

Project Update: August 2015

It has been a very busy year so far, and we've made good progress towards meeting our objectives towards our Rufford Foundation sponsored project. It's all coming together! I started off by making a draft list of parameters to monitor in the agroforestry systems which I shared with my colleagues at Plant your Future UK and at the University of Edinburgh for comment. I also held a workshop for the smallholder farmers we work with to explain to them about our monitoring plans with the smartphones and get their opinion parameters to be measured. From that I've come up with a revised list of parameters that we'll use. Plant your Future ordered the smartphones (we went for the Sony-Xperia-Aqua) which are waterproof and android so can run the "open data kit" software. In May I went to Chile to participate in the Rufford Conference – my first trip outside of Peru and amazing opportunity to meet other researchers from the region.

In March Plant your Future achieved validation of its carbon model, which makes my monitoring even more important. (see press release - <http://us3.campaign-archive2.com/?u=ee1e52ac00317c13087f44a41&id=30dc73a35>)

