

The Rufford Foundation

Final Report

Congratulations on the completion of your project that was supported by The Rufford 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	Mercy Nyambura Kariuki
Project title	Sheep for Longclaw II
RSG reference	16656-2
Reporting period	July 2015-August 2016
Amount of grant	£ 4970
Your email address	nyams68@yahoo.com
Date of this report	26/08/2016

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
Strengthening and expanding the sheep breed improvement scheme (sheep for Longclaw) through providing more farmers with offspring of the high quality breed of sheep.			YES	The scheme was strengthened through providing five more farmers with quality breeding ram each. Five more farmers were provided with the offspring of the first round of the breeding rams provided through the sheep for Longclaw 1 project.
Improve the capacity of farmers in practicing proper sheep management through setting up two demonstration farms and one year deworming programme			YES	Two sheep housing units have been constructed and used as demonstration sites for other farmers to learn on the preferred structure needed. Fifteen farmers have successfully trained during two farmers' workshop. Five farmers have independently visited the two demonstration farms and it is expected that more farmers will follow suit. The deworming programme was a success as we were supported by a local professional vet who was able to visit farmers and interact with them to clearly understand the internal parasites affecting sheep and provided the recommended drugs to be administered.
Train farmers and document lessons learnt regarding economic and ecological benefits of retaining grasslands for biodiversity conservation			YES	Fifteen farmers trained on the economic and ecological benefits of retaining grasslands for biodiversity conservation.

Conduct more environmental education and awareness to farmers and the youth on the importance of the grasslands for biodiversity, provision of ecosystem services and livelihoods			YES	<p>Over 300 people reached through various forums e.g. farmers seminars and during launching of the new Njabini wool spinning workshop.</p> <p>Many other people reached country wide through local print media (Saturday Nation- Seeds of Gold) and social media.</p>
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2. Please explain any unforeseen difficulties that arose during the project and how these were tackled (if relevant).

There were no major unforeseen difficulties.

However, in 2015 the implementation of the project was slow as at the moment my colleagues and I were engaged in various capacity training both locally and international. Also much time was dedicated to the preparations for the launching of the new Njabini wool spinning workshop in December 2015. This workshop will continue to boost sheep farmers who we are working with and others in the area in ensuring that they maintain to keep quality sheep breeds that the workshop can buy the wool from them. Despite the slow pace at the start, we were able to track back as much as we could to fulfil the desired outcomes of the project as planned.

After enquiries from various veterinary officers, it was evident that the deworming programme was underestimated.

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

- o From the initial data collected in 20 farms during the first project (sheep for Longclaw), an additional 10 farms were included in the sheep improvement loan scheme. Five farmers were provided with high quality breeding rams and five farmers were provided with the offspring of the rams provided to farmers through the sheep for Longclaw 1.
- o Two farms improved through construction of a proper housing in each farm. The farms are already attracting attention from neighbouring farmers who and will be used as demonstration centres even after the project period. One-year deworming services were provided to five farms (with a total of 460 sheep) through a local veterinary officer and there is marked improvement from the

consistent deworming. This contributes to the importance of having proper sheep management to get better produce.

- Over 300 people reached through education campaign and during the annual Farmer's Field Day. Many other people were reached country wide through the print media and social media.

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

Field assistants who provided assistance during this project are from the local community. We continue to use their expertise in field work.

Two workshops were organized with participation from farmers and officers from local government department of livestock.

The partnership between Njabini Wool Crafters Cooperative Society and the local farmers have greatly benefited from improved quality of wool for the (NWCCS) which translates to increased income for farmers.

Ten more farmers were provided with ram each while five others were provided with 1-year deworming services.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes, there are plans to continue this work.

There have been very positive reception of the project among the local community. More farmers with grassland with good potential as habitat for Sharpe's longclaw will be identified and issued with off springs of the good breed rams to ensure sustainability of the project for long term and contribute to retention of optimal grasslands. We at the same time plan to continue strengthening and improving the capacity of farmers who are already identified in the project.

We would like to make follow-up application to RSGF and other partners to enable us implement this and expand the coverage.

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

We plan to share the results with various institutions including the relevant county and national government ministries (Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Environment). Community conservation groups including the Friends of Kinangop Plateau will be provided with posters and fliers to improve the outreach base. The

project outcome can be used as a case study in other parts of Kinangop Plateau and other highland grasslands.

An article has been submitted to Kenya Birding, an article published by Nature Kenya, the BirdLife Partner in Kenya. The project results will also be updated on the website of the Friends of Kinangop Plateau and the Njabini Wool Crafters Cooperative Society.

Opportunities to present the project will be scouted on relevant venues.

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

The grant was used for 14 months which was two months extra of planned project period. This was due to some delays as explained in 2 above.

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
Field travel - Car mileage and fuel	520	620	80	There was increased travel for monitoring the sheds during construction, and distribution of the off
Local field assistant	360	360	0	
Field subsistence and	550	450	-100	There was increased field visits.
5 high quality Male Sheep	1175	1175	0	
2 housing units	1850	1680	-170	There was positive contribution from farmers easing the cost of construction
Deworming	300	480	180	
Posters and Flyers	215	220	5	
Total	4970	4985	15	

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

The project have been very successful. There have been marked improvement

of sheep management and the benefit coming with the improvement are long term. At the same time, there is also positive appreciation of biodiversity among the farmers involved on the project.

These positive change of attitude is a very strong indicator of success in achieving the conservation objective.

We find it very important to;

- Continue doing follow-up visits to the farmers and at the same time expand the area of coverage to include neighboring locations.
- Strengthen the deworming scheme to ensure continued interaction between the farmers and skilled officers.
- Continue sharing the results of the project through publishing story articles both on print media and social media.
- Using the demonstration farms established as a case study, train farmers and document lessons learnt regarding economic and ecological benefits of retaining grasslands for biodiversity conservation.

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

Yes we did use The Rufford Foundation Logo on the posters and flyers produced and on the PowerPoint presentations made during the farmers workshops held during the project.

11. Any other comments?

I am very grateful to the RSGF for the support you provided. It highly uplifted my capacity to manage and build networks and to continuously work with the local community to contribute towards conservation efforts.