



The Cross-Cultural
Foundation of Uganda

Annual Report 2019



The Cross-Cultural
Foundation of Uganda

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Safeguarding of the
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From our Vice-Chairperson



It is with great pleasure that I present to you this end-of-year report from the Cross-Cultural Foundation of Uganda (CCFU). The report spells out our achievements in 2019 and highlights the challenges encountered. It is upon this foundation that CCFU plans to build, addressing the challenges, taking in the lessons learned and embracing the successes and opportunities presented in the course of the year.

CCFU registered landmark achievements during 2019, such as advancing cultural heritage studies with a degree course developed in 4 universities and the preservation of historical properties. Research has been carried out in fields related to culture and gender, and cultural rights have been better understood by many stakeholders locally and beyond. This is all owing to the dedication and commitment of our staff and management without whose input this success would have been impossible to achieve. The journey however was not devoid of challenges and these are spelt out in this report.

The success of the last year was also possible thanks to the unrivalled support from all our stakeholders and partners, both in kind and financial.

I therefore take this opportunity on behalf of the Board of Trustees, management and staff of CCFU and my own behalf to thank individuals and organisations, including Bread for the World, the Fund for Global Human Rights, UN Women, Diakonia, UNESCO, the European Union, the ARCUS foundation and the Irish Embassy, who have offered tremendous support towards our success in 2019.

I am confident that, with the continued support of our partners and stakeholders along with the unquestionable commitment of our staff, we will be able to overcome last year's challenges and achieve even more ambitious targets in 2020.

Grace Mbabazi Aulo (Mrs)

From our Executive Director



As we come to the end of another year of persuading, advocating, protecting, celebrating and caring for cultural heritage in Uganda and beyond, we appreciate the strengthening of old partnerships and the emergence of new ones.

Worldwide, the spirit and values that inform how we relate to each other are essential for peaceful co-existence. With cultural, religious, political and social diversity being a given in most societies, it is imperative that we nurture tolerance and a sense of mutual respect in the present and future generations. This year, it was inspiring to see Ugandan and Kenyan youth ably demonstrate their understanding of the role of culture in promoting social cohesion, giving our heritage education programme a new dimension. As a 16-year old club member said, “Culture binds our communities together; our spirits cannot be broken if our culture is strong”.

Putting our intentions on paper is a good way to confirm our commitment and to guide the actions and consciousness of future generations. In 2019, our conservation and gender related work with cultural leaders resulted in the development of communique’s on the preservation of natural and cultural heritage. Similarly, the Council of Traditional Leaders in Africa, a body yet to be officially introduced to Uganda, made commitments to using its authority and culture to protect the rights of girls and women. By so doing, these custodians of cultural heritage are not only holding themselves accountable, but are also contributing to social cohesion and wellbeing in their respective communities. Cultural leaders are

increasingly being perceived as partners in development – a trend that calls for their reinvention and enhanced resourcefulness.

It is sometimes difficult to promote culture when one’s basic human needs are not met as has been the case with the Batwa in Bundibugyo. So CCFU made a special provision to go beyond oral history documentation and to construct educational facilities for the Batwa in Bugombwa and to purchase a piece of land in Ntotoro for their resettlement. Through a series of meetings and exposure the dignity and self-esteem of this hard-pressed community is slowly being restored.

There is much to be done in the culture sector and we must now invite friends and promoters of cultural heritage to renew our collective commitment to preserve Uganda’s heritage. We can do this by working together to give and get inspiration, by advocating individually and collectively for the operationalisation of heritage laws and policies and by working in solidarity to support local and national heritage initiatives.

From the next pages of this report, you will see that the journey to preserving and promoting our heritage can be challenging and rewarding. Anyone can contribute, and every effort matters!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Emily Drani". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Emily Drani

Our context - Cultural tourism, a growing sector in Uganda?

Cultural tourism is recognised as one of the fastest developing global tourism markets. It is estimated that 4 out of every 10 tourists worldwide choose destinations based on culture and on a desire to explore the ways of life of people.

Tourism earns Uganda about \$1.5 billion annually, a growing figure attributed by the Bureau of Statistics to various factors, including culture. The potential of cultural tourism is however yet to be exploited, as the country remains over-reliant on nature-based tourism, with product development identified as the main challenge in the industry.

Nevertheless, the Uganda Tourism Board launched aggressive campaign drives to increase domestic and international tourism in 2019, noting the growing interest in culture as a reason for longer tourism experiences, and tapping on Uganda's diverse cultures – expressed through peoples' ways of life, their traditional music and performances, cuisine, sites, museums, cultural and natural landscapes. The Board for instance shared a plan to transform sites associated with suffering and conflict ("Dark Tourism") into memorial places and tourist sites (Entebbe Airport, the Kibwetere Church, the Luweero Triangle, sites associated with the LRA war in Northern Uganda), to capture the negative past, enhance understanding of the people and the country, and lessons to reshape the future.



William Gabula Nadiope, the Kyabazinga of Busoga (in yellow), climbing Kagulu Hill

In the course of the year, both state and non-state actors have indeed indicated a growing recognition of opportunities for cultural tourism in Uganda. Thus, the speaker of Parliament reiterated the importance of

historical and cultural sites as sources of tourism urging Basoga and Ugandans in the diaspora to invest in tourism. The Kyabazinga of Busoga, Gabula Nadiope IV climbed Kagulu Rock. Engaging communities in homestays, establishing clubs and listing tourist sites were some of the interventions proposed.



Solomon Gafabusa Iguru, Omukama of Bunyoro Kitara Kingdom, celebrating his 25th coronation anniversary.

Other cultural institutions also got involved in promoting cultural tourism. The Omukama of Bunyoro-Kitara Kingdom Solomon Gafabusa, celebrated his 25th coronation anniversary (Empango), exhibiting the culture and identity of the Banyoro. The introduction of traditional games and the entire coronation process presented an opportunity for cultural tourism. The Bunyoro Kingdom's 2020 budget includes significant allocations for culture and tourism, seeking to improve infrastructure such as cultural sites. Buganda's King, Kabaka Ronald Muwenda Mutebi, plans to restore Lukungyu palace, a favourite "hangout" of Ssekabaka Edward Muteesa II (located on the shores of Lake Vitoria in Kyotera district) as a tourist site for the kingdom. At the 11th Buganda Tourism Expo, the Katikkiro (Prime Minister), Charles Peter Mayiga, also urged Ugandans to identify cultural sites and embrace local tourism. Meanwhile King Oyo Rukidi IV of Tooro launched a campaign to revive River Mpanga and to plant 10 million trees (especially *mutuba* trees) to enhance environment conservation. Tooro promotes barkcloth made from this tree as an important cultural item and a resource for tourism.

Uganda continues to strive to become a best destination for meetings, conferences and events, opening opportunities to diversify the country's tourism offer.

Exhibitions, film productions, and festivals such as Nyege Nyege, the International Cultural Fair (Ekyooto) and especially the Bayimba Festival also promote Uganda's art and culture and have attracted both domestic and international tourists.

Community museums such as the Igongo Cultural Centre were again recognised in 2019 as centres of cultural education, history and cultural diversity - a source of tourism for Ugandans and foreigners alike. New ways were also developed to reach potential visitors, such as the EU-CCFU developed mobile App and maps for historical buildings and sites.

Developing cultural tourism will however need to be done with care. The fragility of cultural and natural sites was highlighted in several instances in the course of the year. The world watched in horror as Notre-Dame Cathedral, a 850-year old UNESCO world heritage landmark was gutted by fire, wiping out centuries of priceless heritage central to French culture and history, and an object of wonder for the 12 million annual visitors. At home, work on Kasubi tombs - gutted by fire in 2010 - is in its final stages, but numerous historical buildings continue to be demolished in several of our towns.



The 850-year old Notre-Dame Cathedral on fire (Photo credit: AFP).

Several instances also revealed the need to strike a balance between the preservation of culture, tourism promotion and economic development. Thus, the Acholi cultural institution and the Bunyoro-Kitara Kingdom rejected a proposal to construct a hydro dam at Murchison Falls, calling for the preservation of the falls as a source of pride for Uganda and the world, and an important part of the ecosystem. Its construction, it was pointed out, could lead to the destruction of Bunyoro's important heritage site, where cultural rituals and activities are performed. The site also represents a link between the Luo - Babiito and people of Bunyoro, a place of history, homage and a source of blessings. This plan,

if implemented, was said to likely adversely affect 1/3 of the tourists who come to Uganda to visit Murchison Falls. In a similar way, Government's plan to compensate private land owners on 10 acres at the Source of River Nile to accommodate the construction of a Mahatma Ghandi Cultural Centre - a drive to attract more tourists to Uganda, was received with mixed feelings. The lease of part of the Entebbe Botanical Gardens to expand a nearby sewerage system also caused a stir as the public raised alarm at the potential destruction of the 120-year old natural heritage site.



Source: Kaziba.com

Bunyoro-Kitara Kingdom identified and listed 358 cultural sites in the heart of the oil fields, some of which are on the verge of destruction with the introduction of the oil industry. The Kigumba-Kyenjojo road reconstruction caused the destruction of a sacred tree planted by Sir Tito Winyi, the King of Bunyoro in 1965, to commemorate the return of the lost counties of Buyaga and Bugangaizi. The Kingdom called for a cultural heritage management plan for the preservation of known heritage and archaeological sites and for the assessment and protection of chance finds in the course of mining activities.

To conclude, Uganda possesses a wealth of diverse resources for cultural tourism and initiatives are afoot to preserve and promote these resources, a potential source of financial benefits for many Ugandans. The sector is growing, but careful and sensitive investment in infrastructure development; product development, preservation and repackaging are all needed to see these seeds take root.

CCFU – Our organisation and programmes

CCFU is a non-governmental organisation established in 2006 on the premise that culture is not sufficiently taken into account in development and, as a result, many development initiatives are not sustained because they tend to depend on external thinking and resources.

CCFU therefore exists to promote the recognition of culture as vital for human development that responds to our national identity and diversity.

At CCFU, we define culture as a constantly changing set of values, identities, traditions and aspirations that govern the way we relate as individuals, communities and nations. It is central to our well-being and to defining the ideal society we seek. We believe that the positive aspects of culture can be harnessed to cause social and economic transformation. The Foundation therefore acts as a catalyst to promote an understanding of development, as seen through “cultural lenses”.

Our Programmes

1. Promoting a ‘Culture in Development’ approach through research, documentation, reflection and publicity.

CCFU has published over 29 case studies that explore culture in relation to Conservation, Education, Gender, Herbal medicine, Governance among others.

2. Preserving and developing cultural heritage resources through heritage education in secondary schools and universities; mapping, supporting and conserving community museums, historical buildings and sites.

CCFU works for instance with Heritage Education Clubs in secondary schools throughout the country.

3. Promoting cultural rights, governance and the management of diversity through advocacy for the rights of indigenous minority groups and other ethnic groups; working with cultural leaders to assert their role in the cultural governance of our country; and advancing women’s rights using culturally defined mechanisms.

CCFU has for instance researched culturally-defined women’s in Lango and Acholi, and has worked with 16 indigenous minority groups in Uganda.

Culture sustained – Working with youth

In 2019, CCFU has

- Supported **150** heritage education clubs in secondary schools throughout the country
- Collaborated with **105** Peace Clubs in Kenyan schools to foster community cohesion and inter-border understanding
- Enabled a record **462** Ugandan and Kenyan youth take part in the annual youth heritage competition.
- Assisted **4** Universities to finalise a 3-year undergraduate programme - Bachelor of Heritage Studies - which will be offered, pending accreditation, to students from 2020 onwards.

As responsible citizens, it is our duty to pass on to our children and grandchildren the cultural heritage (values, practices, artefacts, aspirations) which we have inherited from our earlier generations.

Working with young people therefore continues to be central to CCFU's work. In 2019, the number of heritage education clubs in secondary schools grew to 150. These are supported throughout the country by a network of 20 regional coordinators and 300 club patrons. This year, CCFU was pleased to engage young people in Kenya as well, through a collaborative initiative with the Community Peace Museums Heritage Foundation. Clubs on both sides of the border debated the use of cultural practices that can contribute to peace in their communities. Delegations from both countries met in Kampala at this year's National Youth Heritage Awards Ceremony, which provided an opportunity to enhance youth involvement in highlighting their appreciation of cultural heritage. The 13 winning entries grace the pages of the 2020 Heritage Calendar, all illustrating the theme "Important cultural practices to bring peace and unity in our communities"

And after school? To nurture home-grown cultural heritage professionals, CCFU worked in 2019 with representatives from the University of Kabale, Kyambogo University, the Islamic University in Uganda and Uganda Martyrs University to finalise a 3-year undergraduate

degree programme (Bachelor of Cultural Heritage Studies), adapting the contents to their own philosophy and needs. The Uganda Martyrs University has seen its course accredited by the National Council for Higher Education, with the three others hopefully achieving this milestone in 2020.



Heritage club members at Crane High School, Soroti, debating the contribution of culture to social cohesion.

Meanwhile, CCFU has supported the National Curriculum Development Centre in developing the course outlines for the cultural heritage content to be included in the new secondary school syllabus due to be launched in 2020.

To demonstrate that culture can provide a source of livelihood, CCFU has continued to support youth groups to enhance their cultural enterprises, including the Mutuba VI Youth Group in Masaka, the Nile Beat Artists in Jinja, Golden Youth Ahead in Hoima, Kibatsi Youth Development Association in Bushenyi and Go Culture Africa in Wakiso. Some were helped to participate in the International Cultural Tourism Fair (Ekyooto) in Kampala to market their products and be exposed to potential partners.

Culture for Her – Working with women

Culture is often blamed for perpetuating abuses of the rights of women and girls. While some cultural practices indeed do so (mostly through the excesses of a patriarchal system), some cultural resources (structures, norms, principles, values and practices), as shown in CCFU's research on the culturally-defined women's rights in Lango carried out last year, can be used to protect and promote women's rights.

Culturally-defined rights include, in Acholi and Lango for instance, the right to access land, to participation and decision, to property, to protection from all forms of violence, to justice and to marital rights. Such rights

also include the right to associate and CCFU supported traditional communal labour women's groups, such as *aleya* and *awak*, which enabled then improve their incomes, food security and therefore reduce incidences of domestic violence.

CCFU is scaling up the use of culture to promote women and girls' rights beyond the Acholi region. CCFU is concluding a research initiative to document cultural resources that mitigate or enhance gender based violence against women and girls, sexual and reproductive health rights and access to justice in areas covered by the cultural institutions of Alur, Buganda, Busoga, Karamoja and Tooro. This will inform interventions in 2020, including district-level dialogues between cultural leaders and youth, using culture to address gender-based violence; developing a position paper on the connection between culture and issues related to the Marriage Bill; and engaging members of parliament on this issue.



Photo taken during the documentation of cultural resources that mitigate or enhance gender based violence against women and girls, sexual and reproductive health rights and access to justice.

In 2019, CCFU has

- *Disseminated information on culturally-defined women's rights in Lamwo, Kitgum, Gulu and Pader Districts through **1500** posters, **56** community meetings and **18** radio programmes.*
- *Supported the chiefdoms of Paibwore and Pawel develop pronouncements on the protection of women and girls' rights using cultural mechanisms.*
- *Extended its research on culture and its role in protecting women and girls from violence in the cultural areas of the Alur, Buganda, Busoga, Karamoja and Tooro*
- ***3** women's groups supported to develop their cultural enterprises.*

Culture at risk – Working with indigenous minorities

In 2019, CCFU has:

- Supported **16** indigenous minorities to advocate for a better observance of their cultural rights, mostly through **2** regional platforms – in the Rwenzori and North Karamoja regions.
- Helped **2** indigenous minority groups (the Ndrukpa and Ngokutio) publish monographs on their history and customs.
- Conducted affirmative action for the Batwa in Bundibugyo, especially by facilitating access to land and to education and by producing quantitative data on this community.
- Carried out **1** study on best practices by NGOs engaging with the Batwa in South-Western Uganda.

Representing more than 1% of the population (more than 400,000 people), indigenous minority groups continue to be among the most under-privileged Ugandans. While their social and economic status have seen some improvement in recent years, their cultural rights remain largely neglected.

In 2019, CCFU continued to provide support to 16 Indigenous Minority Groups (IMGs) to promote their cultural rights.

The Rwenzori regional platform for indigenous minorities (with the Batwa, Babwisi, Bamba, Bavanoma, Batuku, Banyabindi, Basongora, Bakingwe and Bagabo) and the Northern Karamoja regional platform (with the Ik, Napore, Ngokutio, Nyangia and Katebong) appealed to local and national authorities to respect IMG cultural and other human rights, such as access to land and cultural sites located in Protected Areas, the use of indigenous languages alongside other languages of instruction in schools, and political representation at different levels. In 2019, CCFU appreciated the responsiveness of the Uganda Wildlife Authority in considering some of these requests and working to develop Agreements with these communities to guarantee access.

To safeguard their indigenous language (Ndrulo), the Lendu (Ndrukpa) in Zombo District were supported to produce bi-lingual oral history publications both for adults and young people. The Ngokutio (in Kitgum and Karenga

Districts) were also supported to document aspects of their oral history in an attempt to promote their language (Ngakutio) and identity within the pre-dominantly Luo speaking community. CCFU also supported the Ik community in Kaabong district to document important cultural artefacts and sites in a publication launched at the Ik House of Memory in Kamion which will enhance cultural tourism in the area.

CCFU has also continued to support women's groups originating from indigenous minorities to use their cultural resources to generate income, including the Kebu, the Batuku and the Bagungu.



Hon. Hillary Lokwang, MP, Kamion County officiating at the launch of the IK House of Memory catalogue

As a member of the national coalition of CSOs supporting IMGs in Uganda, CCFU assisted selected leaders of the regional platforms to participate in an event to commemorate the International Day for Indigenous Peoples which took place on 9th August in Kampala. The theme focused on indigenous languages to draw attention to the critical loss of indigenous languages and the urgent need to preserve, revitalise and promote them both nationally and internationally.

The plight of the Batwa has been widely publicised. While very true, efforts by NGOs have led to a significant improvement in the Batwa's living conditions in Uganda's South West. CCFU carried out a study on best practices and interventions for the Batwa in the districts of Kabale, Rubanda, Kisoro and Kanungu, which highlighted some of the good practices and their underlying principles,

although the protection of cultural rights has not been an explicit objective for most of the organisations surveyed. The study also revealed that the Batwa have been slowly assimilated by neighbouring communities, thus losing much of their culture.

At the end of the year, CCFU held a panel discussion at Makerere University to explore the connections between cultural rights and sustainable development. CCFU invited Emily Kinama the Litigation and Research Counsel at the Katiba Institute of Kenya to take part, as well as Ms. Agnes Kabajuni (Minority Rights Group International), Benard Mujuni (Commissioner, Equity and Rights at the Ministry of Gender Labour and Social Development) and Father Peter Mubiru (Catholic Diocese of Jinja).



A representative of the Lendu community during the launch of the bi-lingual oral history publications.

Heritage custodians – Conserving for the future.

In 2019, CCFU

- Organised **16** football teams in Bunyoro and Bukhonzor for the “Chimpanzee Cup”, with matches attended by over **3500** people.
- Helped publish **2** communiques by cultural leaders pledging conservation of chimpanzees’ habitat.
- Organised **16** radio talk shows to discuss the linkages between culture and chimpanzee conservation
- Helped **69** cultural leaders from Bunyoro and **85** from Rwenzori to participate in **16** meetings, produce **2** communiques affirming their commitment to and responsibility for conservation, with **400** copies distributed.



Spectators at the inter-clans heritage conservation football tournament at Kilembe, Kasese District, Rwenzori region.

Uganda is home to 5000 chimpanzees. Various approaches to conserve this endangered species have been employed. Most do not involve culture although, as CCFU research has earlier highlighted, the cultural practices of the communities hosting and neighbouring the chimpanzees potentially affect them, positively and negatively.

As part of a two-year project, in 2019 CCFU has sought to harness positive cultural resources to strengthen collaborative conservation of the chimpanzees in the Bunyoro and Rwenzori regions. CCFU supported cultural leaders in reaffirming and strengthening their stewardship in conservation, with a focus on the chimpanzee. Inter-clan meetings were held with leaders and elders of the Batangyi and Bayanja clans, who hold the chimpanzee as their totems. As a result, communiqués for Rwenzori and Bunyoro were produced, stating their commitment to contribute to afforestation, restoration of corridors, engaging local governments, and engaging young people during clan meetings.

Inter-clans heritage conservation football tournaments dubbed “Ekiteera / Ekibandu (Chimpanzee) Cup involving 16 clan teams from

Bunyoro and Rwenzori were attended by more than 300 people for each of the 12 matches. Prior to the matches, intergenerational dialogues were held between the youth, elders and clan leaders to discuss conservation, especially of the chimpanzee, and their traditional responsibility towards nature. Legends, proverbs, stories and songs reinforced the conservation messages.

Similar dialogues were held with State and non-state conservationists to identify concerns regarding the chimpanzee, share experiences and draw lessons. Representatives from the Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA), the National Forestry Authority (NFA), private forest owners and cultural leaders all made presentations at these events. 12 owners of private forests sought partnership with UWA and NFA to better manage their forests and care for the chimpanzee.

Throughout, we have worked with media houses to raise awareness: cultural leaders, youth, private forest owners and the Uganda Wildlife Authority took part in 16 radio talk-shows that opened up the discussions on culture and conservation to the wider public.



An inter-clan meeting on traditional responsibilities towards the conservation of totems, especially the chimpanzee.

Our history and our identity - Connecting with our built heritage

In 2019, CCFU has:

- Produced **2100** copies of four maps of historical buildings and sites (in Kampala, Entebbe, Jinja and Fort Portal).
- Produced a photographic book “Beyond the Reeds and Bricks” on historical buildings and sites in Kampala, Jinja and Entebbe
- Launched a mobile app to help locate these buildings and sites in the three cities.

Our historical buildings and sites help us to make an essential connection with the history and identity of our communities, our families and our nation.

Yet there is as yet little appreciation of the importance of this heritage. And, once gone, this part of our history is gone forever. Will our cities end up among those without history? What would Paris be without the Eiffel Tower? Or Mombasa without Fort Jesus? Or Kampala without the National Theatre?

To foster an appreciation of the importance of our built heritage, CCFU has been documenting historical buildings and sites through maps, a book, an app and plaques. The photographic book on historical buildings and sites in Kampala, Jinja and Entebbe “Beyond the Reeds and Bricks” was launched on the occasion of Europe Day by Ambassador Attilio Pacifici, Head of

the European Union Delegation to Uganda, following a televised event with him, the CCFU Executive Director and Charles Peter Mayiga, the Katikikiro of Buganda Kingdom. Maps of historical buildings and sites were also launched, as well as an app to inform visitors as they walk along the streets of Jinja, Entebbe and Kampala. Research work was completed on a map of historical buildings and sites in Fort Portal, to be launched in 2020. Work on the legislative framework to sustain such preservation efforts has also been on-going, with the Kampala Capital City Authority starting in 2019 to review a proposed Ordinance for the preservation of historical buildings and sites.

Let us unite to make such preservation a reality. It can promote our sense of identity, our tourism opportunities, jobs and much more!



From left to right H.E Attilio Pacifici, EU Ambassador, Emily Drani, CCFU's Executive Director and Doreen Katusiime, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Tourism, Wildlife and Antiquities, launching the photographic book on historical buildings and sites in Kampala, Jinja and Entebbe “Beyond the Reeds and Bricks”.



Thank you!

For the past 13 years, our work could not have been accomplished without the most valuable support from our friends and partners.

We are grateful to our Board of Trustees for the encouragement and guidance provided in all aspects of our work.

We also once again thank all our partners on the different programmes throughout the country, including secondary schools on the Heritage Education Programme, partner universities, community museums across the country, historical buildings owners, local governments, civil society organisations, our central government counterparts, leaders of cultural institutions, indigenous minority groups and other committed individuals, the media houses, service providers, other ministries and agencies, and each of you in your individual capacities.

The trust and confidence you have accorded to us over the years, as well as your generosity, have enabled us to raise 1.6 billion Ugandan shillings in project funds in 2019. We would like to convey our sincere appreciation to our funders:

- Arcus Foundation
- Bread for the World / Protestant Development Services
- Culture at Work Africa
- Diakonia
- European Union
- The Fund for Global Human Rights
- The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO)
- UN Women
- The Irish Embassy

Our audit reports are available upon request

At CCFU...

We have continued to benefit from the commitment of our Board of Trustees as advisor, decision maker and advocate. As per our Constitutional provisions, we regretfully said goodbye to our Vice-Chairperson, Ms. Grace Aulo in December. Grace, who is also the Director for Tourism in the Ministry of Tourism, Wildlife and Antiquities, was involved with the Foundation for 6 years. She was active in almost every aspect of our work, taking part in public events and giving us sound advice. Grace will continue to be a valued contributor to CCFU.

We were happy to welcome new staff members in 2019: Daniel Emasit as Heritage Education Programme Officer (who replaced Amoni Kitooke, who left us, with all his energy and insights, for further studies) and Kisa Kasifa as Communications Volunteer. Verity Ramsden's term of service came to an end in December and we recognise the invaluable role she played on our Historical Buildings and Sites Project.

In 2019, CCFU continued to network and collaborate with other actors in the culture sector. We participated in the World Culture Day celebrations at the National Theatre, in the International Cultural Tourism Fair at the Uganda


Museum and in the Arts and Culture Festival organised by the Uganda National Culture Centre.

In 2020, our plans include, among others:

- Consolidating our efforts in working with the youth. A national symposium will be held to publicise heritage studies beyond the 4 universities currently participating in this project. We expect all 4 universities to have the course on offer by the end of the year. We shall also engage student-teachers so that they can in turn support the delivery of the new curriculum elements relating to culture and heritage, and support the growing numbers of heritage education clubs in the country.
- CCFU's participation in the Council for Traditional Leaders in Africa (COTLA) in Zambia on UN Women's invitation in 2019 was an opportunity for the Foundation to interact with traditional leaders from other African countries campaigning against early child marriage and female genital mutilation. In 2020, the launch of a Uganda chapter for COTLA will coincide with CCFU's national forum to launch and disseminate the 'Promoting women



Some CCFU Staff and Board Members during the 2019 mid year retreat held in Entebbe



and girls' rights: is culture the missing link? report, following research conducted in Tooro, Busoga, Buganda, Alur and Karamoja communities. In these communities, CCFU will continue implementing the 'Culture for Her Project', harnessing the power of cultural resources to end violence against women and girls and to promote their sexual reproductive health rights.

- To increase the appreciation of cultural rights in Uganda, CCFU will organise "think tank" sessions and exposure visits for human rights organisations and journalists. We hope that this will foster fair reporting on cultural matters and highlight the sector's contribution to social and economic development. The Foundation will also strengthen IMG regional platforms to address their priority concerns, will further document and disseminate the oral history of selected IMG communities through participatory research and continue to support the Batwa in Bundibugyo in education, income-generation and in their advocacy efforts.
- Our work on the preservation and promotion of Uganda's heritage will be supported by a heritage expert to assist us in setting up the proposed

National Heritage Trust. A fourth map of historical buildings and sites (this time in Fort Portal) will be launched. In conjunction with the Uganda Railways Corporation, and with support from the European Union and SOGEA, CCFU will recognise the story of Uganda's railway lines and highlight their contribution to Uganda's socio-economic development. An exhibition will be prepared and the establishment of a Railways Museum will commence at the Jinja Railway Station.

- Recognising the contribution of Private Forest Owners to the conservation of the chimpanzee, CCFU will strengthen their capacity, coordination and motivation as partners in conservation. Activities will include dialogue meetings between private forest owners, cultural leaders and other State and non-State, actors in the vicinity to develop a common conservation strategic plan of action.
- Our contribution to international heritage initiatives will continue. CCFU will actively participate in the organisation of the International Conference of National Trusts in Antwerp, Belgium in 2021 and be involved in contributing to a vibrant Africa Chapter of the International National Trusts Organisation.

Can you help save our vanishing heritage?



A 2018 awardee: Annet Nanduja for the preservation of traditional kiganda dances such as Bakisimba, Aamaggunju and Nankasa



A 2016 awardee: St. Peter's Secondary School, Nsambya for the preservation of its Fort Jesus Building (1895-1907)

Every 2 years since 2013, CCFU awards individuals, families and organisations for their outstanding contribution to preserving and promoting Uganda's heritage - whether built, natural or intangible. This might be an effort to preserve a historical site, an endangered language or custom, an effort to preserve a threatened part of our knowledge, skills or traditions.

All nominations will be vetted by a jury and winners awarded at a grand ceremony on 20th May 2020 at the National Theatre in Kampala. Contact us for an invitation card

Please nominate an individual, group or organisation for the

4th National Heritage Awards, 2020

Email or deliver your nomination by 31st March 2020, (including your address, address of the nominee and their contribution to heritage preservation and promotion to:

The Cross-Cultural Foundation of Uganda
Makerere Hill, off Bativa Rd. P.O. Box 25517, Kampala, Uganda
Tel. +256 - 393 294675 / 0704 689495
ccfu@crossculturalfoundation.or.ug, www.crossculturalfoundation.or.ug

