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# GEOFF'S REPORT

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## Travel Grant to Sanaga-Yong Chimpanzee Rescue, Cameroon with the Jim Cronin Memorial Fund



The Jim Cronin Memorial Fund was thrilled to send Geoff to Sanaga-Yong Chimpanzee Rescue in Cameroon. Geoff received a Travel Grant as he was keen to offer his services and assistance as an experienced chimpanzee keeper. The offer of assistance to a centre that relies heavily on volunteers could not have come at a better time, especially as they were just about to trial and introduce a new drinking system. With funding from the charity, Geoff packed his bags and headed off for a month-long trip to Cameroon. The extra pair of hands was welcomed by the centre and Geoff spent his days assisting the staff with the day to day husbandry of over 70 chimpanzees and even got to help them with getting the new water drinkers up and running.

Once the new water spigots and Geoff had arrived safely in Cameroon, we caught up with Kim from Sanaga-Yong to find out how they were getting on. Kim said that she had decided to try the first new drinking spigot on a very clever, inquisitive and sometimes destructive female chimpanzee called Berchi, she said that if there were going to be any problems, then Berchi would be the one to find them. We are pleased to report that the new drinkers passed the “Berchi” test and they have now been positioned around the enclosures, providing on-demand water access for the chimpanzees at Sanaga-Yong.

A fantastic combined effort that we were pleased to be a part of and the perfect example of how working together can benefit the lives of primates in captivity.