

Introduction:

The Avian Conservation Uganda Society (ACUS), in collaboration with the Uganda Wildlife Education Center (UWEC), rescued a White-browed Coucal (*Centropus superciliosus*) in the Mbuya-Nakawa Division, Kampala from a family of one Ilka whose son William saved the bird from being eaten by the cat . This report highlights the rescue operation, the bird's condition,

and the broader context of urban bird conservation.



Rescue Operation:

On 22/05/2025, ACUS received a distress call regarding a distressed White-browed Coucal. A team from ACUS-Avian conservation Uganda society and UWEC-Uganda wildlife education

center , led by Godfrey Elasmus and an experienced animal handler, responded promptly. The bird was safely captured and transported to the UWEC facility for treatment.

The team further got a chance to engage Williams class at his school-Silverleaf International School, where the team did a conservation educational awareness session with the class and it was after this class lecture when the school administrators got interested and wanted to know how they can help to increase conservation awareness within this community.

A suggestion was made to the school administrators to start a birding club at the school and it was from this point where further engagements were suggested between Acus and the school.

Condition of the Bird:

The White-browed Coucal presented signs of injuries no , nothing visible on its wing, however it showed signs of stress, and dehydration. The animal handler provided essential medical

attention, and the bird was showing quick signs of recovering well.



Threats Faced by Birds in Urban Areas:

Urbanization poses significant challenges to bird populations, including:

- 1. Habitat destruction:** Urban development leads to habitat loss and fragmentation.
- 2. Collisions with structures:** Birds collide with buildings, power lines, and other infrastructure.
- 3. Pollution:** Urban pollution affects bird health and food sources.
- 4. Invasive species:** Non-native species compete with native birds for resources.
- 5. Human-wildlife conflict:** Birds are being persecuted and harassed by humans this is according to the lessons learned from the engagements with children in the school and their teachers.

Conservation Efforts:



ACUS-Avian Conservation Uganda Society and UWEC-Uganda wildlife education Center are working together to address these challenges through:

- 1. Rescue and rehabilitation:** Providing medical care and shelter for injured birds.
- 2. Education and outreach:** Raising awareness about urban bird conservation.
- 3. Habitat preservation:** Protecting and restoring urban habitats.

4. Research and monitoring: Studying urban bird populations and developing conservation strategies.



Conclusion:

The rescue of the White-browed Coucal highlights the importance of conservation efforts in urban areas. ACU-Avain Conservation Uganda Society and UWEC-Uganda wildlife Education Center are committed to protecting bird populations and promoting coexistence with humans.

The Rescue team Recommendations:

- 1. Urban planning:** Incorporate bird-friendly design principles.
- 2. Community engagement:** Educate residents about urban bird conservation.
- 3. Collaboration:** Foster partnerships among conservation organizations, government agencies, and local communities.