Mozambique discovers lost rainforest

Above the plains of northern Mozambique, scientists have discovered a hidden rainforest nestled inside the walls of a volcano known as Mount Lico.

Discovered by conservation biologist Julian Bayliss in 2012, a team of biologists and botanists from Mozambique, Swaziland, South Africa and the UK have, for the first time, sealed the walls of the volcano to explore the undisturbed rainforest within.

The rainforest, whose only disturbances have been natural, offers a benchmark that scientists can use to compare the full effect of human interference on rainforests.

After only one expedition, scientists have already found a new species of butterfly and a mouse species that has yet to be classified.

Voice of Nigerian entrepreneurship

Nigeria’s leading voiceover artist Seun Shobo (left) is pioneering a Voice Academy in Lagos with the aim of boosting the voiceover industry in the country. Shobo, who makes a living out of creating jingles for advert campaigns, started the academy in 2016 to promote voice-over services as a marketable skill for the workplace. Students pay between $28-$140 for courses including verbal communication, voice manipulation and audio branding, among others. The creative and cultural industries in Africa, which include design, fashion, film, television, radio, music and much more, have often been overlooked as legitimate avenues for job creation and boosting the continent’s economy — but that is slowly starting to change.

“Most people have good voices but they don’t know that their voices can sell,” said student Susan Adebiyi.

“Selling your voice is a pretty good and easy way to help yourself.”