

*My Hometown has Khau Ca Mountain
Nobody knew who has given the name for this mountain for thousands of years
Here there is high green mountains
Nobody knew Tonkin Snub-nosed Monkeys lived here in Khau Ca
That's Voọc Mũi Hếch,
A unique animal in Khau Ca
What lovely monkeys!
They had inhabited here in this peaceful land
My dear, can you hear choruses
In the song of my hometown?
Forever sing HOPE song, only for my fatherland
To keep green color for a beautiful nature picture
What lovely people!
Together we can keep Khau Ca forest
My darling, can you hear?
The song of my hometown
still sends beloved to everyone*

*Monkey Day Song
by Ms. Hong Hanh
Tung Ba Commune,
Ha Giang,
Vietnam*



Winter 2018 UPDATE

In 2017, New Nature Foundation continued its pursuit of conserving wild animals and wild places in Uganda and Vietnam. Thank you for this opportunity to share some of the work that has been accomplished thanks to the generous support of private donors and conservation organizations around the world.

Most of the projects that NNF undertakes are dependent on outside funding, because the populations targeted live in extreme poverty. While nothing is given away for free, villager's contributions are usually measured in personal commitment, changes in behavior or traded waste products rather than financial offerings. The impact of your grants and donations can be immediately seen, and NNF hopes that our international team of supporters will continue to appreciate the need for this work. Final numbers will be provided in the upcoming annual report, but some preliminary figures from 2017 that we are proud to share include:

- ✪ 255,825 biomass briquettes produced
- ✪ \$1,440 of briquettes sold
- ✪ Over 10,000 kgs of waste bartered for briquettes
- ✪ 368 Stoves built (221 in Uganda, 147 in Vietnam)
- ✪ 40,212 visits to Science Centers
- ✪ 32 Video Shows
- ✪ 11 Outreach workshops
- ✪ Over 50,000 people engaged in Uganda and over 7,000 in Vietnam, totaling over 58,000 individuals impacted by the work.

Thank you for making all this possible!

The New Nature Foundation is a 501c3 non-profit organization

To help, please mail a check to NNF at 227 S. 6th Street, Suite 5SE, Philadelphia, PA, 19106

NewNatureFoundation.org for safe & easy online donations with PayPal

A young chimpanzee with dark black fur and a reddish-brown face is the central focus. It is sitting in a lush green forest, with its right hand resting on its head. The background is filled with out-of-focus green foliage and a fallen log. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

Save the Date!

Earth Day, April 22nd

In the City of Brotherly Love

Philadelphia, PA

Food, Drinks & Fun for Nature

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Photo Courtesy of Mark Vibbert

Inaugural Monkey Day in Vietnam

November 5, 2017 -

Nearly 1,000 Vietnamese gathered for the first ever Monkey Day in Hong Minh Hamlet in Northern Vietnam. The festivities included traditional songs and dances to honor the Tonkin Snub-nosed Monkey, (one of the worlds 25 most critically endangered primates), written and performed by members of the communities who live near Khau Ca forest, home to nearly 125 of the remaining ~200. Hosted by New Nature Foundation and Denver Zoo, and modeled after NNF's conservation competitions in Uganda, the event brought together people from various tribes living in 14 hamlets around the forest, and connected the ongoing stove building and education programs with conservation of the monkey and its habitat. The goal was to showcase how conservation can actually help reduce the daily struggles of families, and this was achieved in several ways. Children and adults participated in many activities and games, including drawing a TSN Monkey, writing a promise to nature on the "dream tree," guessing games about the forest, making flora and fauna from recycled waste, enjoying food from efficient stoves, participating in the strong-person competition, and competing in the song, dance and drama showcase (poem on first page). Some of the dream tree entries included "I will save TSNMs and other animals. I will save the jungle," and "I will protect monkeys to make them more and more crowded. I will not cut down trees, to save the monkey!" This day exceeded all expectations and is just the beginning. The impacts of Monkey Day will hopefully be seen for years to come.



Home-grown Habitat

In 2006, when Uganda's first Community Science Center was coming into existence, a small group of dedicated volunteers helped to plant the museum's initial firewood crop. While most of these trees have long since been harvested (many of them multiple times), and some have succumbed to goats, insects or disease, the best of each species has been protected and kept as a source of seeds. How wonderful to return this past December to find one of them not only providing seeds to countless individuals now growing firewood at home, but also a home to local wildlife!

Black-headed weavers are an iconic species across sub-Saharan Africa, from Dakar in the West to Asmara in the East. They are typically found in areas near water with tall grass, which they use to weave elaborate nests at the tips of tree branches, keeping them safe from snakes and other predators. Males weave the nests and females spruce them up with soft linings once they move in. The growing flock at the Kyanyawara Science Center, serenading visitors and eco-char staff with their songs each morning and afternoon, serves as a wonderful example of how humans and wildlife can live in harmony.





8th Annual Conservation Competitions in Uganda

Around Kibale, events were held on four different days in various locations where NNF works. They focused on stove building, tree planting and bio-mass briquetting. This year's theme was climate change, which prompted some outstanding entries by local conservation clubs. (A poem from one of the four groups that competed in Kaswa, on Kibale's Northern edge, can be found on the next-to-last page of this UPDATE.) While no one solution was found to the problem of climate change, the groups addressed the negative impacts on landscapes, people and animals, and offered suggestions of crops that people can plant to be more prepared for a future of unpredictable weather. Nearly 2,500 attended the four days of competitions – the largest attendance, by far, to date!



NNF Wins Award

In September 2017, NNF was awarded a trophy by the Rwenzori Tourism Cluster in recognition of our conservation work!



Farewell Bashir

Bashir Musabe has worked for New Nature Foundation since 2006, in the Science Centers and as a stove ambassador. In late 2017, he was hired in the highly competitive field of chimpanzee research by the Kibale Chimpanzee Project. NNF is thrilled with his success, and he promises to continue returning to share his knowledge and experiences with those engaged in NNF activities. Here is one last interview with Bashir before he left:

Q: What is your favorite part of your job?

A: I really love teaching kids. They give me happiness when I teach them about nature and they are more willing to learn than older people.

Q: What is a funny thing that has happened during your tenure with NNF?

A: When I'm outside, some children chant my name as 'Bashir Kibale Science Center'.

Q: Why is Fort Portal such a special Science Center?

A: Because it is in the center of the city and we get people of different cultures, backgrounds, classes and levels of intellect. Fort Portal Science Center bridges the gap between people who know about nature and people who don't. We are an excellent meeting place for people and we can share our ideas on the heart of tourism being linked directly to conservation and the value of this.

Q: What are your hobbies?

A: Reading nature books, playing football and listening to country music. I really love Dolly Parton and Jim Reeves; my favorite song is 'I have a dream' by Abba.

Q: Where do you see yourself in 10 years?

A: I want to be known as a great conservationist. I currently have one son and would like another child, and I would still like to be living by Kibale as it is my home. I would also like to create my own habitat by planting many trees and allowing wildlife to live there. Most of all I want to inspire people to take care of nature.

Q: What will you miss most about NNF?

A: I will miss many things, especially showing people all of the artefacts we have and sharing many jokes with my workmate David [pictured with Bashir and trophy on previous page].

Thanks to Brett and Bex Evans, Conservation Education Outreach Managers, for conducting the interview



Center, ~2008, with Florence (current Community Liaison) and Sam (current Science Center Manager)



~2015, with Kyanyawara Science Center visitor



Hoang Van Tue – 2017 Disney Conservation Hero

NNF and Denver Zoo are honored to see our Vietnamese partner honored as a Disney Conservation Hero. As the Conservation Director of the Ha Giang Forest Protection Department, Mr. Tue has been integral to local acceptance of the project. He ensures that we receive the support of key local stakeholders and even joins us for events and meetings whenever he feels it will be helpful.

Here is what Disney had to say about our friend and colleague Mr. Tue:

“Mr. Tue has been at the forefront of population recovery of the Tonkin Snub-nosed Monkey in the rugged mountains of northeastern Vietnam. Under his leadership, the endangered primate’s population in Khu Ca increased by 100 percent, reflecting the positive result of many hours of challenging fieldwork and community outreach. With his kind manner and collegial approach, Mr. Tue provided technical training and mentorship to community teams and rangers, coordinated stakeholders into a productive team, and implemented local projects to support biodiversity conservation. His dedicated team is recording ever-increasing numbers of monkeys and there has been no recorded hunting in the Khu Ca region for several years. Without Mr. Tue’s constant motivation, dedication and uncommon ability to bring people together over the past 15 years, the improved outlook for these monkeys would not have been possible.”

Thank you, and congratulations Mr. Tue!

Photo from thewaltdisneycompany.com

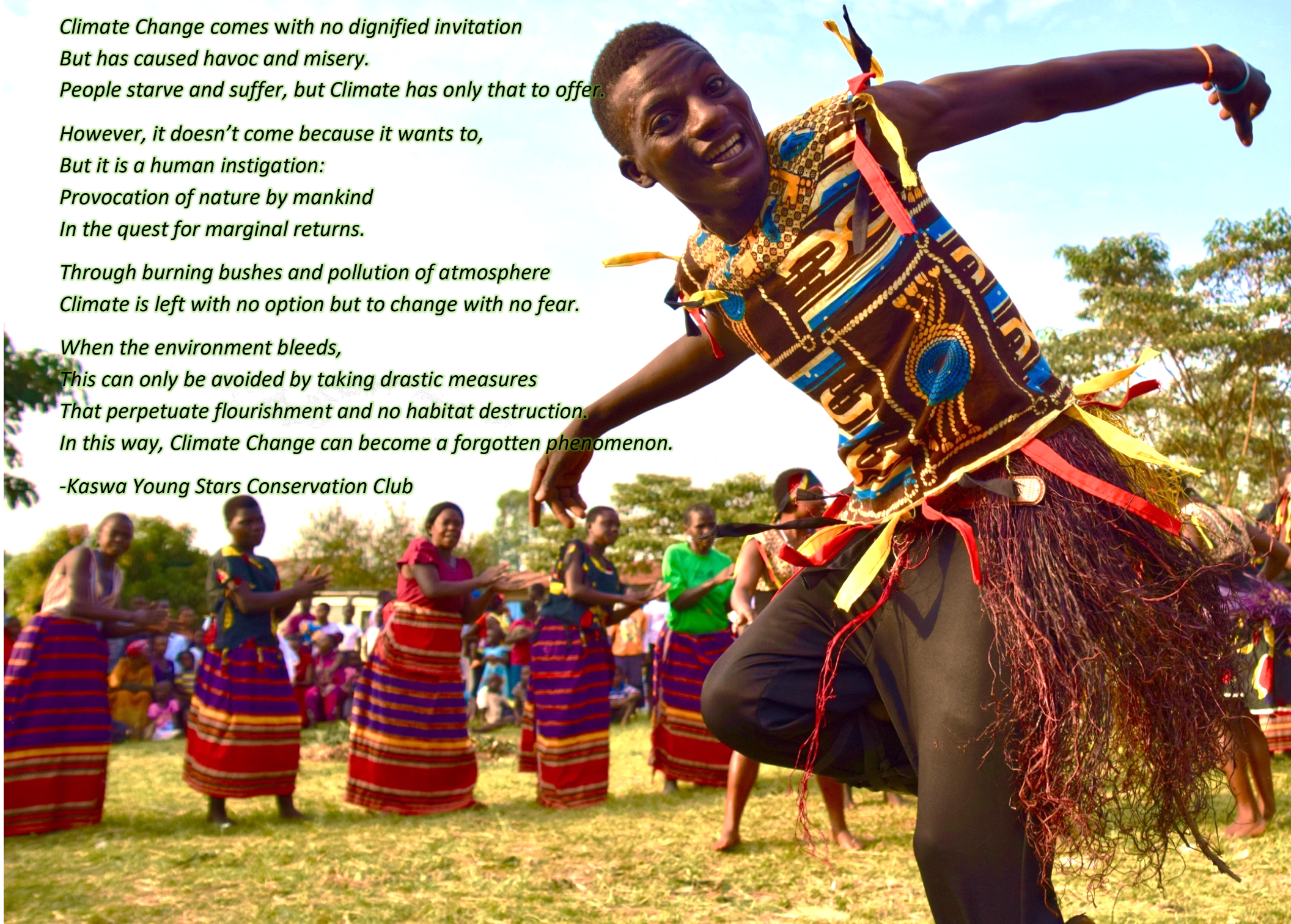
*Climate Change comes with no dignified invitation
But has caused havoc and misery.
People starve and suffer, but Climate has only that to offer.*

*However, it doesn't come because it wants to,
But it is a human instigation:
Provocation of nature by mankind
In the quest for marginal returns.*

*Through burning bushes and pollution of atmosphere
Climate is left with no option but to change with no fear.*

*When the environment bleeds,
This can only be avoided by taking drastic measures
That perpetuate flourishing and no habitat destruction.
In this way, Climate Change can become a forgotten phenomenon.*

-Kaswa Young Stars Conservation Club





Thank You!

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And many private donors

Please share this UPDATE with your friends, and consider donating to keep the projects going!
Your support helps people and wildlife. Thank you!

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