

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 | Elihuruma Wilson |
| Project title | Chimpanzee, Man and Forest Integration for Enhancement of Greater Gombe Ecosystem |
| RSG reference | 17695-2 |
| Reporting period | 26th June 2015 to 9th July 2016 |
| Amount of grant | £ 5000 |
| Your email address | wilsonkilango@yahoo.com |
| Date of this report | 9th July 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 |
|---|--------------|--------------------|----------------|--|
| To conduct conservation education to students and villagers surrounding Gombe National Park | | | | Seminars, video shows, lecturing, park visits and discussion are among of the methodologies used to achieve this objective. |
| To prepare tree nurseries for conservation education to villages and students | | | | The final tree nursery is still under preparation due to improper timing of seed collection for indigenous tree and weather issues but the progress is good and the tree seedling will be given free to villagers for planting in their own land. The already prepared nursery has been used for tree planting practice and the process went well. |
| Planting of trees to community village forest | | | | Tree planting practice was conducted very well in some places. And because this process is continuous Mwamgongo community are still waiting for the maturity of tree seedlings for them to be given and plant them in their own land. But generally a lot of work has been done through buying the already prepared seedlings for the same |

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

Collection of indigenous tree seeds which have medicinal values and which I was intending to use to prepare tree nursery for planting was very difficult due to improper timing of the commencement of the project. I solved the problem by preparing a small one nursery for the seeds that I managed to collect and thereafter planting them in due time and secondly I also bought seedling from other community members who do prepare nursery for commercial purposes. The seedling bought was used to supplement those, which would otherwise obtained from the nursery prepared by this project. But also currently the final nursery is still in preparation as currently I have enough seeds for the same.

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

- Biodiversity around Greater Gombe Ecosystem has increased through planting of indigenous trees
- Conservation awareness of Mwamgongo community leaders, community environmental committee members and community members has increased. Importance of community forest conservation and restoration practices in particular have been well understood. Currently community members support conservation efforts in their area, and they are motivated to plant more trees in the area.
- The concept of Gombe - Zashu chimpanzee corridor was well understood. Most of the community members didn't know the importance of that corridor in connection with Gombe chimpanzee genetic diversity in the long run. It is now evident to them that Gombe chimpanzee survival depends much on what is/will happen outside the park, particularly in the corridor. Therefore to certain extent inbreeding risk for chimpanzee inside the park has been reduced.

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

Local community participated in the planting of indigenous tree and preparation of tree nursery for their own use. The main benefit to community accrued from this project is the values of the community forest that will be attained. These are like, facilitating community based tourism coped with ecotourism activities, good microclimate condition, reduced soil erosion problem and the knowledge and availability of medicinal plants.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes, there is a big plan to intensify tree-planting practice to community forest to restore large area of the community forest, which serve also as chimpanzee corridor. The other intended activity in the area, which is expected to ensure that the community forest is sustainable, is to introduce beekeeping practices at the edges of the available forest for the purposes promoting conservation of the community forest through income generating activity and reduces the risk of its degradation. One of the problems of the community forest in this area is the eruption of wildfire in the forest, which becomes very difficult to control during dry season. Now by introducing beekeeping practices at the edges of the growing forest, community will be keen to protect the forest from fire. And therefore the wildfire risks to the community forest and Gombe will be highly reduced.

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

My work will be shared through my active participation in various conservation seminars, workshops and conferences that I normally attend in Tanzania. One of the forums is the Conference for Community Conservation Activity organised by the Outreach Unit under Tanzania National Parks normally held annually. In this forum

participants who are from national parks, representatives from wildlife division of Tanzania, Tanzania wildlife authority, Ngorongoro Conservation Area and other invited NGOs get an opportunity to present and discuss different community conservation issues from various parts of Tanzania for the purposes of information sharing, finding solutions for various community conservation challenges and derive strategies for collaboration on various issues regarding community conservation activities in Tanzania, particularly to communities bordering the protected areas.

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 length of the project was expected to be one year but the actual time of the project is 1 year and 2 months period. The difference was due to difficulty in enough collection of the indigenous tree seeds, which have medicinal value and which are known to reside in the Greater Gombe Ecosystem. The seeds were used to prepare tree nursery and thereafter plant the seedling to the community forest and community farmland.

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 |
|---|-----------------|---------------|------------|---|
| Conservation education (PLA) to villages and students | 1,515 | 1,407 | 108 | Concentration was at Mwamgongo village and various methods were used. |
| Tree nurseries preparation | 1,877 | 1,800 | 77 | Tree nurseries were prepared and the final one is in progress |
| Planting of trees and caring cost | 1,608 | 1,500 | -183 | Wildfire problem become a very big challenge in managing the already planted tree, it increases the cost and some the fire were not managed. Therefore in some area replantation will be needed |
| Total | 5,000 | 4,998 | 2 | |

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

The important next step, is to continuing planting of trees to cover all the corridor, intensifying mechanism for wildfire fighting and motivating community to continuing protecting the area by introducing income generating activities like beekeeping activity at the edge of the forest. Also, by equipping community environmental

committee members with necessary skills and equipment for protection of the community forest it will help to ensure the sustainability of the forest.

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

Yes I used the logo during education delivering and will be continuing using it for the coming presentations to various conservation forums in Tanzania where I do participate.

11. Please provide a full list of all the members of your team and briefly what was their role in the project.

Team members

| No | Name | Role |
|----|------------------|--|
| 1 | Elihuruma Wilson | Project Coordinator |
| 2 | Simon Mwambola | Conservation Education |
| 3 | Madua Omary | Community expert on Indigenous tree |
| 4 | Haruna Omary | Community expert on tree nursery preparation |

12. Any other comments?

This project has been very useful to my career as well, I thank you all Rufford team for approving this project. This project and its impact has contributed much into the promotion which I received on January 2016, now I am the head of conservation section at Gombe National Park, who manages four units in the park namely protection, ecology, outreach and veterinary. I am continuing growing up and trusted to assume large position while still young.

Also, very recently due to results of the 1st and 2nd projects, university of Minnesota through Jane Goodall Institute has enrolled me to pursue PhD program in ecology, evolution and behaviour. I will be joining the University of Minnesota this August 2017.

I am also intended to apply for the booster grant