Projects Update: March 2020

Projects activities
This is the third and last field report. It was mainly done to attain the third objective which is to assess the population density of birds in areas where bird trapping is thought to be occurring.

To conduct field surveys for estimating bird density we used the point count distance sampling method. In each study village, we conducted six transects of 1.0 - 1.8 km, totalling 24 transects in all villages. In each transect, birds were counted from established points 0.2 km apart. All birds within a 50 m radius were recorded at the point. In each village, we trained one local assistant who helped in data collection. Across all four sites we recorded 2770 birds of 191 species. The fieldwork was completed in 21 days by a team of four surveyors (Miss Shadia Ibrahim, Mr Morris Nyambo, Dr Alfai Rija and a local field assistant). See some field photographs attached.
I conducted surveys in Kerema, Ausia, Paranga and Chemba villages which are close to Swagaswaga-Mkungunero ecosystem to assess household bird bushmeat consumption patterns, bird bushmeat hunting and trade. We realised that a lot of bird species are captured within these villages. Therefore, we conducted bird survey on those villages using point count survey. We had a total of six transects with different compass direction in each village making a total of 24 transects in all villages.