

The Jane Goodall Institute (JGI)
Gombe Stream Research Centre (GSRC)

GOMBE MONTHLY BULLETIN

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GOMBE AFTER DR. JANE

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NEW
BORN

MESSAGE FROM THE PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Gombe Stream Research Center continues to advance long-term research, field observations, and staff development in support of chimpanzee conservation.

We are proud of the dedication shown by field teams with many years of service in Gombe, whose work has greatly contributed to scientific understanding and conservation success.

Staff capacity building through training and exposure in conservation storytelling and technology continues to strengthen our research and communication efforts.

Ongoing field observations, including important primate behavioral records, highlight the richness of Gombe's ecosystem and the importance of continuous monitoring.



DR. DEUS MJUNGU, GSRC DIRECTOR

GSRC remains committed to excellence in research, conservation, and knowledge sharing.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'D. Mjungu'.

Director of Gombe Stream Research Centre

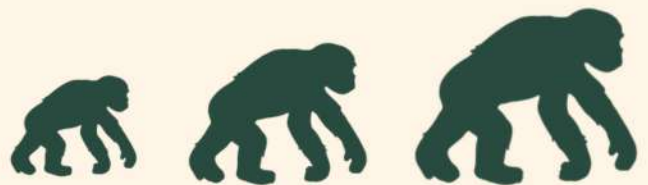


45 Years in the Field: The Extraordinary Journey of Gabo Paul Zilikana

Born near Gombe National Park, Gabo started his field journey in 1981 and joined the chimpanzee research team in 1982, starting a lifelong commitment to understanding and protecting chimpanzees.

A Pioneer in Gombe Research

In 1990, Gabo joined habituation team in the neighboring chimpanzee community of Mitumba. Help making Gombe the first site where two chimp communities are studied parallelly.



Celebrating 45 Years of Service

This year marks Gabo's 45th year working in Gombe. His dedication, leadership, and field knowledge have made an extraordinary contribution to chimpanzee research and conservation, inspiring generations of researchers and conservationists.



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NEW FEMALE INFANT BABOON BORN IN THE DD GROUP

First Birth of the Year in DD Group

On June 17, the female baboon known as Sevila (SVL) was observed carrying a newborn female infant, marking the first recorded birth of the year in the DD baboon group. The birth was first observed by Nimenya and Shomari. Further observations conducted on the same day confirmed that the newborn is a female.

A Sister's Curiosity

During the observation, Samadara (SAD), Sevila's juvenile daughter, was seen staying close to her mother while curiously observing her new sibling. She remained near Sevila throughout the observation period, showing particular interest in the newborn.

A Positive Sign for the Troop

The arrival of this new infant is an important event for the DD baboon group and represents a positive addition to the group's population this year.



FALIDI FROM THE MITUMBA COMMUNITY WELCOMES A NEW BABY

After being absent from observations for nearly two weeks, FAL (Falidi) was sighted again on June 14, 2026, at 11:50 a.m. near the Mitumba camp area. She was carrying a newborn infant estimated to be about five days old. During the observation FAL was accompanied by FS (Flossi) and FOK (Foka) while feeding food (Lusyeno).

Protective Behavior

Since giving birth, Falidi has been observed staying close to FS (Flossi) or her brother, FED (Fede), during her daily movements. This close association appears to provide additional protection and support for her newborn infant.

Learning from Experience

Researchers believe that Falidi's cautious behavior may be influenced by a previous experience when she lost an infant after traveling alone. On that occasion, the infant was taken and killed by SAM (Samwise). As a result, Falidi now appears to remain close to trusted group members while caring for her new baby.

An Important Observation

The birth of this new infant is an encouraging event for the Mitumba chimpanzees community and provides valuable insights into maternal care, social relationships, and infant survival within the group.

STORIES BEYOND THE FIELD

GSRC STAFF GAIN LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES BEYOND GOMBE

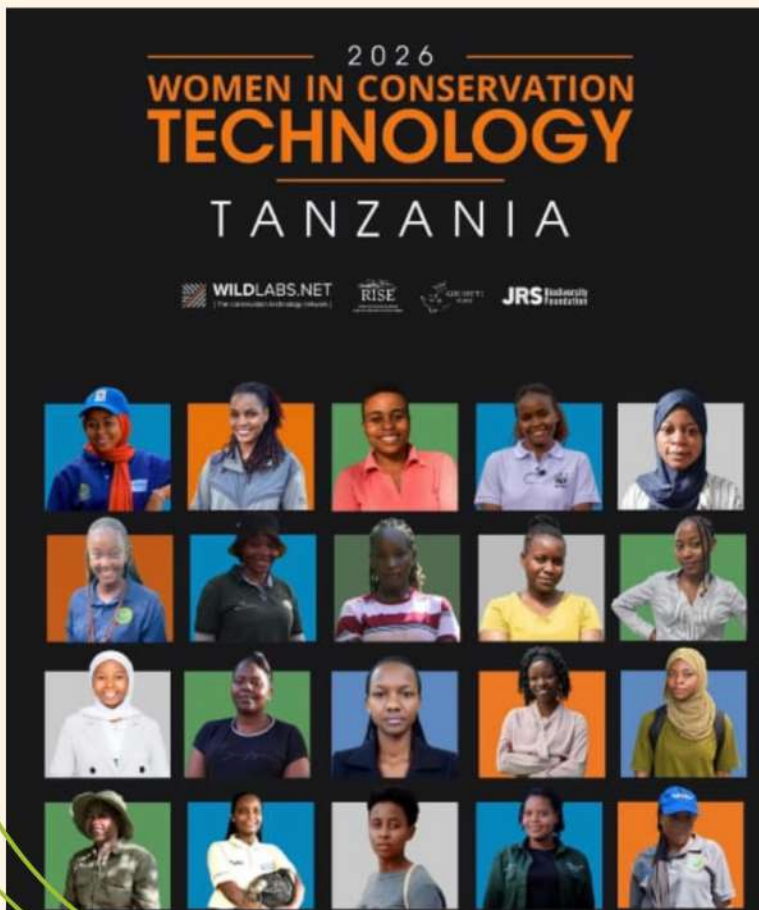
This month has brought exciting opportunities for GSRC staff members to expand their knowledge and skills outside Gombe. Stephano Lihedule (Steve), Videographer and Conservation Visual Storyteller, and Jane Lukumay, Chimpanzee Research Assistant, have both received valuable professional development opportunities.



Steve Attends Wildscreen Festival 2026

Stephano Lihedule (Steve) attended the Wildscreen Festival 2026 in Nairobi, Kenya, where he gained valuable experience in conservation storytelling. The festival provided an opportunity to learn new approaches to visual storytelling and connect with conservation communicators from across the region.

Jane Joins Women in Conservation Technology Training



Jane Lukumay will attend the Women in Conservation Technology training organized by Grumeti Fund in Serengeti, where she will learn how technology can support wildlife research and conservation efforts.

JGI TANZANIA CONSERVATION EFFORTS AROUND GOMBE

ECOSIA Project Restores Forests and Supports Communities in Western Tanzania

The ECOSIA Project, implemented by the Jane Goodall Institute Tanzania with support from the Jane Goodall Institute Austria, is working to restore degraded forests and strengthen community-based conservation in the Greater Gombe Ecosystem. The project operates in Kigoma and Uvinza districts from 2025 to 2027.



Tree Planting and Community Action

The project aims to produce and plant 360,000 tree seedlings through village nurseries, tree planting campaigns, monitoring activities, and environmental education. Local communities, Village Nursery Attendants, farmers, and schools are actively involved in restoring degraded lands and protecting chimpanzee habitats.

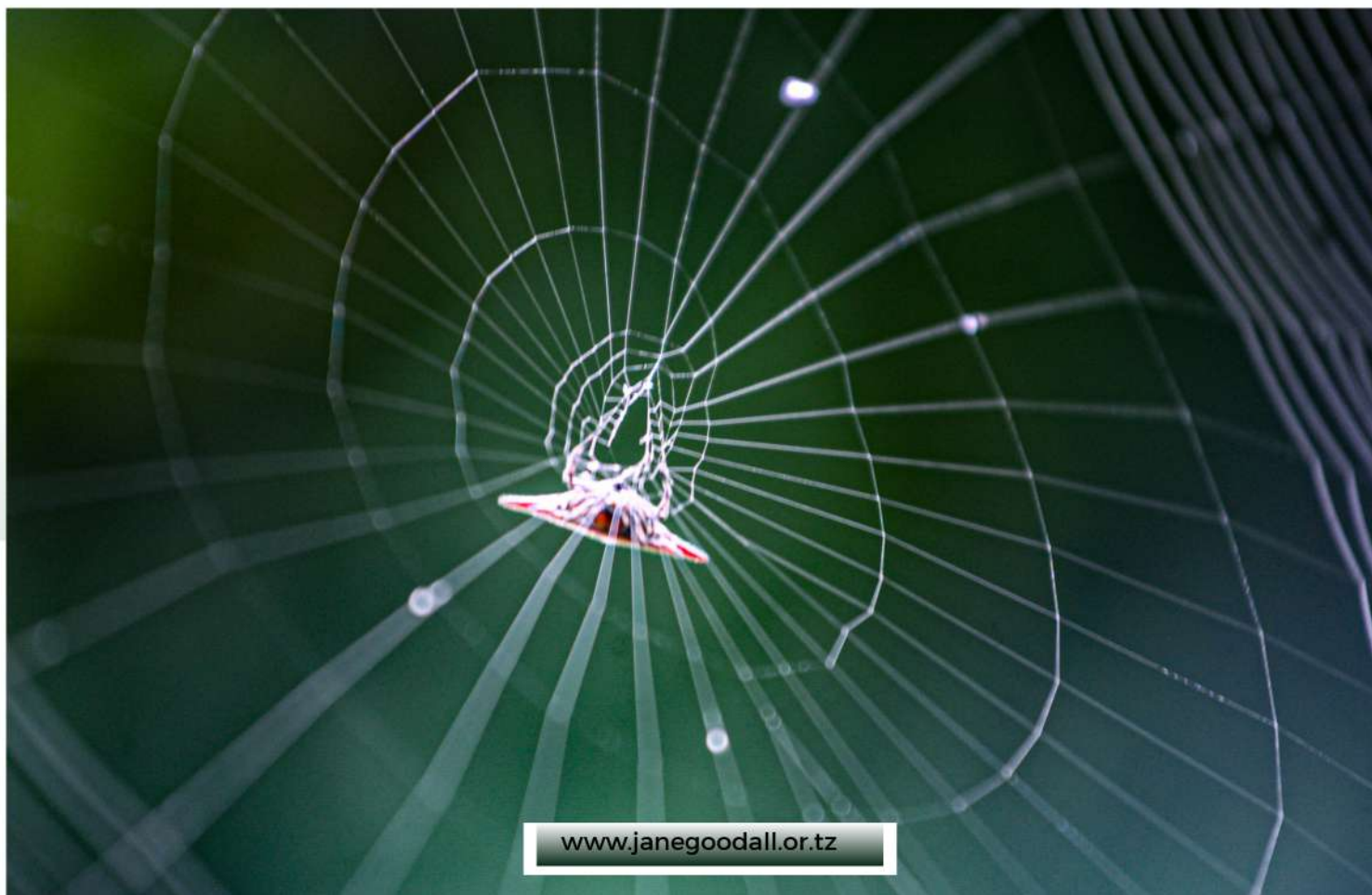


Achievements So Far

So far, 19 tree nurseries have been established, producing 273,000 seedlings.

More than 272,600 trees have already been planted in farms, schools, health facilities, religious institutions, and degraded areas. Over 1,500 people and 33 institutions have benefited from the project, while an additional 90,000 seedlings are now being raised for the 2026/2027 planting season.





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Photos by Stephano Lihedule and Wildscreen Festival Kenya 2026

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