



2023 Impact Report

Welcome

As we close the program's 18th year, we want to thank all of you who make this possible. Since project inception in 2006, you have helped NNF to:

- Assist in building **6,924** efficient stoves, saving at least **139 million** pounds of wood so far
- Produce over **4.4 million** biomass briquettes
- Connect with over **610,000** individuals living around wild areas

We hope you enjoy reading this report as much as we love doing the work, and that it inspires you to continue supporting people and wildlife living in harmony.

Thank you!

Rebecca & Michael



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Conservation through Efficiency

Stoves & Briquettes

NNF's stoves saved over 14 million pounds of wood in Uganda & Vietnam in 2023. Thanks to the efforts of our community partners, trees which would have been cut from wildlife habitat are now preserved. Countless animals and people are coexisting and benefiting thanks to this simple, affordable and easily replicable technology.

Kasenyi

Firewood demands for people living within Queen Elizabeth National Park are becoming more challenging as human populations grow, resulting in increasing human-wildlife conflict. NNF's stoves use 30-50% less wood than traditional three-stone fires, ensuring that the ecosystem stays healthy enough to support the fishing and salt centered economy and scores of savannah wildlife like lions, antelope and elephants.



Photo: Christine Simkins

Kibale

The adoption and adaptation of efficient stoves in villages surrounding Kibale National Park (ongoing since 2006) greatly reduces encroachment for firewood and human-wildlife conflicts, thereby supporting a healthier environment for all. The latest census showed approximately 40% of households in five target areas around the park are using efficient stoves.



Khau Ca

42% of families surveyed this year were using efficient stoves. Khau Ca and other forests in Ha Giang province are now better protected thanks to conserving firewood. The community members benefit significantly from the stove's efficiency and the biodiversity of the forest benefits from the decreased pressure on its resources. This kind of win-win for wildlife and people is at the heart of all of NNF's programs.



Stoves



75
new stoves in
Kasenyi in 2023

155
built since 2022,
97%
of which are well
maintained and
used daily





684

new stoves around
Kibale in 2023

5,384

built with NNF help
since 2006

at least

6.7 million

pounds of wood saved
by Kasenyi & Kibale
stoves in 2023



185

new stoves around
Khau Ca in 2023

1,385

built with NNF help
since 2014

at least

7.3 million

pounds of wood
saved by Khau Ca
stoves in 2023



Briquettes

NNF's briquettes reduce the environmental impacts of cooking, empower people and support the Ugandan government's growing position against natural charcoal production. Our briquette programs provide sustainable cooking fuel to communities drastically in need of a solution while safeguarding wildlife habitat.

Non-carbonized

Non-carbonized briquettes can replace firewood and are bartered for the waste materials used to make them. In June 2023, NNF transitioned management of this initiative to a Ugandan women's co-operative. Collectively, they are now ensuring that their families and neighbors can cook without cutting trees (especially appreciated during rainy season). NNF staff are now available to produce more carbonized briquettes.

Handover to local leadership is a difficult goal in modern conservation and we are very proud of this accomplishment.

Carbonized

NNF's eco-char offers an alternative to charcoal made from trees. Briquettes are carbon neutral, cost less and last longer than natural charcoal, and continue to gain popularity. Even with increased production, the inventory sells out almost as soon as it is delivered.



Photo: Sam Chevallier

Invasives

Invasive plants (mostly *Acanthus* and *Lantana* species) have overtaken ~200 square kilometers of endangered species habitat in Kibale. Collaborating with scientists, the Uganda Wildlife Authority and local experts, a sustainable methodology to convert invasives into eco-char is being designed. Ultimately, the result will increase habitat and reduce demand for cooking fuel (the primary threat to Kibale) while creating more jobs for people around the park.



Photo: Sam Chevallier

846,934
eco-char
briquettes made
(30% more than
last year)

62
new customers
in 2023
over
\$2,000
in sales





109,277

Non-carbonized
briquettes produced
in 2023

24

women participating
in the new co-op

57,651

pounds of waste
traded for briquettes

60

test plots of *Acanthus* and
Lantana cleared by our
partners in Kibale

Initial regeneration of
80+ trees in some of
the plots

Some tree species have
increased from ~2 to
over 100 during 12
months of monitoring



Action through Empowerment

Education



Education



NNF's outreach education campaigns promote community investment in conservation action by celebrating a love of nature.

Experiences

At workshops and nature walks, community members discover the natural world and discuss how minor adjustments can make life easier for both people and animals.

Staff traveled to Murchison Falls National Park for their annual retreat.



Photo: Sam Chevallier

Science Centers

The first of their kind in Uganda, the five Kibale Science Centers continue to draw large crowds weekly. Still the only places for people of all ages, genders and tribes to gather together to study and enjoy the region's biological and cultural heritage, the museums' collections preserve natural history and present it to modern Ugandan society.



Photo: Le Khac Quyen

Competitions

Everyone is welcome to celebrate the environment at these yearly events. Participants teach one another through modern adaptations of traditional knowledge. The entire community connects, is inspired and becomes a part of conservation action.



530 attendees at **13**
stove workshops in
Uganda in 2023

120 attendees at **5**
earth day celebrations

472 attendees at **104**
nature walks





Lion Entale
Lions are the most social species
Cats. They form units called prides,
Consisting of adult females that
Share a home range with their young
and up to three adult males.

Where are Lions found?
Entale nizishanqwa nkahi?
Lions are found in open savannah,
and desert areas of Africa south
the Sahara. A small population also
exists in the Gir Forest National Park
North West India.

Key Facts/Amaz
live in family groups K
in which duties are
lions can hunt
more than
at catching

51,947

attendees at the **5** Kibale
Science Centers in 2023
(our first time past 50,000
since the pandemic and
40% higher than last
year!)



3,550 attendees from 29 villages
at 5 competitions in Uganda in 2023

2,000 attendees from 37
hamlets at 2 competitions in Vietnam

2,200 online engagements from
9 countries for virtual Monkey Day in



Insights through Investment

*Awards, Publicity,
Professional Development & Partnerships*



Recognition



Publicity

- Award winning broadcaster and publisher Lucy Noland and renowned environmental documentarians Nick and Sam Chevallier visited the project to produce a number of short films to enhance global collaboration and replication. The films are now in post production, we look forward to sharing them soon.
- The second edition of Poetry for Kibale was published. Email us if you'd like a copy: info@newnaturefoundation.org.
- Student lectures for Cades School and Rutgers University.
- Luu Tuong Bach, Rebecca Goldstone and others published on the partnership's success in the [Vietnamese Journal of Primatology](#).
- Monkey Day activities were broadcast nationally on the governmental news station [VTV](#), regionally on the local affiliate [Ha Giang TV](#) and detailed in print by [Bao Ha Giang](#).
- NNF was mentioned on both [travelsafe-abroad.com](#) and [timeout.com](#) as a conservation partner of Philadelphia Zoo on two lists of the country's best zoos.
- Philadelphia Zoo also highlighted NNF in press about an [endangered langur birth](#) and [red tail monkeys](#).
- Cecily Tynan spoke about eco-char during her Zoo Weather segment on Philadelphia's [Channel 6 News](#).
- A partnership from more than ten years ago with Ugandan conservation organization [KAFRED](#) was highlighted as improving their programs.
- Student publication [Healthy News Works](#) featured NNF.

Awards

Margaret Kemigisa was lauded in front of a large home-town crowd for her efforts to empower her community: not only has she been the NNF project manager since the start of our programs, she also founded the Community Action Project which mobilizes women's groups to make positive changes in their lives and was the first female mayor of Kiko Parish.

Okwilo John was thanked for his decades of service to Kibale. From 1967-80 he was a field assistant to one of the first researchers in the region; 1980-93 he worked as a ranger for the Uganda Wildlife Authority, and; 1993-2021 he led the anti-snare patrol, helping keep Kibale's wildlife safe while training the next generation of Ugandan front-line conservationists.

Awards were presented to the budding environmentalists in Vietnam who created [these films](#).



Many of the individuals below have been a part of the NNF family since it's earliest beginnings, and we thank you for helping to make their dreams become reality. We look forward to continuing to share their achievements with the global community.

Margaret Kemigisa continues her pursuit of a degree in Public Administration and Management at Mountains of the Moon University in Fort Portal. Her courses in finance, staff management and transparency have already helped the project in numerous ways.

Also studying at Mountains of the Moon, former staff member **Musabe Bashil** is obtaining his baccalaureate in biology as the next step in his plan to become a wildlife veterinarian.

Keneth Kahuma was awarded an honorarium for an independent study with a local artist.

Bwambale Maymood founded the Sibukere Foundation to honor his father's vision of community activism. Through his partnership with NNF, Sibukere's activities in and around Kasenyi village in Queen Elizabeth National Park have helped countless animals and people.

Professional Development





Partnerships

Recognition and great appreciation to these partners for their achievements.

Khau Ca Education & Research

The Forest Appreciation Program works with primary schools to bring 2nd – 5th graders on field trips to natural areas as part of their environmental curriculum.

- Seven schools were included this year, with 456 participants who belong to Dao, H'Mông and Tày tribes and come from four communes around the forest.
- Conservation-themed calendars were distributed to 5,000 households.

Support of the Forest Protection Department in Khau Ca led to important conservation research and action in 2023:

- 74 patrols monitored monkeys and illegal activity; only ten illegal occurrences were noted, leading to four confiscations and one arrest.
- Two additional confiscations involved live animals being repatriated to the forest: a trio of lorises and a leopard cat.
- Cardamom cultivation was noted in 2022; patrols and reports to authorities in 2023 led to a decrease in the practice, with no new cultivation noted in the last quarter of the year. Patrols will repeat intermittently to continue dissuading the practice.
- Camera trap deployment continued, with 25 species noted. Unusual behaviors continue to be captured, including potentially the first known nocturnal feeding activity by Tonkin snub-nosed monkeys. Enjoy some fun camera trap videos [here](#).



Photo: Patrick Omeja

Kibale Clinics

NNF continues to assist as the Kibale Clinic's US non-profit fiscal sponsor. In 2023:

- 1,677 cases were treated.
- 4,328 people were vaccinated against yellow fever, including pupils in seven primary schools and ten nursery schools.
- 2,437 children were vaccinated for polio.
- 3,248 children were treated with de-wormers.
- 87 health workers were vaccinated against Ebola Zaire.
- 240 homes were visited for sanitation, hygiene, and patient follow ups.
- 22 schools were visited for health talks covering topics like personal hygiene, reproductive health, environmental health, food hygiene, balanced diet, domestic and child violence & home accidents.

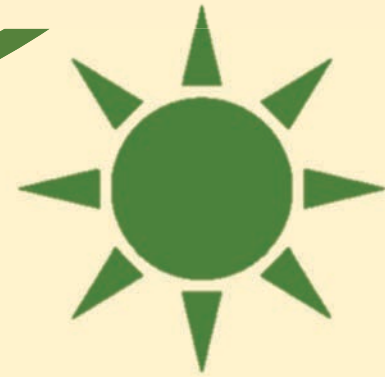


Photos: Luu Tuong Bach



Future Plans

Exciting new things are planned for 2024 and beyond! Your ongoing support is needed to ensure the work continues to evolve in useful ways.



In Uganda

NNF's Queen Elizabeth National Park programming will expand to Hamukungu Village in 2024, another of the 11 fishing villages within the park's boundaries, and the work in Kasenyi will grow to include the first Science Center outside of the Kibale area: the Kasenyi Lion Learning Center.

The woman's co-op that is now producing non-carbonized briquettes will continue to be supported by NNF in various ways as they start their first full year of self-management.

A new production center for carbonized briquettes is planned, which will be closer to Kibale and large enough to grow as the project begins to include invasive plants from the park in the briquettes.

In Vietnam

As the transition to local leadership of the project continues, Luu Tuong Bach was promoted to Managing Director, responsible for the overall operations and providing strategic insight and direction.





Achievement through Support

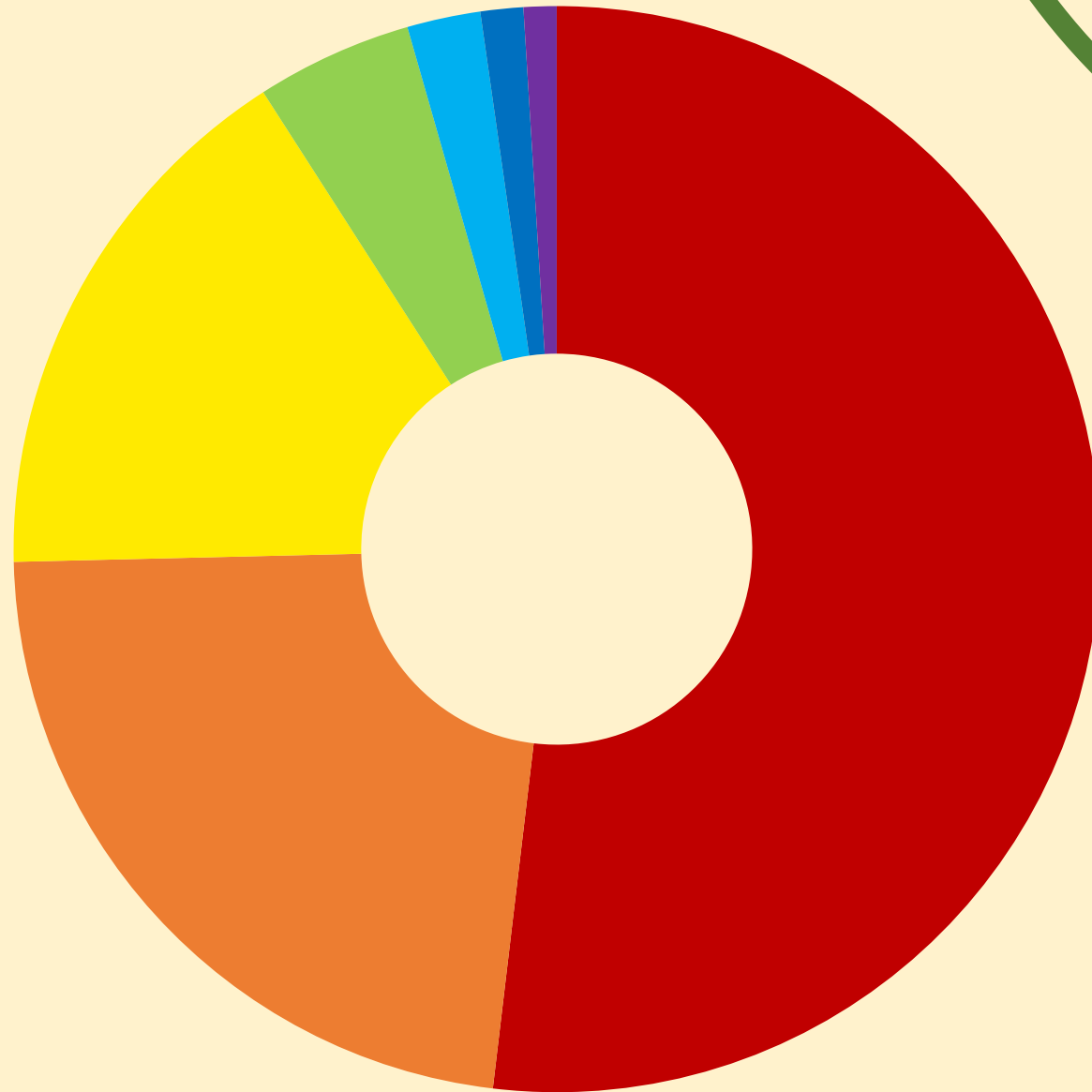
Finances & Thanks

Income: \$214,915

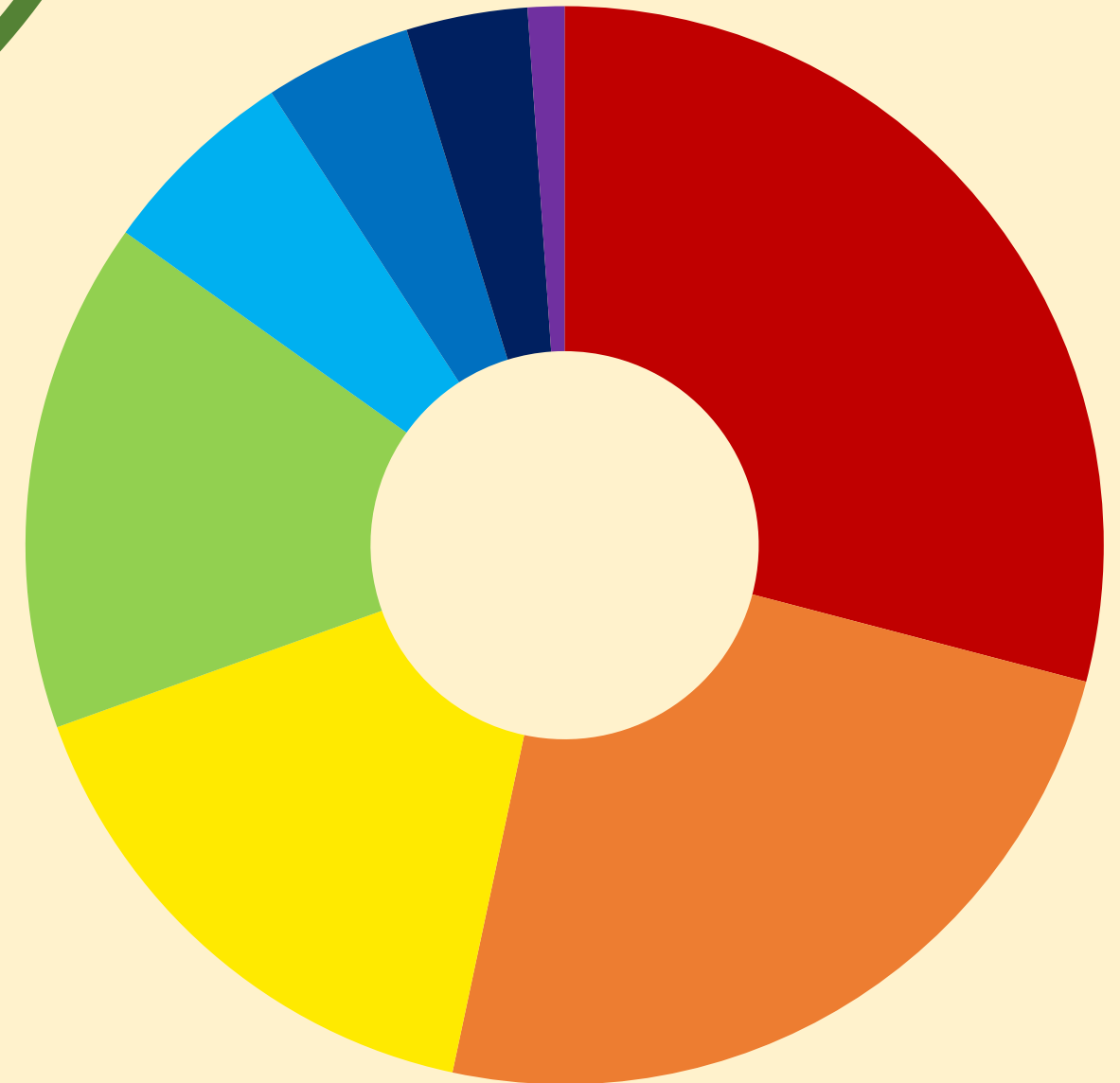


Finances

Expenses: \$214,423

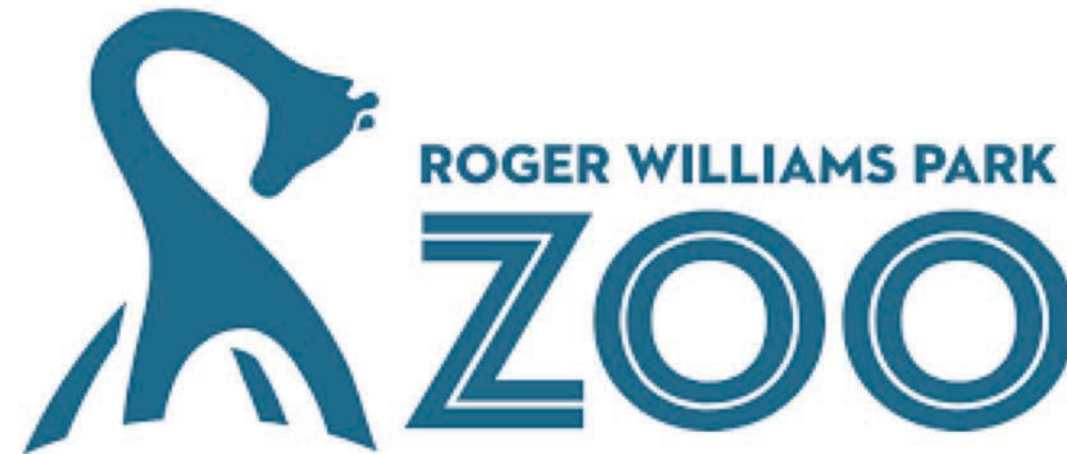


- Institutional Donors = \$111,490
- Private Donors = \$48,895
- Institutional Donors (film) = \$35,000
- Institutional Donors (clinics) = \$10,000
- Interest = \$4,694
- Craft sales = \$2,732
- Briquettes & other in-situ = \$2,103



- UG Salaries & Medical = \$62,346
- UG Programs = \$52,019
- VN Salaries & Medical* = \$34,700
- Film = \$32,880
- International Travel = \$12,859
- Clinic = \$9,470
- Fundraising, Office & Overhead = \$7,790
- VN Programs* = \$2,357

*The majority of Vietnam programming was funded by grants through Denver Zoo, only NNF expenses are reflected here.



To all of NNF's generous individual & institutional donors
who make this work possible:

Webale muno! Xin cảm ơn! Thank you very much!











In Kibale National Park, where nature weaves its vibrant air
Chimpanzees swing high on the trees, their playful antics sure to please

The chimpanzee wise and old, with stories of secrets yet untold
Leads his troop through leafy trails, in the forest, he forever prevails

Monkeys frolic, their laughter rings, from treetop heights they gracefully swing
Their nimble acrobatics fill the air, as if performing a dance beyond compare

Baboons with their colorful behinds, gather in troops in joy they find
Playing and grooming their social ties, in Kibale their haven lies

Majestic elephants, gentle yet strong, in herds they roam where they belong
A sight to behold with grace they roam, in this sanctuary they call their home

Kibale National Park, a treasure untold, where wildlife and wildness unfold
With chimpanzee, monkeys and herds so grand, in this haven of beauty forever stands

by Victor Tugume

