

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 *9as 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	Tsakem Samuel Christian
Project title	The Gorilla of Lobeke National Park: Habitat use, Behaviour and Interactions with peoples
RSG reference	
Reporting period	September 2012- September 2013
Amount of grant	£6000
Your email address	ctsakem@yahoo.fr
Date of this report	September 2013

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
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Habitat suitability of gorillas in the Lobeke National Park will be known from a multi-criteria analysis of human and environmental parameters (vegetation type, degree of presence / absence, human pressure ...); 		x		The data collected in the field of habitat, the gorilla and the environmental and human parameters are still being processed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Map of habitat types in the Lobeke National Park will be developed and used by managers for their intervention strategy on the ground; 		x		Map of vegetation types is already developed. It will allow other researchers and park managers to make appropriate decisions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feeding habits and social behaviors of gorillas will be known from regular monitoring in forest clearings 'bai' and the factors influencing them; 		x		The data collected in clearings when tracking gorillas and the environmental and human factors that may influence the behavior of gorillas are still under treatment
The human-ape interactions (conflicts, ecotourism, direct and indirect employment, other benefits, legislation) and their involvement in conservation will be known;			x	The objective of the interactions between humans and gorillas is already finalised. The scientific paper written on this part is available in a journal for publication.
Strategies will be proposed (elements of the management plan for the species) on the basis of the results obtained for the improved management of species in the National Park Lobeke.		x		The strategies proposed to derive the results. And we do not have all the results

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

It is important to note that in the context of this work, we encountered a number of problems namely:

- The poor condition of roads is not always easy to move Lobeke. In most cases, we've always done six days driving going and six days on the road back to Yaounde, Garoua Lobeke.

Normally, this time could be used to advance other aspects of the thesis particularly in writing or reading.

- Difficult conditions in the natural forest (closing undergrowth, swamps and other low-lying) that have not facilitated the growth of the field teams.

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

- Areas of poaching of gorillas and other species have been identified and classified in the park.
- The different types of habitat gorillas have been described and the vegetation map produced.
- The human interactions / gorillas are known as conflicts of resource use and species between humans and gorillas are known.

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

Local and especially the marginalized indigenous peoples (Pymées Baka) populations were involved in the collection of field data. They were recruited as trackers, and even boussohier wearer. They were paid and the money received was used to purchase the commodities on behalf of all their family and their community. In addition, we purchased the ration shops in the village and this helped keep the economy operating at the village level.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

This is a doctoral thesis which is spread over three years. We have just completed the data collection phase and we still have one year (until December 2014) to finalise the drafting and able to defend the thesis. The field trips will more than possibly complete data.

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

We have to submit a scientific paper published in a Belgian magazine. Other article shall be prepared and published as to make available to other researchers the results of our study. We also see regular doctoral seminars and international conferences to present our research.

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

We have benefited from the support of RSG from November 2012 and began field work in December 2012. We used the resources of the RSG for the period to September 2013, a third of the time spent on our thesis project. This resource we was a great contribution, if not, the collection of our data field should not take place.

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
Communication	300	300	0	
Transportation cost	530	570	+40	Because of the poor condition of the road, the cost of transportation increased field
Purchase equipment	2000	1890	-10	This is due to the change in price of equipment on the market.
Fresh ground staff	3150	3240	+90	The workforce increased slightly because we used more days of work than expected given the complexity of the fieldwork and the poor state of the road
Total	5980	6000		

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

The next step is writing the thesis and scientific articles related to specific objectives. It also requires the use of literature and scientific journals.

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 used the logo RSGF during my various presentations and I explained what it does. In my articles submitted to journals for publication, I RSGF thanked for its support. I also had the opportunity to send some pictures of land to the foundation.

11. Any other comments?

I am very happy and satisfied with the RGSF scholarship that allowed me to collect my data in the field. Without this scholarship, I would be stubborn. That the Foundation continues to support scientific research.