

## The Rufford Small Grants Foundation

### Final Report

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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. 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. 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](mailto:jane@rufford.org).

Thank you for your help.

**Josh Cole**

**Grants Director**

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#### Grant Recipient Details

<b>Your name</b>	Kenneth Agbesi Anyomi
<b>Project title</b>	Beyond protective status; what next? Current knowledge on <i>Talbotiella gentii</i> , an endemic species in Ghana
<b>RSG reference</b>	11.12.07
<b>Reporting period</b>	March 2008 to February 2009
<b>Amount of grant</b>	£4799
<b>Your email address</b>	kenanyo@yahoo.com

<b>Date of this report</b>	04 <sup>th</sup> March, 2009
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**1. Please indicate the level of achievement of the project's original objectives and include any relevant comments on factors affecting this.**

<b>Objective</b>	<b>Not achieved</b>	<b>Partially achieved</b>	<b>Fully achieved</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Obtain and document current knowledge on species abundance and distribution			X	
Map species abundance and distribution in all three study areas		X		Securing of satellite imagery of study sites was not successful as this involved consulting a lot more people than planned and also due to budgetary reasons
Identify and rank threats to species survival and growth			X	
Determine level of local community awareness on the global significance of species and the need to protect it			X	
Embark on educational training and awareness creation programme for students in fringe communities			X	

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

- It was realized that much as stakeholders were excited about the study, planned methodology and anticipated results, most of them were lukewarm in coming out to assist. With some incentives (allowances and tips) offered, many of them became more actively engaged in the project
- Study areas were quite inaccessibility. With four wheel drives and in some cases motor bikes, the places were reached and project carried out

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

- Most fringe community members were unaware of the global significance of the endemic species and this is rather unfortunate given that those areas were declared Globally Significant Biodiversity Areas (GSBA) ten years now. Educational campaign programme initiated in this study would need to be perpetuated in order to carry the message down to all people living in the fringes of these reserves
- While stand regeneration density is reasonably good in all study sites, mature tree density was woefully low in the Bandai Hill forest reserve. This shows that the threat to species retention even though still exist for all three reserves, is more evident and critical in the Bandai Hill reserve area.
- Wild fire and tree extraction for fuel wood and charcoal by fringe community members were identified as the major threats to species abundance and distribution. Within stands however, altitude was an important factor in tree distribution as mature trees were located more up slopes than down slopes while young regeneration was more abundant down slopes than up slope

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

Local community members participated in all three components of the study including:

- Interview phase: where they were consulted and asked to provide information on what they knew concerning the species and the reserve. Throughout the interview and interaction process they were informed of the global significance of the species as they wanted to know why we (the team) were so interested in only one tree species out of the several they had around them
- Inventory Phase: Some community members were involved in the inventory exercise. They were taught how to do diameter measurements as well as take GPS positions and the importance of all these.
- Educational Outreach: school kids from fringe communities benefited from educational field trips organized by the project to the research sites. They were quite

excited about the exercise and appeared to have learnt quite much from the field teaching.

**5. Are there any plans to continue this work?**

Yes, there are plans to continue the project also given that there are few more things to be done. The following activities might need to be carried out:

- Assessing the effectiveness of the educational campaign programme initiated. This can be done by undertaking a study that would measure and monitor how knowledge acquired by the kids has trickled down to their parents and therefore the community
- it would be necessary to conduct an intensive campaign in the fringe community of Bandai Hills where the reserve looks even more threatened
- information on the frequency of fires in the study areas as well as an estimate of tree extraction from the reserve by fringe community members would be necessary in understanding the importance of each of the threat factors
- knowledge on the actual area covered by each reserve would be useful to tell stocking level of the reserves

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

- Copies of research report would be sent to the forestry offices where these reserves are located as well as to communities where the study was conducted
- Findings would also be published to wider audience

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

- The RSG was used from March 2008 to February 2009 as planned.

**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
Transport	1,256.6	1, 522	-265.4	Higher costs than was anticipated
Field Allowance for personals	2,656.1	2, 730	-73.9	Unforeseen and unplanned allowances (tips) at various levels

Field equipments	414.2	20	+394.2	Most equipments secured from local forestry office
Communication	64.3	156	-91.7	Bureaucracy and much more people to communicate with than initially thought of
Other Expenses (Administrative overheads, Medical insurance, Administrative overheads etc)	407	350	+57	Not much medical cases
Dissemination of Results	-	20.2	+20.2	Necessary to get report to wider audience
<b>TOTAL</b>	4,798.2	4,798.2		

*Exchange rate used: 1 Ghanaian New Cedi (GHS) = 0.50394 British Pound (GBP)*

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

- The important next step would be to carry out the activities listed earlier (in section 5)

**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?**

RSGF logo was used quite extensively in the project especially during the educational campaign exercise.

- T-shirts with RSGF logo were worn by school teachers and all who participated in the educational campaign (except school kids)
- RSGF logo was pasted on all vehicles used for the educational campaign as well
- All reports have RSGF logo on the cover page

**11. Any other comments?**

- The project was quite successful and the findings do not only improve knowledge on the endemic species which is necessary for any future effective conservation action

but also presents the level of knowledge of fringe communities as far as the global significance of the species is concerned: about ten (10) years into the implementation of the Globally Significant Biodiversity Areas (GSBA) programme, it was interesting to find out that most of the fringe community members in all the reserves studied had no knowledge of the global significance of the species. This information is vital in designing conservation programmes aimed at saving the endemic species.

**12. I agree to this report being published on the Rufford Small Grants website**

Signed (or print name) \_\_\_\_\_ Kenneth Agbesi Anyomi \_\_\_\_\_