



CERCO-NEWS

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THANK YOU



TODAY we have to pay the annual rent on our Calabar rehabilitation centre where we care for 111 monkeys.... and despite intense efforts over the past months to raise the rent money in time, we have not been able to secure funding for it.

We need a total of 1,650,000 Naira; equivalent to US\$ 11,000, 8,250 Euros, or 6,600 GBP.

If we cannot make the rent payment, we are at risk of being evicted. Our monkeys have lost their forest homes before – if they lose their home at CERCOPAN, however, there will be no place for them to go. Please, if you can, make a contribution to help us to make the rent payment so that we can keep our operations going. Every donation, no matter how small, will help us out.

Thank you... we are grateful to have your support!

Tag Photo Add Location Edit

Write a comment...

Our appeal on Facebook

Of course, we are always extremely grateful for the support we receive for our project, but this month we were especially dependent on our supporters...

Two months earlier than expected, with two days notice, we received the request for the annual rent payment for the premises in Calabar where we keep 111 monkeys!

We asked our landlord for an extension of the rent payment, and launched an appeal on Facebook and our Blog asking our supporters for help.

The total amount to be raised was no less than US\$11,000, and we were unsure how long it would take us to raise it...

The response to our appeal was overwhelming.

Many of you helped us out with donations, by

sharing our appeal with their friends and family, and with kind words of encouragement which were comforting in these stressful weeks.

When we had raised over US\$4,000, we received the news that the International Primate Protection League (IPPL) would provide an emergency grant of US\$3,000 to our rent.

We are grateful to IPPL for their support in these difficult times!

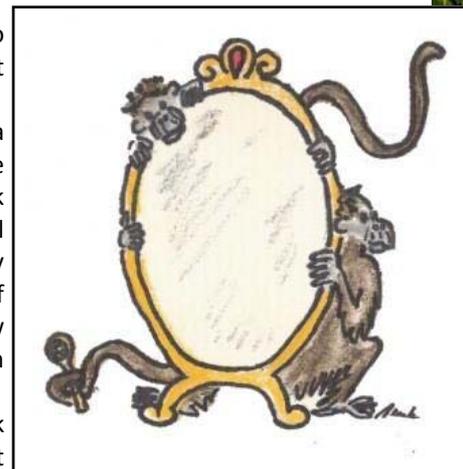
That left us with a final US\$3,600 to be raised, in a two-week time span. This full amount was donated by good friends of CERCOPAN, who saw our appeals on Facebook.

We cannot thank you enough. The rent

for the next 12 months has been paid!

We are grateful to all of you who made donations, called upon your friends and family, or sent us a message with supporting words.

Take a look in the mirror, and compliment yourself on helping out a primate charity in need. We could not have done this without you!





Nicolien Schoneveld
CERCOPAN
Director

From the Director

It was hard to get around it this month: CERCOPAN was having a problem with the rent payment for the premises where we keep our 111 monkeys in Calabar. The rent notice came two months earlier than expected, and suddenly we were faced with a deadline to raise US\$11,000!

The landlord could be persuaded to give us an extension of a week, after which I went back to negotiate another extension until the end of the month... This gave us time to raise the money.

As you can read on the

front page, the full amount was raised through an online campaign and an emergency grant from IPPL. Every morning and afternoon, while preparing the overview of our progress, I saw us getting a little bit closer to the final amount...

You can only imagine the relief when I received a text message from our Sanctuary Manager, that the final US\$3,600 had been donated!

Never have I been happier to go and make a rent payment. We are secure in our place again for the next 12 months.

I want to take this

opportunity to once more thank you, our supporters, for helping us out during this crisis. I also want to thank Patrick Webb of National Humane Wildlife Society (NWHHS) for his continuous support and advice in this difficult time.

Some people also asked me how they can support CERCOPAN throughout the year.

On page 5, I suggest some ways of supporting CERCOPAN, some of which at no cost to you!

See you next month,

Nicky

"We were honoured with a visit of His Excellency, Senator Liyel Imoke, Governor of Cross River State, who came to personally witness the important work we do"

Important guests!

On Monday, September 24 we were honoured with a visit of His Excellency, Senator Liyel Imoke, Governor of Cross River State.

The Governor came to CERCOPAN together with Dr. Odigha Odigha, Chairman of the Forestry Commission.

CERCOPAN's Director welcomed these important guests to our centre. All

the staff gathered to welcome the Governor - for most, it was the first time to see him in person!

Austin, CERCOPAN's veterinary nurse, gave a tour to the Governor and Dr. Odigha, introducing our monkeys.

Our guests were particularly interested in primate politics, seeing many similarities with the Governor's elections!

After Austin's tour of our facilities, the Director invited them into the office to explain more about CERCOPAN's programmes and challenges.

The Governor is one of our loyal supporters, and we are pleased that he took the time out of his busy schedule to personally witness the important work we do.

Agoi Ibami

This month, CERCOPAN's Director visited partner community Agoi Ibami to see the progress they are making in the alternative livelihoods projects and the community development project.

Agoi Ibami submitted a proposal to the CERCOPAN small grant scheme for the

construction of a unit of three toilets in the village.

CERCOPAN approved the project's funding, and construction has started.

The CBO members are proud of their progress, and they plan to finish the toilet unit mid-October.

At the same time, the community has been busy in preparation for the

abattoir that has been selected as their alternative livelihood project.

Fifteen members have joined as a group, and are preparing a business plan.

The abattoir will provide an alternative to wild meat as a source of income and protein, thereby reducing the pressure on wildlife in the forests.

Hunters workshop in Iko Esai

Hunters are a key group with a greater impact on biodiversity than other forest users.

It is essential that these individuals have a good understanding of the state of biodiversity in the area, the conservation laws and the potential impacts of bushmeat hunting.

Awareness raising has the power to change attitudes towards resource use issues, and can bring about changes in behaviour that lead to a greater willingness to accept conservation measures.

Awareness is one of the components of our integrated conservation approach, also comprising protected area patrols, alternative livelihoods and community empowerment, and research.

CERCOPAN recently hosted an awareness training programme with the Iko Esai hunters group, aiming to build a better understanding of 1) CERCOPAN as an NGO and the work we carry out, 2) forest biodiversity and in particular primates, 3) the

local conservation by-laws and 4) the Iko Esai Community Forest land use zoning system.

Designed and implemented by our Education Coordinator, Daniel Roper-Jones, and Community Liaison Education and Outreach Officer, Mike Ekpe, the training was attended by 27 hunters, accompanied by our protected area patrol team and the Iko Esai CCDC surveillance team.

The training was designed to overcome some of the local misunderstandings of conservation, and to demonstrate how no-take areas can work to provide a "save-zone" where animals are free to reproduce and then replenish adjacent areas.

This is the core concept used to build hunter support for the 400-hectare core area we work so hard to protect.

Many remote rural communities in developing

nations have different cultural systems that shape the way they perceive nature. One of the central (mis)conceptions of the local people is that animals can never go extinct and will be perpetually replaced, often expressed in pidgin as "finishing".

In the workshop, it was explained that many species have gone extinct or been extirpated in recent history, providing evidence that this can indeed happen. Some monkey species have indeed been extirpated in Iko Esai's own community forest, mainly because of hunting.

This was followed by a description of the actions that hunters can take to reduce their impacts. By following the conservation by-laws, hunters can collectively protect biodiversity for future generations.

By the end of the workshop, everyone gathered to snap a group photo before everyone headed home.

Hunters Workshop



"One of the central (mis) conceptions of the local people is that animals can never go extinct and will be perpetually replaced"

Attendants of the Hunters Workshop



Community Loyalties 2012

Iko Esai is one of the recipients of the Cross River State's payment of Community Loyalties for the year 2012.

Cross River State acknowledges that forest communities play a critical role in the proper management of forest resources. This implies not only sharing of responsibilities with the communities, but also the benefits that accrue from the forest.

To encourage the joint management of the forest, the Forestry Commission presents loyalty payments to selected forest communities.

This year, Iko Esai was nominated for the Loyalty Payments because of the success of the Secondary School's tree nursery, established by CERCOPAN.

The Cross River State Forestry Commission acknowledges the efforts of the community in planting out these trees in the community, thereby reforesting important areas.

It ties in with the Forestry Commission's vision to reforest degraded forests and protect watersheds and other fragile ecosystems.

The Community Royalties were presented in

a ceremony in Calabar South, hosted by His Excellency, Senator Liyel Imoke, Governor of Cross River State; Dr. Odigha Odigha, Chairman of the Forestry Commission; and representatives from UN REDD.

Iko Esai received a payment of 100,000 Naira, or US\$650. We are pleased that the community has received a benefit as a result of their commitment to conservation. This will certainly help to motivate the community further to keep up this important initiative of growing and planting trees.



The CRS Governor hands out Loyalties to selected forest communities

Owai toilets

If you mention to someone you are going to Owai for an overnight visit, a common reaction concerns the toilet situation in the village.

In Owai, lacking toilet facilities, one specific location behind a house on the outskirts of the village is used by most villagers as "open-air toilet".

Privacy issues aside, the health risks associated with open defecation are a serious problem, recognised as such by the community.

When the Community-Based Organisation (CBO) of Owai was given the opportunity to formulate a proposal for a small community development project (maximum US\$800), funded by CERCOPAN, it didn't take long to

reach consensus - they wanted to build a unit with three pit toilets!

After several weeks of hard work by the CBO and community, this project is now close to completion.

Once complete, the CBO members will provide us with a final report including a financial statement and pictures.



We realise that three pit toilets are not enough for every of the 2,000 community members, but it's a first step... And the community is proud to own toilets.

The experience of formulating and implementing a project, and managing a budget, means that the CBOs can now look for external funders to construct more toilet units.

We thank IUCN France for supporting this project.



From open defecation to pit toilets

Supporting CERCOPAN!

With the rent crisis behind us, we are still struggling for money to care for our monkeys.

Some people asked me if there is anything else they can do to help CERCOPAN on a more structural basis. Let us list the options for you...

Some ways of supporting CERCOPAN are of no cost to you!

Use everyclick.com as your search engine and select CERCOPAN as your chosen charity. Every search generates funds for CERCOPAN without costing you anything! Please visit <http://www.everyclick.com/cercopan>.

If you subscribe to **Give as you Live**, thousands of stores will donate money to CERCOPAN every time you

shop online, with no extra cost for you! For more information please visit www.giveasyoulive.com.

Then, of course, there are different ways to make a donation.

You can **adopt a monkey** on our website for £50 per year (see www.cercopan.org). You will receive an update on "your" monkey twice a year.

You can make donations through National Humane Wildlife Society (NWHs) or CERCOPAN's Facebook page, www.facebook.com/cercopan (U.S. Tax deductible), or go to <https://www.justgiving.com/cercopan> (U.K. tax deductible).

Silver Jungle donates £1 to CERCOPAN for every book sold of "I choose you" (see silverjungle.bigcartel.com/product/i-choose-you).

Good Gifts features

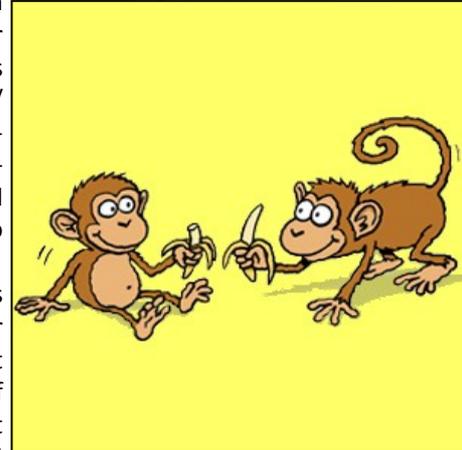
CERCOPAN: you can buy bananas for our orphan monkeys (<http://www.goodgifts.org/peeling-monkeys.html>) and give them as a gift to your friends.

You could come as a tourist or volunteer to our Rhoko forest camp, the proceeds of which are split between CERCOPAN and the community.

Finally, you help us out by *liking* our **Facebook page**, and following our Blog, cercopan.wildlifedirect.org.

This generates awareness on our organisation, activities, and our mission amongst your friends.

No matter which of the above you choose, thank you for your support!



Sponsor CERCOPAN at goodgifts.org

"We are looking forward to seeing how the first secondary schools will receive the programme, and how much they will improve their knowledge"

Environmental outreach

In CERCOPAN-NEWS, August 2012 edition, you have been able to read all about CERCOPAN's new environmental outreach programme. After the lesson plan, materials, and evaluation protocol were finalised, it was time for our education officers to test the new programme on our own CERCOPAN staff before going to the schools.

In Rhoko Camp, the pilot was run by education officer Mike Ekpe; in Calabar, Abakum Aidams Basse took up the responsibility to educate our staff on primate conservation and the rainforest.

The feedback on the programme was positive. The pilot sessions did give

some important feedback to the educators on where their information needed elaboration, or which concepts were not explained clearly enough. Based on this assessment, the education programme will be adjusted to its final version for the next stage: pilot implementation in 10 secondary schools.

In addition to testing our new outreach programme, the pilot also saw the first implementation of the evaluation protocol accompanying the lessons. Based on the pre- and post questionnaires, we found an average increase of 42% in the amount of correct answers, and could overall conclude that our staff has significantly increased their knowledge on

the subject matters taught in the course. We are pleased that we now have hard numbers to state that so far, our new awareness programme has a measurable positive impact on people's knowledge and attitudes toward primates, forests, and conservation. We are looking forward to seeing how the first secondary schools will receive the programme, and how much they will improve their knowledge!



The Rhoko staff attending a session in the education centre

WANT TO BE A PART OF IT?

- Stay in touch with our on-going programme by bookmarking our home page <http://www.cercopan.org/> and our Blog site <http://cercopan.wildlifedirect.org/> and joining our Facebook fan page <http://www.facebook.com/cercopan/>
- Volunteer for CERCOPAN in either Nigeria or the UK. We offer a range of different programmes so there is something for everyone! Visit our website volunteer section for further details.
- Help CERCOPAN attain corporate funding. If you work for a corporate sponsor who may be interested in funding CERCOPAN please contact nicolien.schoneveld@cercopan.org
- Undertake a sponsored event to raise funds for CERCOPAN. Use the Fundraising Pack on our web site to help you.
- Make a cash donation to CERCOPAN via our website...every little helps!
- Buy a gift for friends or family from the Good Gifts Catalogue (www.goodgifts.org). You can buy a month's supply of fruit for growing CERCOPAN orphan monkeys - called in the catalogue 'A-peeling Monkeys' for only £20! The price of the gift is passed on to CERCOPAN. So, it is an excellent way of solving your gift problems, and supporting our work! Alternatively visit the CERCOPAN gift shop on our website today.
- Donate useful goods and equipment such as building and fencing materials, veterinary medicines, old laptop computers etc. or services such as printing, blood testing and architectural design.

www.cercopan.org

<http://cercopan.wildlifedirect.org>

<http://www.facebook.com/cercopan/>

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All photos in this newsletter were taken at CERCOPAN, Iko Esai , Agoi Ibami, or Owai by staff, volunteers and visitors.

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