

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. 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.
Thank you for your help.

Josh Cole
Grants Director

Grant Recipient Details

Your name	Namutebi Estellina
Project title	Ecological enhancement of indigenous tree species through reforestation in Nalutuntu village Mityana District, Uganda
RSG reference	15232-1
Reporting period	One year
Amount of grant	£6000
Your email address	esterina_namutebi@yahoo.com
Date of this report	8 th May 2015

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
1. To create awareness through community sensitisation			Fully achieved	The work was well done considering that the sensitisation was done during the dry season when people are harvesting (July, 2014). We obtained overwhelming numbers of farmers yet we needed only 20 men and women.
2. To train farmers in indigenous tree species reforestation			Fully achieved	With the first training, we got 75 farmers, but managed to train 50 farmers and gave trees to 20 men and women, yet the others still need trees too. We continued training the 20 farmers - 10 men and 10 women.
3. To prepare nursery beds in order to plant 12,000 indigenous tree species		Partially achieved		We have so far planted 3,700 tree species. We are going to make another nursery bed for the next rain season.
4. To liaise with NAADS in order to promote indigenous tree reforestation at the local level	Not achieved			The National Agricultural Advisory Services (NAADS) was corrupt thus it's now controlled by the Army.

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

- i. Many farmers were aware of deforestation that has robbed the land of forests that form rain, yet many opted for eucalyptus trees for timber. However, with the training they were able to know and own indigenous tree species that help in rainfall formation thus mitigate climate change.
- ii. The drought we experienced from December to March was terrible it affected the nursery beds and planted trees. We were not able to get the water for watering the nursery beds, thus the 3,000 tree seedlings we expected dried and thus we have only 2,200 trees which have been planted by two farmers on their land.
- iii. Some of the local leaders needed money in order to work with us and help us foster our activities. Nevertheless we worked hard convinced and trained them first before we trained the other farmers. We thus achieved consent and cooperative support from the Sub-county Chief and the Local Council (LCI) one Chairperson.
- iv. The National Agriculture Advisory Services (NAADS) I was looking forward to cooperate with had been resolved and it's the army that takes care of the programme. This made me hesitate a little before I go further. I will first study this before involving them.

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

- i. Our first trees planted by the farmers are doing well and farmers are proud of the trees they planted. As well, tree reforestation strategy is being proclaimed everywhere and many people want us to train them and provide trees in the new sub-county of Nalutuntu.
- ii. We have also trained farmers on how to tap seed make nursery beds, in order to continue propagating trees. We also well trained them in organic method of farming and using the available resources. There is now reduced use of chemicals while planting food crops.
- iii. Cooperation and support between our team and the local leaders from the LCI a good number of nine people, both men and women. As well, the support and cooperation from the sub-county chief and the Community Development Officer, I am sure that our continuation will be successful.

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

Community involvement in the pilot project:

1. Mobilising others done by local leaders: it's the local farmers who helped us to mobilise others through the LCI Chairperson after the sensitisation we made.
2. Providing land for nursery beds as demonstration sites: farmers were cooperative in such a way that they gave us some small portions of land where we planted our nursery beds.
3. Planting trees on their land: they benefited through planting trees on their own land. As well, as an incentive we added fruits which are doing well meaning that the fruit trees will be a very good resource for food security.
4. Community evaluation meeting; farmers participated in community evaluation meetings to help us in discovering the challenges in reforestation and find remedies.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes. We will first of all increase extension services to 2 months (after every 2 months) to check on the progress of the trees. We have not finished yet; we are to make another nursery bed and plant other trees in the September 2015 rains.

We also plan to go to secondary and primary schools to continue creating awareness, training and making sure that the children are involved in tree reforestation.

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

I hope to publish a paper on this pilot study which I am sending with this report already. I also hope that I will publish it at the university where I work.

I also will disseminate the results to the local newspaper in the local language meaning I shall have to translate the paper to Luganda language.

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

- 10 months, compared to the 18 months anticipated.
- From July-November 2014 (5 months) we did the sensitisation and planting the first trees. December 2014 to April 2015 we trained farmers in nursery beds and prepared two nursery beds which have already been planted this May 2015. But we still have to continue next rain season.

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
Training Primary School Children (two classes of 50pupils)	£245	£245	0	Was successful and they have planted 700tree seedlings.
Transport for the team, equipment and tree seedlings	£125	£132	£7	Transportation in Uganda fluctuates especially now when the country is nearing elections the fuel shoots high thus motorcycles and vehicles also hike the prices
Initiated training in a secondary school with 25 high school students and a workshop for the farmers who planted trees.	£232	£255	£23	Will continue. Some. The remaining 925tree seedlings will also be planted by one of the farmers in the second week of October 2015 as soon as the rains are high.
Extension services	£99	£99	0	The trees that farmers planted are doing well the supervision and monitoring continues.
Total	£701	£731		

We still have the balance of £701 which we are going to use in preparing for the next season of planting, which will take place in September 2015. All the requirements we already have, thus, we hope to achieve the target of 12,000 trees within this year.

Exchange rate was £428.21

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

- I feel very hopeful that with the local community participation, we shall have more on training farmers especially other parishes within the sub-county. We shall have workshops after every 3 months.
- Introducing indigenous tree reforestation in primary and secondary schools. We are yet to introduce this to one of the nearby secondary school this activity starts in late July 2015.

- iii. Workshops to help the farmers cultivate the sense of ownership of the trees in such way that they are able to plant more and engage more in biodiversity conservation thus protect the environment.

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 did not use RSGF Logo however, the foundation gained some publicity; I think there are a need for a conference within Uganda whereby some of the farmers' representatives and other people can attend and get to know more about RSGF and the activities we are doing in Uganda.

11. Any other comments?

I and my team are very grateful to Rufford Small Grants for supporting us during this pilot study. We are now ready to continue making it a big project so that in 5 years we shall be able to see a difference in reforestation and putting back the habitat of different biodiversity. For instance honey bees which are nearing extinction yet they are useful in farming. We expect to get the next phase of funding, in order to continue with secondary and primary schools as we indicated.

We will have planted 1,725 trees by October 20th 2015. Though we have not managed to hit the target of 12000trees, we are happy because the farmers love their trees and are gradually beginning to appreciate their efforts and own the environment. Many want to be involved in this Nobel activity and want to plant trees on their land, purposely to restore the lost climate in the changing seasons and control drought. We are now focusing on training schools especially primary and secondary schools. Because I believe that training the young generation will be a hope for biodiversity and ecological conservation in future sustainability. As well, continuing with the farmers who need trees and monitoring the planted trees.

Thank you Rufford Foundation for empowering me to do and complete this pilot project, I am already seeing the light in ecological conservation and I am looking forward to the next funding, so that I can continue the reforestation of indigenous tree species in Nalutuntu Village to the Sub-county level, District and one day to the whole Nation.