

The Rufford Small Grants Foundation

Final Report

Congratulations on the completion of your project that was supported by The Rufford Small Grants Foundation.

We ask all grant recipients to complete a Final Report Form that helps us to gauge the success of our grant giving. The Final Report must be sent in **word format** and not PDF format or any other format. We understand that projects often do not follow the predicted course but knowledge of your experiences is valuable to us and others who may be undertaking similar work. Please be as honest as you can in answering the questions – remember that negative experiences are just as valuable as positive ones if they help others to learn from them.

Please complete the form in English and be as clear and concise as you can. Please note that the information may be edited for clarity. We will ask for further information if required. If you have any other materials produced by the project, particularly a few relevant photographs, please send these to us separately.

Please submit your final report to jane@rufford.org.

Thank you for your help.

Josh Cole, Grants Director

Grant Recipient Details	
Your name	Nzigiyimpa Léonidas
Project title	Project of reinforcement of the integrity of Bururi Natural Forest Reserve
RSG reference	10029-1
Reporting period	July 2011 – June 2012
Amount of grant	£5968
Your email address	nzigiyimpal@yahoo.fr
Date of this report	7/13/2012

1. Please indicate the level of achievement of the project's original objectives and include any relevant comments on factors affecting this.

Objective	Not achieved	Partially achieved	Fully achieved	Comments
Restore the legal limit of the forest			✓	The materialisation has been respected by the majority of local community
Reduce pressures against the natural forest of Bururi		✓		Some offences as the systematic cutting of the trees, the pasture of livestock and the installation of the cultures inside the reserve have been reduced strongly. When there are bush fires, we see that the territorial administration, the police and the army are mobilised like one man to extinguish fires.
Increase awareness of the surrounding population, youth and other stakeholders on the importance of the forest		✓		It is necessary to continue sensitisation of local community and other stakeholders
Institute a communal day dedicated to the protection of the natural reserve of Bururi			✓	The organisation of that day was an important innovation. This experience will be duplicated in others protected areas.

2. Please explain any unforeseen difficulties that arose during the project and how these were tackled (if relevant).

During the realisation of the boundary by a path firewall, two people whose properties are contiguous to the natural forest reserve of Bururi opposed to the tracing of this path. We worked together with the local territorial administration in interpreting the map of the reserve and tracing the limit where it should be.

Another problem was the devaluation of Burundian currency since last year.

3. Briefly describe the three most important outcomes of your project.

- Reducing conflicts between people and forest rangers. Before the implementation of this micro project, nine conflicts existed between the rangers and local residents. Only two conflicts remain and will be solved in few days.
- Youth grouped in environmental clubs participate in protection activities in the natural forest of Bururi. Since environmental education sessions were organised for young people, they now participate alongside the rangers in patrol operations to dissuade delinquents who

destroy

the

forest.

- Institution of the communal day of the environment dedicated to the protection of the Bururi forest and birth of an association of officials from the urban center of Bururi for the protection of this natural ecosystem. The organisation of this day was a great success in Bururi forest conservation as it was for the first time that the high authorities of Territorial Administration and other senior officials of the province of Bururi meet just to follow presentations around the theme of Bururi forest protection and especially soaking up its many biological wealth. Everyone was convinced that the forest can be a great source of development for the region through the promotion of ecotourism based on chimpanzees.

4. Briefly describe the involvement of local communities and how they have benefitted from the project (if relevant).

Riparian communities have been involved in the rehabilitation of the limit. In some parties of the limit, surrounding population shows to the officers of the conservation service where must pass the legal limit. They then planted stems of *Euphorbia congensis* (an indigenous plant often used in the demarcation of boundaries between plots). Secondly, communities have followed the sessions of environmental education and awareness on the importance of this forest.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes. The plan is centered on three S: **Sensitisation, sensitisation, sensitisation**. We intend to continue advocacy for the protection of this forest by focusing on its ecological and also economic wealth because it is full of many potentialities. We will place special emphasis on encouraging youth to become more involved in protecting the forest. We will organise session on discovery of biological riches of this forest for policy makers so that they too are contributing substantially in protecting of the forest. We will continue to organize communal day dedicated to the conservation of this forest, by extending invitations to ministers and members of the parliament.

6. How do you plan to share the results of your work with others?

The project activities were each covered by local media. Activity reports have each traced the great achievements of this micro project. The Technical Director in charge of protected areas management decided that the experience of organising a day dedicated to the protection of the forest of Bururi will be duplicated in other protected areas of Burundi. We have written an article on the organisation of the day of the communal environment dedicated to the forest of Bururi and was published in the INECN Science journal. We prepare now a small video on that day. It will be shared with our colleagues responsible of protected areas.

7. Timescale: Over what period was the RSG used? How does this compare to the anticipated or actual length of the project?

From July 2011 to June 2012, we have always organised activities related to the implementation of micro project. This period has been sufficient to implement the project

8. Budget: Please provide a breakdown of budgeted versus actual expenditure and the reasons for any differences. All figures should be in £ sterling, indicating the local exchange rate used.

Item	Budgeted Amount (£)	Actual Amount (£)	Difference (£)	Comments
Tracing limit path	1233	1342	-109	The daily salary of the worker has increased, from less than £1 to more £1.
Paints	150	-	-	The painting of the trees being in the limit has been abandoned follows to the advice of RSGF because the painting fades away very easily. Rather, an autochthonous species very used by the populations in the demarcation of the parcels has been planted in the limit of the reserve.
Payment of painter	50	-	-	Idem
Plantation of <i>Euphorbia congensis</i>		370		Collection, transport and plantation of stems.
Taking of GPS point	105	-	-	The hold of the GPS coordinates has also been suspended to focus us on the sensitisation of the riparian communities and other partners
Production of updated map	330	-	-	Idem
Fees for trainers	1080	1490	-410	Nine sessions of sensitisation and environmental education have been held in favour of the communities and pupils
Hiring hall for environment education	80	170	-90	The devaluation of the Burundian currency caused a rise of the prices in all sectors of life
Hiring hall for Environmental communal day celebration	80	110	-30	Idem
Ticket for participants	600	560	+40	We gave tickets to participants different sessions of environmental education or sensitisation.
Banners	200	220	-20	Four banners have been made
Award for best presentations	600	600	0	Pupils have received books and pens as awards for participation and to encourage them to continue to study and to love the natural forest of Bururi.
Communication	80	66	+14	
Administrative charge	300	248	+ 52	
Flip chart	180	145	+35	
Marker pen	30	23	-8	
Leaflet	480	560	-30	We have produced 500 leaflets about the biologic and ecotourism wealth of the natural forest of Bururi

Retro projector	390	450	-60	
Total	5968	5934	+ 34	1 £= 1900 fbu.

9. Looking ahead, what do you feel are the important next steps?

1. Continue the sensitization of the local community to bring their contribution in the protection of the natural forest.
2. Promote ecotourism based on chimps who implicates local community with sharing of revenue generated by tourism. The promotion of ecotourism will contribute to reduce poverty around the forest.
3. Elaborate an action plan of this natural reserve who accords an important place to the co-management with riparian population.

10. Did you use the RSGF logo in any materials produced in relation to this project? Did the RSGF receive any publicity during the course of your work?

- I have used the RSGF logo on the banners.
- Yes, I have regularly sent mid-course report with images to illustrate the activities.

11. Any other comments?

This grant has been important for the protection of the natural forest of Bururi because it has increased awareness of many categories of population: They know now the importance of this forest and some of them have started to bring their contribution in the protection of the natural forest reserve in Bururi. We now have need to stay up so that the first of preservation of this forest already caused in several hearts doesn't extinguish anymore.