

Limbe

Wildlife Centre

CAMEROON

JUL 2020

AFRICAN GREY PARROTS

Releasing the first 29 parrots back into the wild!

COVID-19

\$5,000/month urgently needed

MINISTRY OF FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE

The Regional Delegate for South-West region champions the African grey parrot release programme

www.limbewildlife.org



Limbe Wildlife Centre: July 2020

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Limbe Wildlife Centre, P.O. Box 878, Limbe, Republic of Cameroon



Limbe Wildlife Centre is a collaborative effort between the Pandrillus Foundation and the Republic of Cameroon, Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife, MINFOF



Pandrillus Foundation is a non-profit making NGO specialized in the protection, rehabilitation and reintroduction of primates, as well as management and sustainable financing of conservation projects in Africa



Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife is in charge of implementing the national forest policy for ensuring sustainable management and conservation of wildlife and biodiversity over the national territory as enacted by forestry law No. 01/94 of 20 July which regulates all forestry, wildlife and fisheries activities



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[ALL OUR REPORTS ARE AVAILABLE](#)

Accreditations & Awards



View of Bioko Island from Limbe Downbeach



In December 2018, the Limbe Wildlife Centre has had its **accreditation** with the **Pan African Sanctuary Alliance (PASA)** renewed for another five years. PASA is the largest association of wildlife centres and sanctuaries in Africa, founded by the Limbe Wildlife Centre, along with 6 other primate sanctuaries. Today, PASA includes 23 organizations in 13 countries which demonstrate exceptional commitment and the **highest standards of animal welfare** and **conservation practices**, to securing a future for Africa's primates and their habitat.



In July 2018, the Limbe Wildlife Centre was voted **Best Volunteer Abroad Project** and chosen to feature in the **Tutorful's Wildlife Conservation** editorial along with other prestigious organisations **making a notable difference in wildlife conservation worldwide**. The LWC gives people the chance to volunteer and assist experienced caregivers with the daily caregiving activities, offering the opportunity for volunteers to the experience of making a meaningful contribution to primate conservation (and all the satisfaction this provides).



In August 2019, the Limbe Wildlife Centre received a **2019 Clark R. Bavin Wildlife Law Enforcement Award** at the **Conference of the Parties** of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (**CITES**) in Geneva, Switzerland, in recognition of the remarkable efforts the LWC has made to help combat wildlife crime.

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The 29 African grey parrots transferred to the soft-release aviary

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY | PROJECT MANAGER

Inaugurating the national rescue, rehabilitation and release programme (N3RP) for the endangered African grey parrots

Dear Friends and Supporters,

We are extremely proud and happy with our achievements this month. After more than 10 months of hard work at the Limbe Wildlife Centre, we have made a great step to further bridge the gap between animal welfare and conservation actions by inaugurating the first soft-release of endangered African grey parrot in Cameroon's history. After 2 weeks in the soft-release aviary, the first flock of endangered African Grey parrots, all rescued and confiscated by authorities and LWC throughout 2019, was released. The 29 strongest African grey parrots were thoroughly selected to form this first flock (p. 12, 14, 15 & 16).

The LWC still has more than 200 African grey parrots in rehabilitation, of which at least 150 are ready to be released. The next step will be to replicate the soft-release within protected areas across the national territory.

With this milestone, the MINFOF and Pandrillus Cameroon are launching the national rescue, rehabilitation and release programme (N3RP). The Regional delegate and two Conservator of Protected Areas were invited to visit our facilities and learn about our methodology and challenges by meeting with our team (p. 10-11).

Many individual donors throughout the world donated to help us achieve that goal. We are



also especially thankful to Parrot Wildlife Foundation, International Fund for Animal Welfare, Los Angeles Zoo, Pro Wildlife, Born Free Foundation, Givskud Zoo, Vogel Park Marlow-ZGAP, LUSH UK, the Programme for Sustainable Management of Natural Resources and many others. We hope to get more support to keep our programme going, especially during the pandemic that has greatly impacted on our finance. Nevertheless, such success on this time is very refreshing.

Later on, we will equip parrots with GPS tracking to improve our knowledge of the species' ecology, allowing us to prioritize conservation actions. We also aim to raise the necessary fund to conduct a much-needed mass education campaign along the N3RP to inform, inspire and engage Cameroonians to support and steward the programme.

More importantly, it is the dedication of the team members that enabled us to develop and implement a national management plan to safeguard the victims of the trade and to follow the recommendation of the CITES and IUCN. This programme is a tool that must serve to further our efforts combatting wildlife crimes in Cameroon.

We hope to develop further partnerships with different protected areas. If we can replicate this methodology, developing conservation education programmes and engaging the public and private sectors, we could make significant progress to unify and strengthen conservation efforts at a national level.

Although the African grey parrot, 2020 flag species for the LWC, required most of our attention, the rest of the team remained very busy. The construction team successfully maintained several animal infrastructures and the composting area was protected to enhance the process (p. 17-19). Ultimately, our goal is to promoting community organic farming to reduce encroachment, preserve soil and water quality, improve food security and mitigate climate change in the Mount Cameroon. The next step will be to develop an aerated static pile system to accelerate the composting and process a larger volume of organic waste, develop tree nursing and plant the LWC's farm.

Despite these great and encouraging successes, we are unfortunately still facing a very difficult financial situation as a result of the loss of funds subsequently to the COVID-19 pandemic and associated economic crisis. We still need to secure a minimum of USD 5,000 per month to help continue with our day-to-day care to the animals, support our staff and the local community, and keep on with our most exciting project (p. 7 & 9).

In August, we will inaugurate our Art4Nature programme, which will start with the unveiling of 4 billboards created by Toh Bright in Limbe (p. 7, 20-21). That will only be the first step of many projects being currently developed, including videos, podcasts, and visuals!

Stay safe and healthy,

Thank you for your unfailing support

Our priority financial needs



1. Help us protect our rescued animals during COVID-19!

We must boost the immunity of 15 critically endangered gorillas, 43 endangered chimps, and 75 endangered Drills and upgrade biosecurity measures vs. COVID-19.

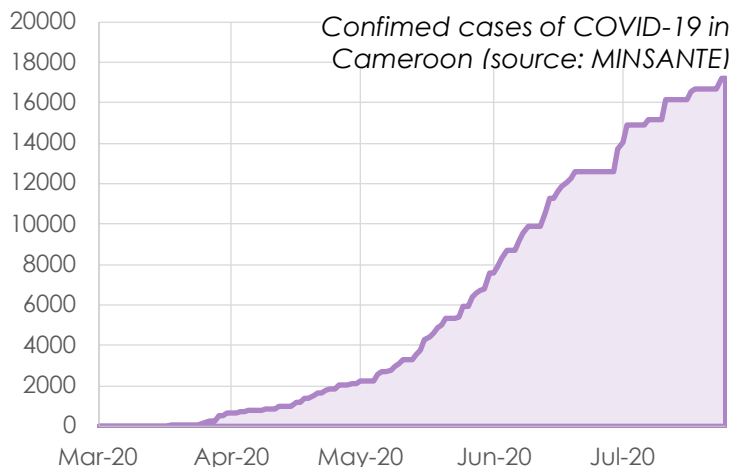
COVID-19 updates in Cameroon

The number of confirmed cases exceeds **17,000**, with more than 1,000 occurring within the past 2 weeks. Limbe has become a hotspot.

Help us protect our primate!

Donate on **Paypal** or on our

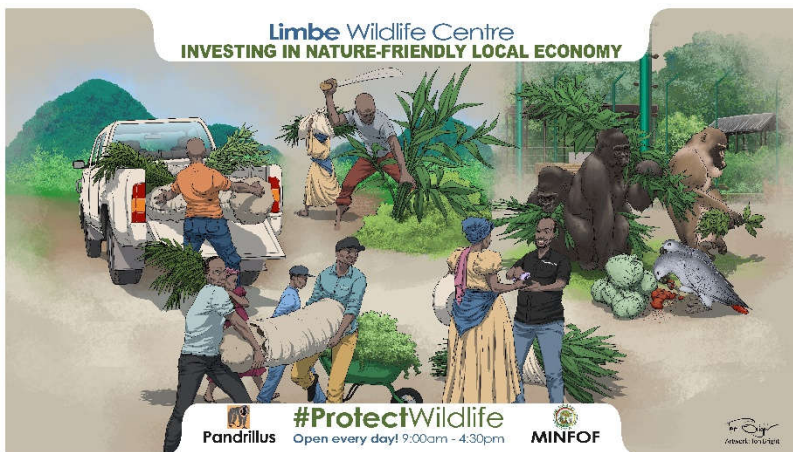
GoFundMe Fundraising campaigns



2. Help us free 100 parrots back to the wild!

We are leading the National rehabilitation and release programme for the endangered African grey parrot.

The 29 first individuals have been released!



3. Sponsor 1 of the 4 large-sized artistic creations!

Art-4-Nature is a concept developed by **Toh Bright** and the LWC to inspire people to protect nature.

Contact info@limbewildlife.org to know more




July 2020 Highlights

A large gorilla is the central focus of the image, sitting upright in a dense, green forest. The gorilla has dark, shaggy fur and a prominent silver back. It is looking slightly to the right of the frame. The background is filled with various types of green leaves and branches, creating a vibrant, natural setting.

- ❑ **Launched the National Programme for the rescue, rehabilitation and release of African grey parrots in Cameroon with the MINFOF Regional delegate for South West Region and several conservators**
- ❑ **Designated the 3 best workers of the Limbe Wildlife Centre for the 2nd Quarter 2020**
- ❑ **Released the first flock of 29 African grey parrots in the Limbe Botanical Garden following soft-release methodology**
- ❑ **Installed the first soft-release aviary for the African grey parrots in the Limbe Botanical Garden**
- ❑ **Completed maintenance of the Drill enclosure fence**
- ❑ **Completed maintenance of the Mandrill satellite cage**
- ❑ **New project: Promoting and supporting eco-friendly traditional expertise as a community green business initiative**
- ❑ **Media coverage: 1 local report made**

Emergency Action Plan vs. COVID-19

EACH MONTH, WE SELECT A FEW KEY MEASURES IMPLEMENTED TO SAFEGUARD THE LWC AND PURSUE OUR CONSERVATION EFFORTS

| # | ACTIONS | OBJECTIVES | MEASURES | |
|-------|---------------------------------------|---|---|---|
| A.1.2 | PROTECTION & SANITATION | Upgrade all sanitary protocols | Control staff members temperature every morning |  |
| A.2.2 | SECURING ANIMAL CARE STANDARDS | Maintain daily operations and animal care standards | Maintain hygiene procedures within animal sections |  |
| A.3.2 | SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES | Sustain our support to the local community | Provide logistical, in-kind, and food supports to the most vulnerable community members |  |



Achievements July 2020 & Objectives August 2020

1. Pandrillus-GoC Partnership & Public Relations

Funders



□ Received the MINFOF Regional Delegate for South-West Region, the 2 Conservators of the Douala-Edea National Park and Lake Ossa Wildlife Reserve to attend the first soft-release of endangered African grey parrot and launching of the National Programme for the rescue, rehabilitation and release of African grey parrots in Cameroon (Images 1-2)

□ Designated the 3 best workers of the Limbe Wildlife centre for the 2nd Quarter 2020 (Image 3):

1st best worker: TANA OSSOMBA Materne Thierry, Vet nurse and responsible for the primate enrichment: for his willingness and ability to learn and take more responsibility in the project

2nd best worker: ALIGUENA NGONO Pierre Emmanuel, animal care staff, assistant to the African grey parrot rehabilitation manager: for his engagement, seriousness and quick progression

3rd best worker: SOKOUDJOU TAKOUGOUM Cydrienne Yvette, Administration assistant: for her adaptability, learning capacities and reliability



Image 1. The recently appointed regional delegate of the Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife for the South-West Region visited the Limbe Wildlife centre and appreciated all the significant improvement made in the past months



Image 2. The Regional Delegate and the Conservators of the Douala-Edea National Park and the Lake Ossa Wildlife Reserve visited the Limbe Wildlife Centre and Limbe Botanical Garden. They were presented the rescue, rehabilitation and release programme. Further discussion to replicate in their protected areas were made.



Image 3. The 3 best workers of the 2nd Quarter 2020 are young, motivated and adaptable. From the left to the right: ALIGUENA NGONO Pierre Emmanuel, SOKOUDJOU TAKOUGOUM Cydrienne Yvette and TANA OSSOMBA Materne Thierry.

August 2020 objectives:

- Validate internal rules and regulations (pending)
- Review the proposal of the national strategy to rehabilitate and release the African grey parrots



2. Population management & Animal welfare

Funders



Ongoing activities

- Maintained frequency and diversity of enrichments in each section (**Images 4-6**)

Specific activities

- **Tantalus monkey:** Introduced adult female Malabar to adult male Malende
- **Vet cares** (July 2020):
 - 76 Primate individuals treated; 8 anaesthesia performed; 12 individual sampled (8 blood samples for haematology analysis, 12 faecal samples for coprology analysis); 2 contraceptions; 0 identification with a microchip; 2 major surgeries; 131 drug therapies (of which 49% to treat 4 individuals with resistant bacteria abscessation): 63% dietary supplements, 23% antibiotics, 12% painkillers and anti-inflammatories, 1% arthritis supplements, 1% others; 0 health checks; 0 death (**Image 7**)
 - **African grey parrots:** 32 health checks before release; 29 transferrals to the soft-release aviary, 1 transferral to the rehabilitation aviary; 2 individuals received intensive care treatment with 3rd generation antibiotic treatment and special diet; 1 death (**Images 8-11**)



Image 4. Peanut butter on bread is a rich source of carbohydrate, fat and protein for the primates and essential to boost their body condition, immunity and provide treatment when required.



Image 5. Male chimpanzee Nanga, like all of the other 199 primates, receives peanut butter on bread once a week.



Image 6. Patas monkey Frida feeding on peanut butter and bread as a protein-rich enrichment.

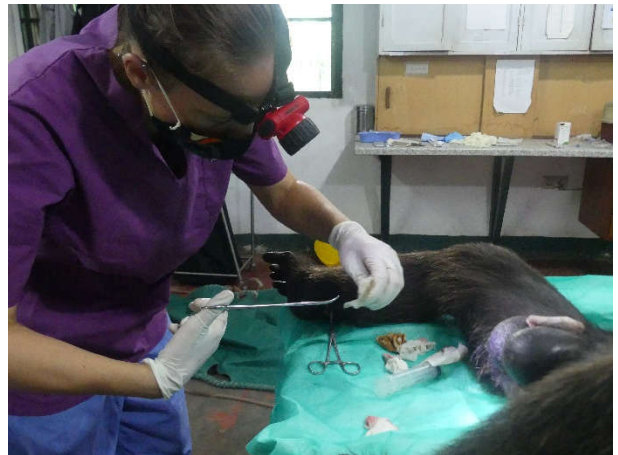


Image 7. Mechanical removal of a pocket of pus-forming antibiotic-resistant bacteria in chimpanzee Ntui.



Image 8. During the health check, the feather and body condition indices were checked and the African grey parrots able to integrate the soft release aviary were dewormed before release.



Image 9. Deworming with praziquantel placed in the crop of each selected African grey parrot before transfer to soft-release aviary.



Image 10. Upon arrival, this African grey parrot (CAM 264) was suffering from a fungal infection that rapidly worsens. Special treatment included topical fungicide, was force-fed until it could feed on its own and was kept in a quiet and safe place.



Image 11. After several months of day-to-day care, the beak was entirely healed and almost fully recovered. The health check (smaller pic) was made before transferral to the large rehabilitation aviary, where CAM 264 is now flying and preparing to be released.

August 2020 objectives:

- Continue with the ongoing activities
- **African grey parrots:** Continue to provide special care for the last individuals with difficulties improving their body conditions
- **Vet cares:** 3rd quarantine health check: **Drill** (Mbigou, juvenile male); General health checks: **African grey parrots (30)**; Contraception: **Drills (5)**



3. Wildlife rescue, rehabilitation and release programme

Funders



Arrival & quarantine

- None

Behavioural rehabilitation

- None

Social rehabilitation

- African grey parrot:** Continued to maintain the care and enrichment to the 210 African grey parrots in the large aviary before releasing them back to the wild
- African grey parrot:** Continued the socialisation of one humanized African grey parrot
- Drill:** Continued the social rehabilitation of the juvenile male Drill Mbigou with adult female Jafita (**Image 12**)

Release (ecological & environmental rehabilitation)

- Transferred 29 individuals from the large rehabilitation aviary to the soft-release site in the Limbe Botanical Garden (Images 13-17)**

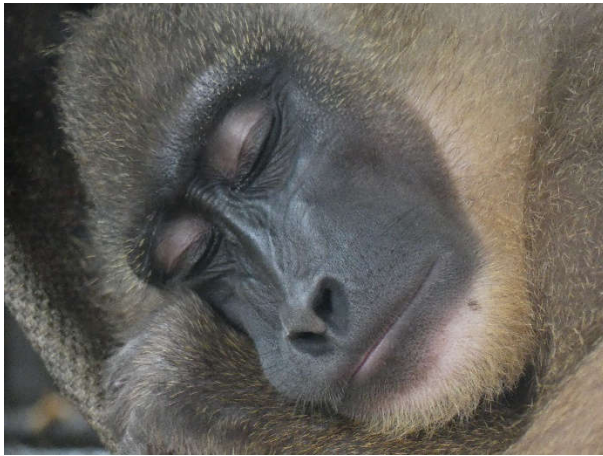


Image 12. Mbigou (juvenile male rescued in January 2020) enjoys a good rest after playing with Nala and her mother Jafita.



Image 13. Preparing the rehabilitation aviary for isolating and capturing flyers with the minimum stress



Image 14. The aviary was cut into two part and capture was made with a net in the isolated room



Image 15. Transfer of the African grey parrot fit for release to the soft-release aviary in the Limbe Botanical Garden



Image 16. The “29 adventurers” had 2 weeks to settle down and get used to their new aviary and surrounding environment



Image 17. After 2 weeks, the hatch was opened and the parrots decided to explore. They moved by small groups and kept using the aviary for food and shelter.



August 2020 objectives:

- **African Grey Parrots:** Continue the rehabilitation process of the rescued individuals; continue Tchakou socialisation
- **African Grey Parrots:** Continue the pilot soft-release and post-release monitoring in the Limbe Botanical Garden
- **Drill:** Transfer juvenile Mbigou and his surrogate mother Jafita in a satellite cage of the Drill enclosure (delayed)

4. Infrastructures and development | Material & Equipment

Funders



- Completed installation of the first soft release aviary for the African grey parrots in the Limbe Botanical Garden (Images 18-21)
- Completed maintenance of the Drill enclosure fence (Images 22-23)
- Completed maintenance of the Mandrill satellite cage (Images 24-25)
- Started the preparation of the composting area: traditional Raphia palm roofing and a protective wall (Images 26-29)



Image 18. Assembling of the panel of the soft-release aviary.



Image 19. Wire mesh installation on the soft-release aviary.



Image 20. Wire mesh installation on the ground floor panel.



Image 21. View of the complete soft-release aviary.



Image 22. Completed the fencing of the Drill enclosure to prevent escapes



Image 23. Completed the fencing of the Drill enclosure to prevent escapes



Image 24. Concreting and plastering of the foundation wall of the Mandrill satellite cage.



Image 25. View of complete Mandrill satellite cage.



Image 26. Roof installation to provide shared to the composting area.



Image 27. Palm leaf mat roofing.



Image 28. Concreting and building of block wall to protect the composting area.



Image 29. Concreting and building of block wall to protect the composting area.

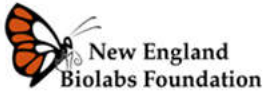
August 2020 objectives:

- Complete building a roof over the composting area within the farm
- Prepare the two-sided billboards for the 4 creative artworks by Toh Bright



5. Community Conservation, Environmental education & Ecotourism

Funders



BECAUSE OF THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC, OUR **EDUCATION PROGRAMMES** WITH CHILDREN, COMMUNITIES, AND VISITORS HAVE BEEN **SUSPENDED**

- **School outreach programme:** Suspended the 2019-2020 programme
- **Saturday Nature Club:** Suspended the 2019-2020 Nature Club
- **Art4Nature:** With the coronavirus spreading through all continents and affecting millions of us, every human must rethink its relationship with wildlife, and the link between nature and societies must be reinvented. Award-winning Toh Bright and the Limbe Wildlife Centre initiated the **Art4Nature** programme in continuity with the **#ProtectWildlife** campaign started in 2019. Through a new approach that combines **science, nature** and **culture**, the project aims to **instigate a change of attitude** and make everyone aware of their responsibility preserving the natural heritage. This month, Toh Bright visited the Limbe Wildlife Centre and shared his passion, philosophy and vision with the staff members **(Image 30)**
- **Community-based Green Economy:** 15 ex-hunter members sustainably harvesting wild herbaceous plants: 799.5 kg of *Aframomum* stems and 319 kg of *Costus* stems; 31 women members harvesting crop by-product: 962 kg of cassava leaves, 2,126 kg of papaya leaves, 2,895 kg of potato leaves, 333 kg of invasive Trumpet wood shoots, corresponding to 74 trees hand-cut; 828,675 FCFA (€1,265) paid directly to the local community association this month; 6,085,535 FCFA (€9,291) contributed to alleviate local poverty in 2020 **(Image 31)**
- **Promoting and supporting eco-friendly traditional expertise:** The project aims to encourage the youth to learn and **conserve** the **traditional knowledge and expertise** to make mats with palm for roofing and support another green economy locally. The centre now has more than 3,000 mats to replace every two years, which



guarantee a yearly income of more than USD 800 to an expert and his apprentices (the equivalent of 6 months' salary). This month, we purchased 2,000 mats for the composting area **(Image 32)**

- **Natural History:** prepared the 4th primate skeleton (female Drill) in view of future mounting and exhibition in Nyango's Education Hall **(Image 33)**



Image 30. Visual artist Toh Bright explained to the staff members the goal of the Art4Nature programme and why art is an essential medium to change Cameroonians' attitude towards nature protection.



Image 31. Each month, more than 7 tonnes of crop-by products and sustainably-harvested wild herbaceous plants are provided by woman farmers and ex-hunters, respectively. Woman farmers increase their incomes and can better support their children health and education while taking more responsibility in the community.



Image 32. Caleb Ngombe, from Mukunda village, is one of the rare experts to make traditional Raphia palm mats in the region. He also masters how to place them to ensure impermeability of the roof. In the past months, we have extended the number of palm mats: it is more natural and eco-friendlier, does not heat like zinc sheet and make less noise when rain falls, hence providing a more comfortable shelter to animals. Unfortunately, because of modernity, this expertise is threatened and we aim to boost the activity to support Caleb but also encourage the youth to conserve this beautiful and useful expertise.



Image 33. After Nyango (female Cross River gorilla), Berkamp (male Nigeria-Cameroon chimpanzee), Rabi (male Drill), this skeleton of Sanryu (female Drill) has been prepared.



August 2020 objectives:

- Continue with ongoing programs
- Install 4 large billboards and unveil the 4 original artworks made by Toh Bright in Limbe

6. Wildlife conservation research & Health monitoring

Ongoing activities

- **Behavioural monitoring of the endangered Chimpanzees:** assess the Mainland group cohesion and individual welfare before, during and after social integration of *Chinoise* (subadult female)
- **Recovery monitoring of the rescued endangered African grey parrots:** Continued to collect data during health checks and through direct observation
- **Establishing Haematological Reference Values for the endangered Drill:** Continued to build the dataset of haematological data extracted from 18 years of analysis (2002-2019), corresponding to 199 samples, and including a total of 21 haematological parameters.
- **Monitoring the soft-release of endangered African grey parrot:** Started to collect daily data on the parrot movement and use of environment

Activity achievement

- Completed the behavioural data collection on the Mainland chimpanzee group.



Data analysis

- None

August 2020 objectives:

- Continue with the above ongoing activities
- Start analysing the behavioural data on Chimpanzees

7. Capacity building, staff empowerment & Mentorship

- Workshop:** *The importance to perform daily maintenance of fence lines to ensure a safe and secured environment to primates*, by Vallarine Aforlica, Head of Construction **(Image 34)**
- Workshop:** *Communication using radio: basic rules to enhance information sharing and increase security*, by Akih Emmanuel, Head of Hygiene and Sanitation
- Workshop:** *Keeping a healthy and safe environment for animals and staff members: implemented strict cleaning and disinfection protocol in primate sections*, by Akih Emmanuel, Head of Hygiene and Sanitation **(Image 35)**
- Mentorship:** Our Vet team provided emergency assistance to a severely injured Chimpanzee at Papaye France, Littoral region **(Images 36-37)**



Image 34. Head of Construction, Vallarine Aforlica, provided technical training to the head of animal sections to improve fence testing, cleaning and maintenance.



Image 35. Head of Hygiene and Sanitation, Akih Emmanuel provided a refresher training to the animal care staff focusing on the cleaning and disinfection procedures to prevent COVID-19 cross-species transmission



Image 36. The LWC vet team anaesthetised Chimpanzee Kiwi and brought him back to the land for appropriate vet care.



Image 37. LWC resident vet, Dr John Kiyang, provided emergency care to Kiwi and his medical expertise to the team of Papaye France on the ground.

August 2020 objectives:

- Continue with the above ongoing activities



8. Communication & Visibility

□ **Digital communication** (Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and Twitter): The month of July has seen steady growth in all of our platforms following. Facebook shows the most activities by our audience, having the highest reach and engagement of the 4 platforms. Instagram is the least effective of our platforms this past month, having a significant drop in the reach, compared to last month.

□ **Media coverage: 1 local report made**

- **Newspaper:** *Limbe Wildlife Centre establishes special care and rehabilitation section for disabled chimps, The Star, 6 July 2020*



August 2020 objectives:

- Continue advocating the missions of the LWC within the Central African Conservation Landscape in Cameroon



9. Revenues generated

□ **Entrance fees (July 2020):** FCFA 0 (0 visitors; 0% children, 0% Cameroonians) due to the closure of the Limbe Wildlife Centre to visitors

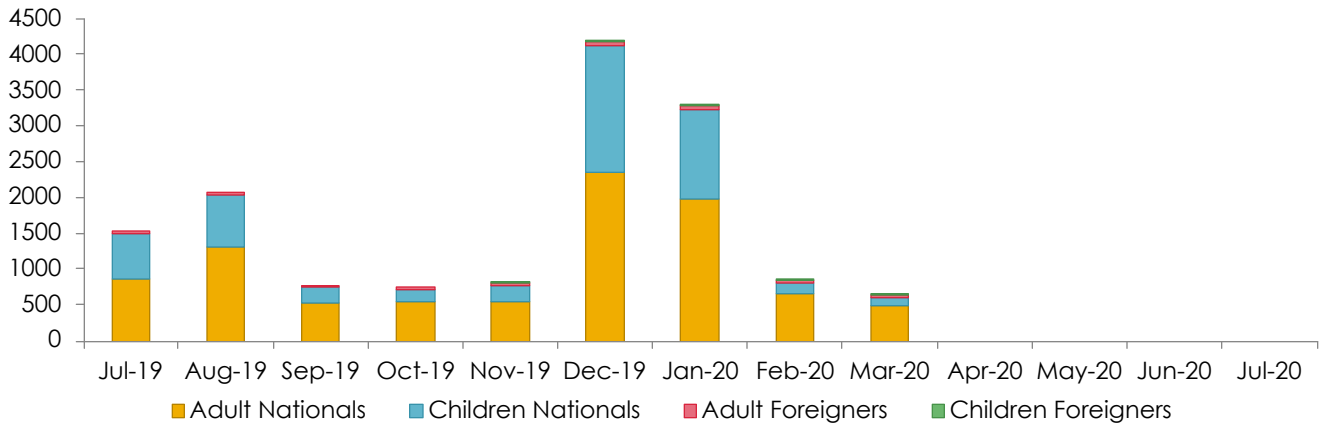


Figure 1. Visitor statistics July 2019- July 2020



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