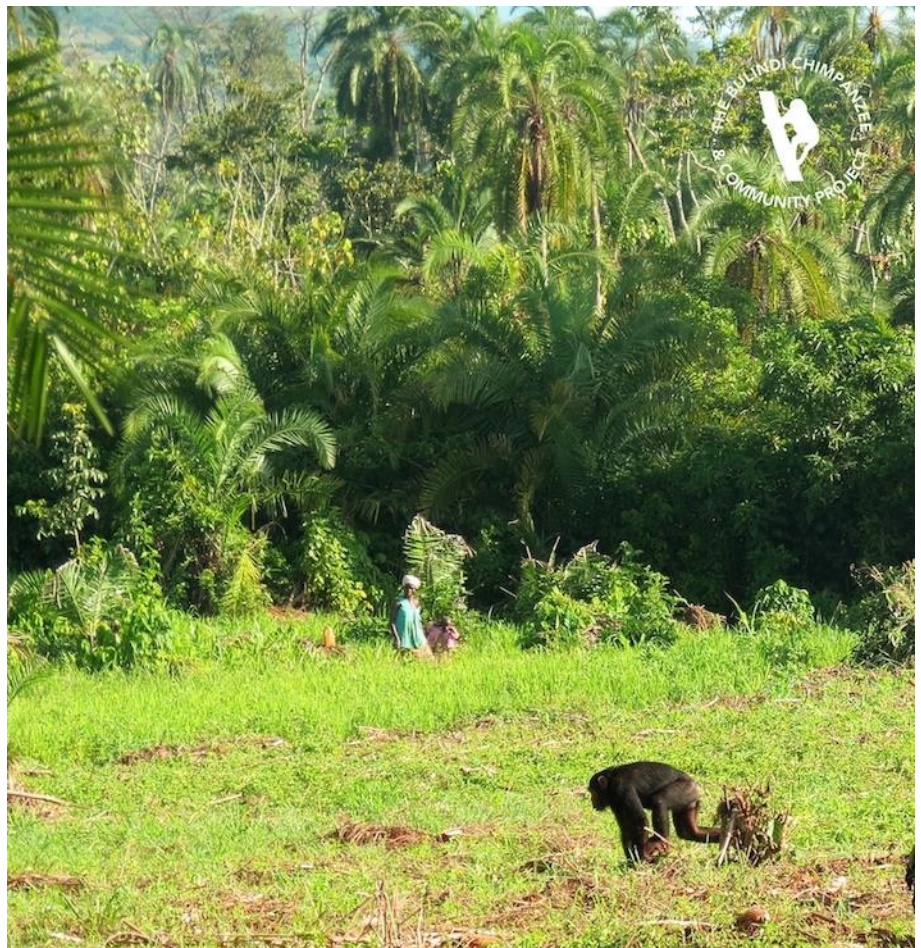
Residents collecting water from an open water source

Bulindi Area

4. Nyaituma (lower) village, Kyabigambire Subcounty

In 2017 BridgIT sponsored construction of a borehole in the 'upper' part of Nyaituma village, in the Bulindi region. This borehole serves a large number of households and has been hugely successful in reducing conflicts between people and chimpanzees at forest water points and increasing tolerance towards the chimps. Nyaituma village is large, however, stretching for around 3.5 km. In the 'lower' part of the village, residents still collect water from a protected spring at the forest edge. There have been long-standing negative interactions between the chimpanzees and people collecting water at this spring (including chimpanzees threatening humans and people harassing and throwing stones at chimps). In 2018, residents in the 'lower' part presented BCCP with a letter formally requesting support for a well, signed by representatives of local households. They propose situating a potential well near the main road several hundred metres away from the forest, and approx. 2 km from the earlier borehole constructed in 2017. Given this distance, a new well would serve entirely different households. More than 100 households, who encounter chimps daily, would benefit greatly from a borehole in this part of the village.

A chimp dashing past a woman and child by Nyaituma protected spring; a borehole located along the road by homes, away from the forest, would help prevent these daily encounters.



5. Nyakakonge village, Kyabigambire subcounty

In January 2019 residents of Nyakakonge village in the southern part of Bulindi presented BCCP with a formal letter requesting support for a borehole in their village. They have lived alongside the chimpanzees for decades and have long-standing challenges with access to clean water. At present, villagers collect water from the edge of the swamp. Around 100 households would benefit from a well.



A juvenile male chimp of the Bulindi chimpanzee community

6. Katikara, Kyabigambire Subcounty

Residents provided a formal letter to BCCP requesting support for a borehole in 2018. Katikara is located in the northern periphery of the range of the Bulindi chimpanzees. The chimpanzees are not normally resident in Katikara; however, they visit the village once every couple of months to eat sugarcane, jackfruit and banana – causing alarm and conflicts with villagers. A borehole would not only help villagers overcome their longstanding problem of water access, but would help alleviate the negative attitudes to the chimpanzees in this area. Katikara village is very well organised and prepared for a borehole. Already, they have independently elected a water user committee and drawn up user by-laws and conditions.

“We have unclean water in our village ... community members also get scared by the chimpanzees which are around these wells and at times children don’t go to fetch water” –
Letter from Katikara village

Wagaisa Area

7. Kanyanyama village, Kitoba Subcounty

Residents of this village collect water from an open water source; the nearest 'safe' water source is 3 km away. The village is situated in a region where natural water-sources are polluted by a commercial distilling factory, which dumps the residue molasses into local streams and swamps. Additionally, when chimpanzees are present in the adjacent forest strip, residents are afraid to collect water. In 2018 residents from Kanyanyama presented BCCP with a letter formally requesting support for a well, signed by 33 residents. They state that a well in their village would serve more than 150 households.



“As a community, we are facing many challenges when struggling to get safe water ... [including] ... long distances to the safe water; sharing water with monkeys, baboons, pigs and many others; water contamination by molasses” – Letter from Kanyanyama Village

Stream by Kanyanyama village, heavily polluted by waste molasses from a nearby commercial distillery

8. Mbiwe village, Kitoba Subcounty

Residents of Mbiwe presented BCCP with a letter signed by 50 local residents requesting support for a well in their village. They experience similar problems with local streams being contaminated water by a nearby factory, as do residents of adjacent Kanyanyama village. Residents in Mbiwe encounter chimpanzees when they pass along the small riverine strip about once per week. They state a well would serve at least 160 households.

“We are drinking contaminated water with the animals” – Letter from Mbiwe Village



A shy adult female and her infant of the Wagaisa community of chimpanzees, Kitoba

9. Bujuura village, Bujumbura

BCCP was approached in January 2019 by residents from Bujuura village who request support for a borehole. The village is to the south of Kanyanyama and Mbiwe and within the western edge of the Wagaisa chimpanzees’ range. The villagers experience similar chimpanzee-related and water-access issues as do those in nearby villages. They collect water and wash clothes from an open pool of dirty water since the nearest well is over 2 km away. A well in the village would serve over 150 households. Bujuura village provided BCCP with a written request in 2018, signed by over 50 people.



“The water sources that are nearby have very bad water and we share it with animals, putting our lives at risk from so many diseases” – Letter from Bujuura Village

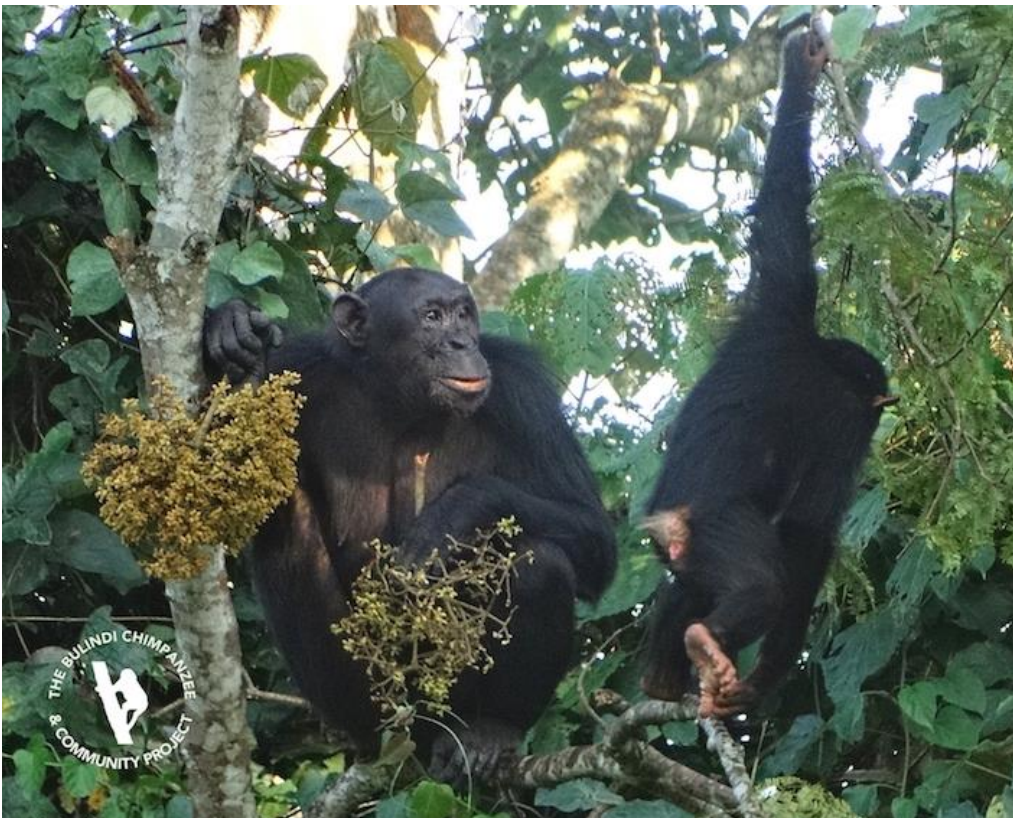
A woman and child collecting dirty water at an open collection point, Bujuura Village

Kiryangobe Area

10. Kyabasengya–West village, Kitoba subcounty.

The existing water source is a protected spring within a steep ravine where there is a small patch of forest remaining which is used regularly by the resident group of about 20 chimpanzees. More than 150 households will benefit from a well installed in the village trading centre, away from the forest.

“Community members are collecting water on risk because chimps are attacking them since the water source is in the middle of the forest where chimps spend most of their time” – Letter from Kyabasengya-West village.



A mother chimpanzee with her offspring in Kyabasengya Village

11. Kyabasengya–East village, Kitoba subcounty.

Two kilometres north of Kyabasengya-West, villagers in Kyabasengya-East village also collect water from a protected spring located within one of the last remaining forest patches in this region. As occurs wherever villagers collect water from inside forest patches, there are long-standing conflicts with chimpanzees at this water collection point. The owner of the forest patch personally escorts women and children to the spring when the chimpanzees are in his forest. There is an existing but broken borehole 150 m outside this forest patch. When BCCP raised the possibility of refurbishing this well as an alternative to constructing a more costly new one, nearby residents suggested this was a very good idea since people would be able to fetch water in peace without worrying about the presence of chimpanzees.

Broken borehole that could be rehabilitated in Kyabasengya-East village.



12. Kihamyia (Kiburwa West LC), Kitoba subcounty

In February 2019 residents of Kihamyia presented BCCP with a formal letter requesting support for a borehole in their village. They normally collect water inside a small forest patch where they frequently run into chimpanzees. About 100 households would benefit from a borehole away from the forest.



Water collection point at a forest stream in chimpanzee habitat, Kitoba subcounty

Sustainability

After construction, ownership of the wells is formally given over to the recipient communities. Prior to installation, water user committees (WUCs) are elected in each village, comprising 7–8 members with specific roles including chairperson, vice-chairperson, treasurer, care-taker and so on, with an even mix of women and men. All user households are required to make a small contribution annually towards maintenance and repairs, including a contribution *before* construction starts. Before wells are operational, training sessions will be held with WUCs to include recommendations for committee organization and function; best practice guidelines for use, management and maintenance of the wells (including repairs); and advice on related health and sanitation issues. The WUCs will be responsible for ensuring sustainable long-term management of the wells, and for disseminating information provided during training to their wider communities. However, BCCP is a long-term initiative and is on hand to assist the communities, as and when needed.

Provision of village boreholes away from the forest helps to shift the relationship between villagers and chimpanzees in Hoima away from conflict towards more peaceful coexistence.



Appendix: Examples of formal letters from villages requesting support

KIRARA - LCI
 Kibumba Parish
 K/1004 - Hoima
 05/12/2017

KIRARA LCI
BULINDI PARISH

TO: THE BULINDI CHIMPANZEE AND COMMUNITY PROJECT
 P.O. BOX 149
 HOIMA

Dear Sir, RE: REQUEST OF ABOLITION FOR THE COMMUNITY OF KIRARA LCI

We have by requesting to children for the Community of Kirara LCI Bulindi Parish, Kibumba Parish, Hoima District, who have along distance to move going to collect water for about 30 mins away from their homes. So please we kindly request for a bore hole for that reason and here are the names of land holders attached. We shall be most grateful if we receive your.

Thank you

Jensina [Signature]
KIRARA LCI
BULINDI PARISH
 MUSEMBEZE, DAVID
 Chairperson LCI KIRARA
 - 0775165206
 - 0756271503

THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

KATIKARA LOCAL COUNCIL
 BULINDI PARISH, KYABIGAMBIRE SUB COUNTY
 HOIMA

Tel: 0775 486603

GENERAL MEETING DATE: 17/11/2018

Agenda
 Prayer
 Speech from the chair person
 Resolutions
 Closure

min I prayer was led by Kyalyenza Judith who dedicated the meeting to the almighty God.

min II The chair person began by welcoming the members present and thanked them for keeping time. He continued by showing the members the main purpose of the meeting which is to alert members in our LC that we have chimpanzee around. He also advised the community to always take care in the following aspects e.g when fetching water, going to the gardens etc and also taking care of their children for safety purposes. He also talked of un-clean water in our village and that we should find ways of solving this problem. Though we have un-clean water, they also get scared by the chimpanzee which are around these wells and at times children don't go to fetch water. He concluded by encouraging members to always take care of their children against chimpanzee and to give report about

REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

BUJUURA I CELL
 BUJUURA WARD
 BUJUMBURA DIVISION
 P.O. BOX 149
 HOIMA MUNICIPALITY COUNCIL

Date: 29/11/2019...

The Director Bulindi chimpanzee and community project Hoima.

Dear Sir,
 RE: REQUEST FOR A BOREHOLE

On behalf of the residents of Bujura I cell in Bujura Ward I take the opportunity to write to you requesting for assistance in form of a borehole in our area. We have about 150 house holds and over 200 people are suffering because of lack of clean water in our area. The residents travel long distances to collect water and this is usually done by women and children and some times men when situations get worse. The water sources that are near by have very bad water and we share it with animals, putting our life at risk of getting so many diseases. Therefore the purpose of this letter after sitting with the residents of the area - resolved to write to you requesting for your intervention since our community has been friendly to the chimpanzee that stays in our area other wise our community stays harmony with them. The community will be very grateful if our request is put into reality.

Thanking you in advance.
 Yours in Solidarity
 BUSOBOZI NETHEMUNAH. 0773334133.
 (Person Bujura I cell.

CHAIRMAN BUJUURA I CELL
 BUJUMBURA DIVISION
 HOIMA MUNICIPALITY
 DATE: 29-11-2019

KANYAN-YAMA LCI,
 BUDAKA PARISH,
 KIIOBA SI COUNTY,
 HOIMA MUNICIPALITY COUNCIL,
 HOIMA

THE DIRECTOR BULINDI,
 CHIMPANZEE AND,
 COMMUNITY PROJECT.

Dear Sir,

RE: APPLICATION FOR A BOREHOLE

We humbly request your office to give us a borehole. As a community, we are facing many challenges when struggling to get safe water. These include:-

- Long distances to the water sources
- Interference by chimpanzee when going for water.
- Congestions at the safe water sources.
- Sharing water with animals such as monkey, baboons, pigs and many others.
- Water Contamination by mblases
- Bad water sources conditions.
- Lack of funds to construct safe water sources.

NB: This water source is expected to be benefited by over 200 people from 150 house holds.